



The Round Table



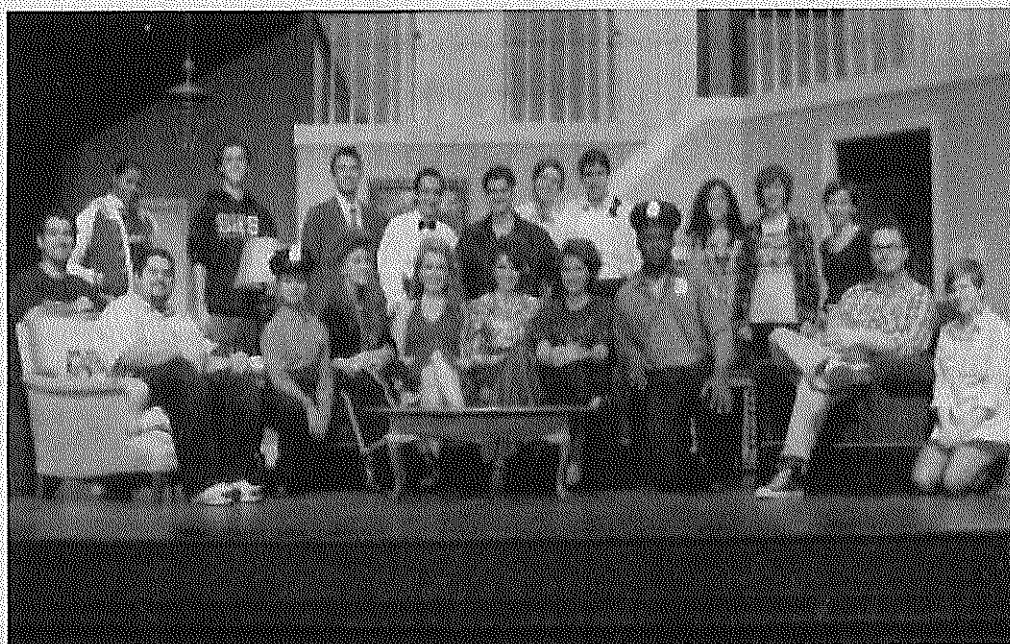
Strawberry Hill Players Present Neil Simon's "Rumors"

By Dawn Winsor

Photo courtesy of SHS drama department

The Strawberry Hill Players' production of *Rumors* proved to be an incredibly enjoyable evening full of laughs, chaos, and well... rumors! This play, written by Neil Simon and wonderfully directed by Jim Ringel, was the group's first comedy in three years. Nonstop laughter filled the large auditorium at Stamford High School on their closing night, November 12, 2011. The audience's interest was grabbed in the very first scene, as a couple, to be the first guests at a wedding anniversary celebration, is bickering over some questioning by a doctor on the phone about the host, Charlie, who throughout the play existed only behind a closed door – a door that looked scarily realistic, as did the rest of the two-story home the entire play took place in. And it amazed me that with one set constructed behind these actors, an entire play was performed with such movement and alacrity. In this "farce" (type of play where characters move on and off stage with one background), the audience never grew tired of the panoramic living-room set-up.

The first Act could have stood on its own, for it satisfied both the humor and mystery aspects that could capture any audience. Ken and Chris Gorman, played by Bennett Leeds and Kimmy Loop, found their friend Charlie shot in the ear and his wife Mira, missing as they came to attend their beloved friends' 10th wedding anniversary party. Claire and Lenny Ganz, played by Jennifer Sapozhnikov and Sam Strizver, enter the scene as the other couple is



trying to hide the fact of their discoveries, and so badly failing to do so. Leeds was the perfect man to have to try to keep a secret. He was very entertaining to watch. Strizver and Sapozhnikov were hilariously dramatic in their acting. When they heard the news of Charlie they broke down in tears and belted out the most ridiculously funny things.

The couple Ernie and Cookie Cusak is played by Chet King and Ruby Welkovich. King uttered his first lines in a British accent, however, throughout the play, it was slightly difficult to detect where specifically his character was from, for the accent ranged from British to a hint of Jamaican mixed with Irish, and a few instances of Australian. Whatever accent he spoke, it never ceased to entertain the audience. As more couples enter the scene, each one quickly learns of the supposed attempt of suicide of their friend Charlie. They spend the entirety of the play figuring out what to do and

how to make sure word does not get out. Cassie and Glen Cooper are played by Erin Altieri and Matthew Sweeny. Altieri does a fine job in portraying a southern accent. It was a kind of dramatic irony to watch the two bicker about the smallest of things such as Cassie dropping her jewelry down the toilet, when there was a possible suicide in the room just upstairs. Fingers are burned in the kitchen, Chris gets buzzed, Glen is domestically violated by his angry wife, Ken accidentally deafened his ear with a gunshot, and Cookie is on the floor due to a painful back-ache.

The many catastrophes occurring with each character are all happening in one scene and it was very amusingly chaotic. The director did a great job of keeping the chaos in the background alive while having each character stand out at different point in the play. Loop played a very convincing drunk!

The second act is absolute mayhem. As the actors dance to "Para Bailar La Bamba," in a very artistic, creative, and unique way. This was probably one of the most entertaining scenes. The dancing skills in the drama club are very high on the scale and I don't think I've seen anything like it! There was a mix of dancing-styles, including the shuffle, a bit of the robot, and I swear I even saw some Michael Jackson moves being pulled off. Officers Pudney and Welch, played by Winston Sinclair and Alexandra Brokowski, arrive at the scene questioning the party guests. The most entertaining and climactic scene is when Lenny Ganz mustered up an entire story to the cops as he pretends to be Charlie. Strizver's dramatic hand gestures and perfectly spoken Spanish is without a doubt the most entertaining part of the play – and that's really saying something, considering that the entire production was hilarious!

From start to finish, this play was a success. A tragic incident was covered with great comic sensibility that almost any type of audience would find enjoyable – it was sarcastic, silly, chaotic, and just plain amusing. The cast of ten put on a production worthy of five stars! I am very much looking forward to the Strawberry Hill Player's upcoming shows: S.H.I.P., Senior Scenes XIII, and Bye Bye Birdie. CDA (Connecticut Drama Association) is also performing variations on the Death of Trotsky and Sure Thing. Check them out, they're great!

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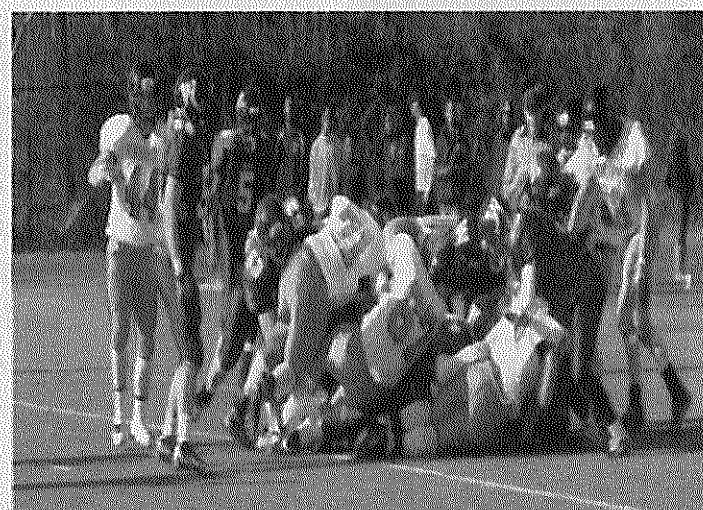
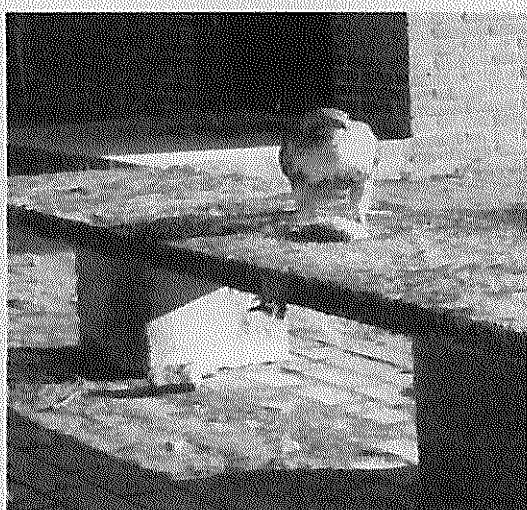
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Stamford High Gets Hypnotized

By Laibah Khan

Hypnotist Dan Larosa came back to Stamford High on November 11. This was Larosa's second time at Stamford High, and many students were excited for the performance.

The show was held by the Stamford High Yearbook Club in an effort to raise money for this year's publication. The investment was profitable, raising over 600 dollars. Yearbook students sold tickets not only to other students, but also to the general public for 8 dollars each.

Larosa began the show by demonstrating a focus trick on the audience. Throughout the show he also included the audience by having the selected hypnotized people jog around the auditorium so everyone could take a closer look. The audience included many returning members from last year, as well as plenty of first-timers such as Olivia Gupta, who thought the show was "hilarious. I promise to be back."

Larosa's tricks started out with a random selection of five students, along with yearbook adviser Ms. Wade. To begin the process, he started by putting the participants to sleep. Many of his tricks included having the

participants mock actions without control. For example, one popular trick that got heavy



Above, Brendan George and other Stamford High students are being hypnotized by Larosa. Photo courtesy of LifeTouch

applause was the assembling of a band, with each individual playing a mock instrument. Another popular trick that the audience enjoyed was having the hypnotized people "river dance." That particular trick helped the audience understand the reality of hypnotism, because the participants had no clue how to actually river dance. Alex Lyons, a junior that was chosen to be

hypnotized, said, "At first I was nervous, but after a couple minutes I blacked out." Lyons also said that he felt as if the show lasted only about ten minutes, when in reality it was longer than an hour. After the show, Lyons said he felt extremely tired and sleepy.

The end of the show left the crowd thinking with an inspiring final quote: "If you believe in the good, positive things will happen and if you believe in the bad, negative things will occur." If you missed the show this year, have high hopes for it being back, because yearbook says it's definitely worth bringing back.

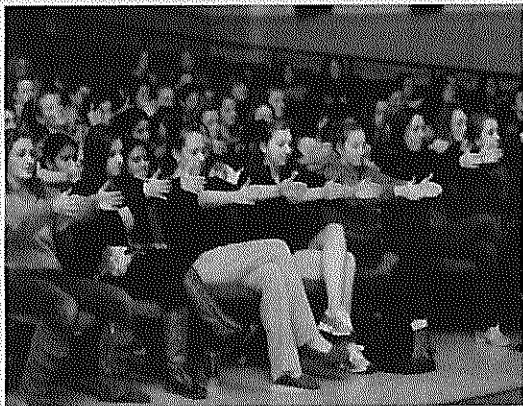


Photo courtesy of LifeTouch

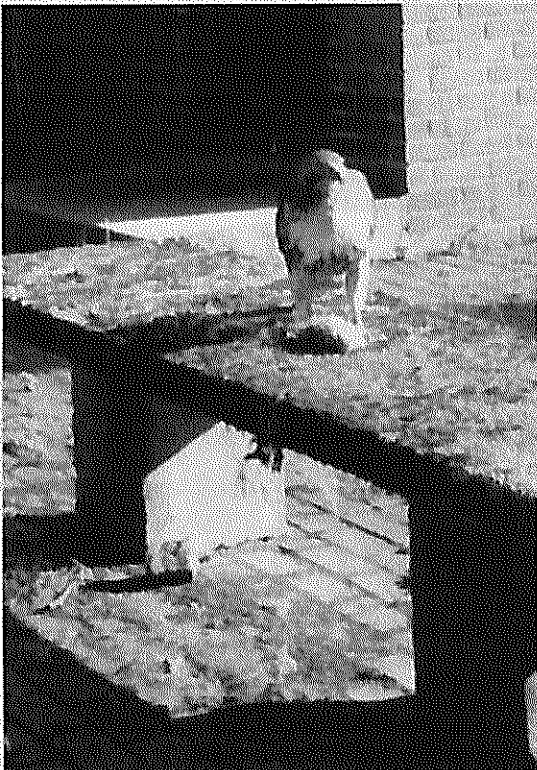


Photo by Taylor Seftner

Hawk kills squirrels, distracts students

By Carl Louis

A hawk stopped by a Stamford High courtyard one day this November to hunt several squirrels, much to the delight of students and staff. Over the course of the hawk's stay, several hundred students and teachers stopped to get a closer look on their way to class.

One of these students alerted biology teacher Jim Van Acker, who decided to capture the hawk on video (an edited version of the video can be viewed at www.stamfordhigh.org). "I was excited to see a hawk so close up while it was eating a squirrel. When I got out there

were a bunch of students, probably about 100 kids walking between the buildings and stopping to look." Van Acker said that the hawk was "completely unfazed by the kids," as it continued to eat the squirrel despite their presence.

Sophomore Jonathan Oliva said, "It was crazy and cool at the same time. A one-of-a-kind moment; it was very mysterious." Sophomore Raul Rivera agreed, saying "I hope it comes back again."

Science Explosion!

By Sam Strzyver

What started off to be an average day of classes for our great school on the hill swiftly changed, due to one enormous explosion that could be heard throughout the entire 4th, 5th, and 6th floors of SHS. The (literally) ground-shaking event was caused by a hydrogen-filled balloon touching a flame in science teacher Mr. Jaekle's classroom. The chemical reaction that followed not only created a sound heard throughout the entire second building, but also shattered the windows in the back of

the science room where the reaction took place.

Luckily, the students in Mr. Jaekle's room had been sitting in the front. Nobody was harmed. However, Mr. Jaekle says he still "sent down the students to the nurse and called the custodian" after the explosion occurred. This is Mr. Jaekle's first year teaching at Stamford High, so when I asked what his first thoughts were after the booming and shattering, he replied, "I was worried I'd be in trouble" (he wasn't).



The explosion wasn't just a source of anxiety, for it also created a

whole new topic of discussion among students, adding a different twist to the average school day. Besides, even Mr. Jaekle described the pros of the chemical reaction when he explained that it "made an impression" on his students.

Do You Really Want That Snow Day?

By Brian Clemmenson



Photo Credit: <http://www.norwichjournal.com/2011/12/24/snow-day-6.html>

One of the most exciting things about the winter is the snow! As a result, schools all across the United States are often closed due to snow storms each winter. Every year in recent memory, the Stamford Public Schools have been affected by snow. This year, the 2011-2012 school calendar has three built-in snow days.

The problem, however, is that we have already used two of them (for Tropical Storm Irene, which closed the city's schools on September 1st and 2nd). More than one additional snow day will result in school being open for students during part of April vacation. According to the BOE school calendar, "If the number of snow days

exceeds the number of snow days provided in this calendar, the additional required snow day (s) will be taken from the last day of the April vacation, moving backwards. Unused snow days will be deducted from the end of the year." According to Public Affairs Officer Sarah Arnold, it appears that Greenwich, New Canaan, Bridgeport, and Fairfield use the same snow-day makeup system as Stamford.

The bottom line is that more than one snow day this winter will result in students being required to school during our April vacation. Now we can only wait and see what Mother Nature springs upon us this winter.

Inspirational Women Visit Stamford High

By Tlaney Nieves

Four amazing black women came to visit Stamford High on November 18, 2011 to speak about following your dreams. The visit was part of a tour for a book by Sonnee Weedn, which focuses on a tapestry of accomplished, African women. Chiquita Stephenson, a former Black Knight, put together an assembly to explain more about the four women, including herself, and get to know their stories.

Sekyiwa Shakur, Tupac's sister, inspired Sonnee Weedn to write this book. She spoke about her past and how hard it was to grow up having so many insecurities as a young girl. She went through teen pregnancy and the death of her brother. Sekyiwa suffered through depression and trauma.

Chiquita Stephenson spoke about obstacles throughout her life. She had a child at 13 and 7 heart surgeries. And is now the boss of the superintendent of board of education.

Gloria Bouknight was a beautiful African American woman who would have never thought she would be a model. She was the first African American woman to be on the cover of a magazine.

Lola Love was a young African American lady who wanted to dance. Her mother insisted she went to college. She auditioned for Mama Lou Parks and was hired. Lola was on the road for ten years as a singer and dancer.



Above, Chiquita Stephenson speaks to students of Stamford High School. Photo Credit: Tlaney Nieves

The crowd was enthusiastic; Senior Shawn Padilla was even encouraged to sing. "I was motivated by energy in the room to sing" he said.

In some way, they each had the same message. They spoke to inspire the kids that their future is important. No matter what obstacles you go through in life, it is always possible to accomplish your dreams. We have to learn to always believe in ourselves, because when we stop is when we fail. In every situation, whether accomplished or not, we are always potential winners.

FUN FACT

Turducken is a dish consisting of a de-boned chicken stuffed into a de-boned duck, which itself is stuffed into a de-boned turkey.

The word *turducken* is a Portmanteau of turkey, duck, and chicken

The word Portmanteau is a blend of two (or more) words or into one new word.





Security Guard James Jordan Keeps Our Halls Safe

by Crystal Lyle

Photo by Asha Perkins



Did you know that SHS consists of over 2,000 students? How many of these students do you think always do what they're supposed to?

Every once in a while, students choose to leave school, skip class, and so much more. There is no way all these kids can always get along with one another, so once in a while, a fight breaks out. So who puts a stop to this? Who ends all the animosity? What we wanted to do was get a look in on how being a security guard works, and what an average day was like.

Jimmy Jay (James Jordan), one of our security guards here at SHS, has been working here for 15 years. One of Jay's jobs here in school is to end an altercation before it turns into a physical encounter; he's the "peacemaker" here. His job is also to make sure that students like us are happy; he also guards the halls. You can usually find him on the second floor.

At SHS you never know what to expect; there's always some kind of surprise, whether it's positive or negative. No school is perfect;

no student is perfect. When asked what it was like dealing with the kids, Jay said, "You want the truth, or you want a lie? I like working with the kids; it's just hard dealing with their attitudes."

What's an average day at SHS?

"There is no average day, we have good days, we have bad days," says Jay

We asked Jimmy Jay what constant struggles he deals with each day; he replied, "Some of the fights we have". Could you imagine the difficulty of making two of the worst enemies become two good friends? Jay helps students realize how foolish their conflicts may be, and how unimportant they are in comparison to our school work. Jay never chooses a side for any student; he just tries to make everything better. "I don't know when I'll leave," said Jay. "I'm still having fun."

Stamford High Restaurant Review

by Lisa Shaffer

My first glance over Stamford High did not exactly inspire the senses the way a good restaurant should. On further investigation, however, my skepticism was proved wrong.

The lack of trees and overpopulation of humans made it seem like food would be scarce. On the contrary, plump squirrels and mice were everywhere, snacking on discarded bagels and chips; I could smell right away the heavenly aroma of fresh prey.

The first squirrel I tried was a good size and the perfect temperature due to the balmy 50 degree weather. Although it put up a bit of a fight, I like some challenge to my meal and the crunch it provided was certainly worth it. Dining in the public eye was a little uncomfortable, but I eventually chose to carry my meal up to the more pleasant view of a tree perch: an excellent choice.

After digesting in peace for a while, dessert was served in the form of a smaller squirrel. Slightly

easier to catch (thankfully, with my full stomach), this furry delight was served in the appropriate setting of a courtyard bench.

Photo by Taylor Seftener



This squirrel was a little harder to swallow, being less hopped up on various sugary treats, but still a good choice. The taste blew the seagull I had for breakfast down at the park right out of the water.

Although the food was great and the sun shone in just the right way to create a nice warm feeling, preying at Stamford High may not be for every hawk. Be careful to avoid the peak hours of passing time; such a rarely visited locale creates quite the hoopla when one drops in unannounced. Keep on your toes (or rather, talons) to avoid tennis balls and other flying objects and stay away from freshman girls (they tend to scream).

By the time the afternoon rolls around however, Stamford High is prime for munching. The locals get lazy as the school day ends and provide a more peaceful ambience. Service is excellent; food literally scampers right by you. The unique tastes provide an experience you can't get anywhere else. Over all, I would definitely risk a few ruffled feathers to come back.

Sincerely,

The Stamford Hawk

Twenty Christmas Fun Facts

by Peter Tu & Cole Savona



Warm hot chocolate, beautiful Christmas lights, presents, more sleep, delicious food, and NO school! What more can you ask for during the winter vacation? While you're on break enjoying the holiday recess, there are some facts that you might not know about Christmas that may surprise you. New Years is right around the corner, so buy your family and friends something nice. Happy Holidays and make sure you share these fun facts with your friends!

- 1) US scientists calculated that Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, travelling at 650 miles a second.
- 2) Carols began as an old English custom called wassailing, or toasting neighbors to a long life.
- 3) Hanging stockings out comes from the Dutch custom of leaving shoes packed with food for St. Nicholas's donkeys. He would leave small gifts in return.
- 4) Nearly 60 million Christmas trees are grown each year in Europe.
- 5) The world's tallest Xmas tree at 221ft high was erected in a Washington shopping mall in 1950.
- 6) The chances of a white Christmas are just 1 in 10 for England and Wales, and 1 in 6 for Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- 7) Before turkey, the traditional Christmas meal in England was a pig's head and mustard.
- 8) In 1999, residents of the state of Maine built the world's biggest ever snowman. He stood at 113ft tall.
- 9) Many parts of the Christmas tree can actually be eaten, with the needles being a good source of Vitamin C.
- 10) The largest Christmas cracker - 45.72m long and 3.04m in diameter - was pulled in Australia in 1991.

- 11) Jingle Bells was the first song broadcast from space when Gemini 6 astronauts Tom Stafford and Wally Schirra sang it on December 16, 1965.
- 12) Santa has different names around the world - Kringle in Germany, Le Befana in Italy, Pere Noel in France and Dedushka Moroz (Grandfather Frost) in Russia.
- 13) Upside-down artificial Xmas trees are sold to allow more gifts to be piled under.
- 14) Boxing Day gets its name from all the money collected in church alms-boxes for the poor.
- 15) Kissing under the mistletoe is thought to spring from Frigga, the Norse goddess of love, who was associated with the plant.
- 16) The Beatles hold the record for most Xmas number 1 singles, topping the charts in 1963, 65 and 67.
- 17) Electric tree lights were invented by Edward Johnson in the US in 1882.
- 18) Gold-wrapped chocolate coins commemorate St. Nicholas who gave bags of gold coins to the poor.
- 19) In Greece, Italy, Spain and Germany, workers get a Christmas bonus of one month's salary by law.
- 20) In the Czech Republic they enjoy dinners of fish soup, eggs and carp. The number of people at the table must be even, or the one without a partner will die next year.

Christmas Traditions at Stamford High

by Adam Satz



With December break, comes Christmas. Each year the same question arises, "What are you doing for Christmas?" And each year many people keep the same traditions as they have in years past. With Stamford High being such an ethnically diverse place, many people celebrate the holiday differently.

Each year Meschac Casimir, a Haitian senior, does the same thing. When asked if he had any specific traditions for Christmas, he responded "Besides getting gifts and eating, nope." This is probably a common tradition for most, but it does differ for families with a more traditional outlook.

When Jordan Raymer, a Jewish junior, was asked what his tradition was he replied, "We go to a Chinese restaurant and to a movie every year." This is a common tradition among the Jewish community; while other people open their presents with their family, Jews tend to order Chinese food and catch a movie, (except for myself; I break this tradition and my family and I go out for Italian food).

Joe Palumbo, an Italian junior, says that his tradition is to have a "nice Italian breakfast with nice Italian sausage and toast." He then continued to explain that this year was special because he plans on watching "the Knicks scrape the Celtics."

Many foods are made special just for this holiday and Meschac said that he always drinks Cremas, "It's like a milkshake."

Jamaican Senior Harona Osborne spends time with her family; they shop, eat, and on Christmas day have a cookout and invite her whole family. On the day after Christmas, she celebrates "Boxing Day," attending a concert where Jamaicans gather and party all day.

For Jose Morales, a Puerto-Rican junior, he eats the same Christmas Eve dinner each year. Jose said that he "eats tamales and empanadas" along with an assortment of other ethnic foods.

Everybody celebrates Christmas differently, but with each tradition comes a celebration with family and friend.

FUN FACT OF THE MONTH

by Features Editor Adonis Silva

On Tuesday, November 29, 2011; the entire Round Table staff gathered at the cafeteria on third wave. We gathered the following data...

- 439 students attend third wave.
- We found 35 pounds of leftover food on table tops.
- Approximately, that is .07 pounds per student in third wave.

Photos by Tsering Yangzom

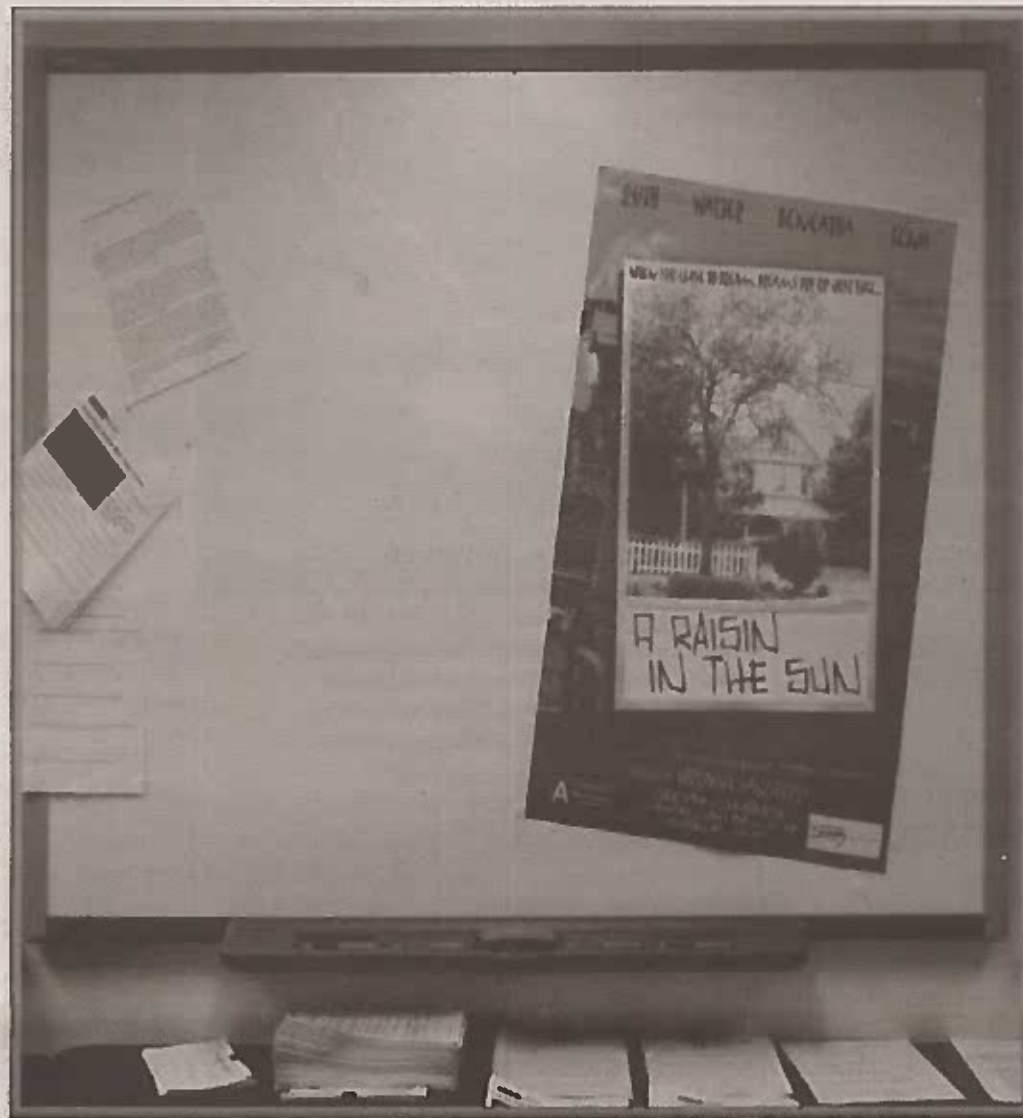


Wasted Equipment at Stamford High

By Julian DeVincentis

Funding always seems to be something that Stamford High School is always lacking. So where exactly are all of your parents' tax payer dollars going? Perhaps to one of the brand new five-thousand dollar smart-boards or expensive projector and speaker systems that many classrooms have been equipped with over the past few years. The question is, why are so many of them left unused and untouched all year by some teachers?

In an informal survey of friends and classmates, students told me that some of their teachers have never once used their lavish digital white board, with some students even reporting that teachers have posted posters on the smart boards. What



Tsering Yangzom

we have here is now a five thousand dollar bulletin board. Surely parents would much rather see their hard earned money being put towards funding more important things like

teachers' salaries or extracurricular activities.

Smart boards aren't the only pieces of hardware occasionally collecting dust in Stamford High. Overhead projectors also

function as useless decorations in the rooms of some teachers. These outdated hunks of hardware have been outclassed by the digital projector and smart board, so surely there is something we could do with them, right? For example, they could be given to elementary schools that are still using the ancient chalkboard, or even given to less privileged countries where they would be considered modern.

Overall, Stamford High needs to determine the difference between a necessity and an expensive, unnecessary luxury.

To the Editor-

The latest issue of *The Round Table* had a very disappointing sports section, to say the least. Regardless of the fact that every sport but girls soccer was neglected, the coverage of that was even incomplete. The

picture accompanying the article showed only one of the JV girls soccer players in a view that was far from the best. The varsity team had enough moments of glory that at least the picture could have shown it. No offense to the JV player in the picture... but that's all she is. I just

wish there could have been a real picture of such talented girls in action.

Sincerely,

Anonymous

FCIAC Refs Unfair?

By Taylor Mills



Referees—they make the calls, control the flow of the game, and can even determine the winner.

At Stamford High School, there are 17 athletic teams that all have different rules of play. Despite this difference, many Black Knight athletes can agree on one thing: FCIAC refs are not always fair.

Is it a coincidence that whenever Stamford High competes against other FCIAC opponents, we seem to always get the shorter end of the stick? Perhaps not. Why? The answer to this question is: reputation. Stamford High has a false reputation of playing “dirty” or being “disrespectful.” This is

due to past athletes who may not have behaved properly during games.

This means that one act of poor behavior can fracture the foundation on which Stamford High’s reputation stands. Yes, every school and team may have their bad seeds and consequences for a poorly-behaved athlete; however, Stamford High has had quite a few in the past. This makes referees more aware and analytical of how Stamford High’s athletes play their games. So much so that an accidental push can become a penalty against that SHS athlete.

BUT, all that dirty play was in the past. This is the present, so why should athletes who have not done anything to damage the reputation of Stamford High have to pay the price? They shouldn’t.

Some referees do not take into consideration that people graduate and new kids come in every year. They assume that those new players will play just as dirty as those in the past. This means that in order for Stamford High to win, players have to work harder and help themselves, because the referees won’t.

Something needs to be done about these unfair FCIAC refs, and it begins with students speaking up in FCIAC conferences. However, student-athletes have to also do their part by ensuring that they are representing both their team and their school positively.



Playing Cards

By Thomas Bartlett

Stamford High has a lot of rules. I agree with some of them; for example, not using our phones in class makes sense, because when we do, we aren’t learning. We are texting and not paying attention. However, one rule that I disagree with is the ban on card playing.

The school district does not want students playing cards because of gambling. However, just because we are playing cards doesn’t mean



that we are betting. There are plenty of games that can be played without betting, but when

administrators and security see us playing cards, they assume we are doing something wrong. Unless someone sees money changing hands, there is no reason to assume we are gambling.

I think administration should take another look at this rule. People are getting in trouble for the wrong reasons.

New Phone Comparison

By Darnell Morris

Droid RAZR



Pros

- Extremely thin
- The lightest smartphone
- Memory card preinstalled
- Front facing camera
- Bigger screen display
- 4G LTE
- T.V. adaptable (HDMI)
- Very comfortable in hand or pocket

Cons

- Touchscreen doesn't respond when too hot.
- Expensive (\$299.00)
- Random freezes
- Short battery life
- Battery can't be removed
- Camera doesn't focus well
- Screen can shatter easily
- Not compatible with some Bluetooth devices

HTC EVO DESIGN 4G



Pros

- 5 Megapixel Camera
- 4G
- Front facing camera
- Great for listening to music
- Capture HD pictures
- Inexpensive (\$99.00)
- Charges quickly

Cons

- No memory card slot
- Very limited volume
- Short battery life
- Drops calls
- Turns off randomly

VS.

Jamboree Foul

By Even Berkovitz



The Jamboree didn't just consist of back and forth play, an atmosphere of school spirit all around was equally exciting... maybe *too* exciting. While our fan squad exhausted their voices in excitement, it got the best of them. Now, I won't go all Ralph Emerson on you (look it up), but come on people! Shouting personal chants at other schools' fans, which had absolutely nothing to do with hockey--or any other sport for that matter--is far below the standards we should have for ourselves. Seeing as how if I were to be able to

include some examples of these chants, I would need a lot of bribe money and a whole slew of strings pulled, I think it is easy to affirm that some of the things said in the crowds by my fellow peers are beyond inappropriate. The obscenities said were hurtful to specific people, and also to an entire group. Some derogatory religious chants--although seemingly light hearted--towards Trinity are just off color. People, if you're going to insult someone, at least be accurate!

As to those who were involved, whoever you may be, your insignificance in comparison to the crowd you stood in has hidden you from any ridicule, but let me quote

another writer you should know about, Henry David Thoreau (I prefer Google) where he says "I would rather sit on a pumpkin and have it all to myself than be crowded in a velvet cushion." In other words, be separate from the crowd; the "influence," if you will. I strongly stand by my belief that the behavior at the jamboree was a weak showcase of how we all can be. I'm not trying to make a big deal out of it, but the decorum observed at our high school sporting events has dropped to a standard of pathetic at best. Rise above! Be classy, not sassy! Don't be a follower! You get the point.

The Round Table wants YOU!!!

We are looking for writers in the following areas:



Sports Coverage

Entertainment Coverage

School Event Coverage

Community Events

Student and Faculty Profiles

Opinion and Editorials

Film / Music / Restaurant Critiques

School Club Coverage

Staff meetings take place every Thursday at 2:10 in room 624.

Contact The Round Table at trtshs@gmail.com

What Has Music Come To?

By Zach Bowles

As the years have progressed, it seems many have lost the perception of what exactly music is. As I listen to the radio in the car, I hear the same over played songs over and over, from LMFAO's "Party Rock Anthem," to Justin Bieber's "Baby," to Miley Cyrus' "You Belong with Me." With the fat bass and simple fist-pump music of today, it's no surprise that many teenagers that listen to music today don't seem to understand what musicality really is, and it's affecting the world's way of listening. I am an eclectic listener, meaning that I listen to many types of music, from classics like Beethoven's 5th Symphony, to the punk rock beat of Four Year Strong, to the rapcore beats of Chronic Future and Bortalis, to the classic rock of AC/DC, Rush and Queen, to the smooth jazz licks of Chuck Mangione and Duke Ellington, the occasional modern genre including Daughtry and Black Eyed Peas, and even some pounding metalcore of Avenged Sevenfold.

The issues seemed to start in the mid 1990's, when MP3 files got their start. It became easier to compress and separate recordings, and therefore a sort of war broke out. Known as the "Compression Wars," recording companies strived to crutch in as many music files onto one file or recorder as

possible. This began to turn into a quantity vs. quality fight, with many bands pumping out music at breakneck paces. This led to a lack in quality of many "albums," more rightfully called a compilation of tracks. A true album doesn't need a skip button, and the music throughout possesses more quality tunes than a present-day album. This allowed listeners to truly absorb the true musicality of whichever artist is playing the music.

Recent figures indicate that over 80% of adolescents aged 13-19 have an iPod or personal music player, whether it is a Zune or another MP3 player. With these players come ear buds, and they deliver crisp sound, but the file compression that music companies do to get those recordings to you eliminates key elements of what a musical piece really is. If you take a vinyl record of, say, a Beatles album, and an MP3 version of the same album, you will be able to truly hear how file compression is making music suffer. This compression spurs bands and singers such as Justin Bieber to not only make music on the spot, but to record it so it is simple to compress and share. If you enjoy the hip-hop or pop rock of today, consider some of these artists, who have similar styles but aren't as prominent.

If you like Justin Bieber's ballad-ish lyrics, then try Jet's albums *Shine On* and *Get Born*.

These Australian rockers not only deliver catchy rock-out hits, but also portray deep ballads



with crisp harmonies. If you enjoy rap, then a rapcore band known as Chronic Future may spark your interest. This young band's album, *Lines in My Face*, gives out rocking rap lines while also singing delicate ballads that tie together nicely. I am not trying to tell you to change your tastes in music. My message instead is to have you rethink what you are listening to, and maybe expand your musical horizons to explore and enjoy artists new and old. I hope I have sent a message to readers out there, and that maybe we won't be so culturally in the dark.

Stamford's Best Kept Secret: BKO

By Olivier Jean Marie



Many of us have never heard of Breakout, a young gospel chorus choir in Stamford. Most of us do not have the faintest idea that there used to be a gospel chorus in our school, which ultimately led to the formation of Breakout (BKO). Breakout is a gospel choir that is entering their fourth season under the direction of our very own health center

director, Conrad Johns. Johns says they chose Breakout as their name because they wanted to "break out" of the unfair system, especially the division between the west side and the east side of Stamford. They wanted to break that line and unite

in the name of music. That is why everyone that joins BKO enters a family that is not divided by race or where you're from. It's a place where everybody is united by music. In their first season, BKO had the opportunity to go to Manhattan for a gospel choir competition. When they send their tape, they were unsure if they would receive an answer, so they were delighted to learn that they were accepted. They were even more delighted to know that they sounded so good on the tape that the people organizing the competition thought they were a group of professional singers! They did not win, but had a lot of fun. The next two seasons were also full of great performances. When Conrad was asked about his expectation for this fourth season, he said that from what he saw during auditions, he thinks the choir is going to reach one of their highest points. He said that the choir is a ready to reach the next level.

recording. Johns said that's a plan they have for this year; Breakout have songwriters working on an original song for them. They are considering releasing an album at the end of this season. However, Breakout is not only about the singing. You do not have to be an amazing singer to be a part of this choir. They have an amazing staff that is willing to help you get to the next level as a vocalist. The more important thing is not to be a good vocalist, but to have the will to work. "We'd rather have had singers that are willing to put in the efforts than good singers that are in way over their heads and refuse to practice" said Johns. So if you are looking for an after-school activity, you are a good singer and a Christian, Breakout is the thing for you. You will make new friends and have a lot of fun.

Dear Miss K



Dear Miss K,

You have seen me around and have probably noticed that I am unhappily trapped in a one way friendship with my friends. I have known them since elementary school, but since coming to Stamford High, they have treated me oddly, mainly because their new friends don't really like me. I have other friends, but I really like these guys also, what should I do?

-S

Dear S:

Hun! I see people that feel trapped in bad friendships on a day to day basis, so to say I might know who you are would be a stretch. However, I understand how you feel and, I'm excited about helping you.

I want you to ask yourself these questions:

Do I deserve such brutal treatment?

Are there other friends that I have that would be appreciative of my friendship?

What are the pros and cons of walking away from these friends?

I will never tell you to forget about your friends, because that is impossible, but I am going to say that it would be best if you distanced yourself from them for as long as it takes for them to change. Try hanging out with new people; it will help to build confidence in yourself. Trust and believe that in two or three years your friends will miss what you all shared since elementary school. It just always seems to happen that way.

Peace, love and all of that good stuff!

Miss K

Dear Miss K,

Ok, I am going to try and be as civil, and as calm as I can be about my situation. I'm honestly days if not hours away from punching this chick because she is pissing me off. She is convinced that I am with this guy that she's dating after I have time and time again made it clear that I am not. I don't know if you can help me with this, but my solution, I'm sure, is not the right way to handle this situation.

-Senior

Dear senior:

Hey girl, how's it going? Hope you took my advice from the last issue, and are maintaining your friendship with your middle school friend. Now I know you well enough to know that you don't really mean what you said about hitting that girl; you're a senior, very mature and fully aware of the consequences of your actions. On the other hand, I realize that you are angry, and most likely irritated; shoots! I'd be too! However, I've told my peers time and time and time again, stop sweating the small stuff; you're a senior and you've got far more important things to stress about. I can't fathom why you would want to give into these accusations and ruin your reputation and the rest of your senior year.

Now normally I don't give titivated advice, so I am going to be very blunt with you. I strongly advise you to stay clear of the young ladies path, if she's walking on the right of the hallway, stay on the left. If she makes a comment, ignore it because trust me nothing is more embarrassing than talking to someone who publicly ignores you. Stay strong girl, keep applying to those colleges and hit me up when you get accepted.

Please, love and all of that good stuff!

Miss K

Dear Miss K,

I am really looking into a liberal arts college, but my parents are urging me to go to an ivy league college. They've always wanted me to go to law school, but all I want to do is write! Should I follow my heart, or go with the flow?

-j @shs

Dear j@shs:

Please! I beg of you, whatever you decide to do, never go with the flow, because frankly the "flow" is boring and way outdated. I guess what I am saying is that you need to do what you believe is best for you -- scratch that! You need to do what you aspire. Writing is a beautiful thing, and I truly believe that because I am a writer.

Let's be real for a moment; if its writing that you aspire to do, and you listen to your parents and go to law school, you are only setting yourself up for failure. If you don't like law now, chances are you won't like it in college. So think deeply on this one, and understand that all your parents want you to do is succeed, and maybe they think law is the way to do that. Well, why don't you challenge them and show them that you can succeed through writing?

Think about it!

Peace love and all of that good stuff!

Miss K

Dear Miss K,

What makes you think you're able to give advice to others?

-A

Dear A:

Well first of all the most obvious reason why I think I can is because I do give advice to other people (lol). However, words cannot express entirely how appreciative I am of you for asking what I think is an excellent question. The qualities I depict in my everyday life are what inspire me to share my knowledge and to help people my age realize that high school doesn't have to be a bad experience, and that there are better ways to deal with their issues rather than fighting or cursing.

I can tell you that starting an advice column is a serious challenge and decision. You never know what the content of a question is going to be, and so you have to be sophisticated, intelligent and understanding enough to be able to step outside of the box and see where the other person is coming from.

To be a great advice columnist you have to be a good listener, humane, understanding, respectful, humble and experienced.

Miss K



Homecoming

By Ron Andre



Ron Andre

Homecoming is the right word to use, because the Black Knights won the title of "city champs" from Westhill and came back home happy. The players were full of joy, and the field lit up with their excitement.

"We had a great season, and today we fought hard played hard" said junior linebacker Frankie Colandro. Head Coach Brian Hocker thought that they "had a slow start but played with a lot of intensity," and explained how the fact that the kids know each other made the game even more intense.

"This is one of the things we always worry about, but they played with poise. It was a great effort by our team; there was a lot of emotion, but once the game started coming to them they settled down. I think we accomplished what we set out to accomplish," Hocker said.

The game ended 34-6, with Jake D, Brian Bodenick, Berry Boderick, Chandler Foster, and Chris Huben all scoring touchdowns. The game was a really exciting one; as a fellow Knight, I have to say it was a great effort by our tea. They worked hard individually and as a group to achieve their goal.

Boy's Indoor Track

By Dylan Keith

Over the past few years the boys' indoor track team has dwindled in numbers. Each year less and less boys, of all grades, have come out for the team. Coach Barnett wishes more boys had come out this year. But, they have ended up with about 12. "The biggest problem is blue cards" Barnett said referring to the medical documentation you need in order to join a team.

It seems like most people just didn't know about the team when the first day came around right after our Thanksgiving break. Although the team is very small, there are still strong runners. Long distance runners Paul Pochette (12) and Adam Satz (11) will most likely lead in races like the mile, while sprinter Kyle Cruz (10) will lead in short distances like the 50M. They all look promising in Coach Barnett's

opinion. "I think the 50 and 300 could be our strenghts this year" Barnett said.

Along with Barnett, junior Adam Satz believes short distance will be a big strength during the indoor season, which he is looking forward to, "I just want to qualify for FCIAC" said Satz. Along with that, he wants the whole team to do well and to try to have as many boys qualify for FCIAC as possible.



Anna Cuyun

The first meet is just around the corner, and no one knows exactly how they will do, but Coach Barnett and his team have high hopes for the small track team this year.

Girls Indoor Track

By Zhenya Nalywako

With their first competition just a week away, Girl's Indoor Track is getting ready for what looks like a promising season. Still a young program in terms of serious competition at Stamford high, Girl's Indoor Track is looking for success in the Divisional Championship. The coach of Girl's Indoor Track, Joe Cozza, believes that the team's strong core of seniors and solid contingent of incoming juniors are ready for the challenge. One member of that strong core of seniors, Jamie Fedele, believes that the team has a realistic shot at a great season. "The season looks promising," said Fedele, "there are a lot of dedicated members on the team."

Fedele, who has worked hard on her running since she joined the team her freshman year,

wants to qualify for FCIAC's in the 50 meter hurdles event.

Calling the 50 meter hurdles her "most improved event," Jamie believes that hard work pays off, and is ready for the team and her to benefit from the hard work they have all put in. The Girl's Indoor Track team has never finished in the top half of the Divisional Championship, but Cozza believes that this year, that can change. With up and coming juniors Claire Kaptinski and Brianna Casseus ready for a break-out season this year, Cozza is gearing up for a run at being in the top three of the Divisional Championship. "It's a big goal, but we can do it," says Cozza.

The three captains of the team, Dylan Keith (senior, SHS),



Anna Cuyun

Hannah Buckley (senior, AITE), and Liz Flynn (senior, AITE), expect a great season as well.

Keith and Flynn have been on the team since their freshman year, while Buckley has been a member of the team since her sophomore year. "If we could get more girls to qualify for FCIAC's," said Keith, "it would be like a dream come true." There were very few girls to qualify for FCIAC. "Considering the Girl's Indoor Track program is still a building program at Stamford High," said long-time team member Sydney Stenquist,

(Girls Indoor Track Cont.)

"we should have a solid season this year." Stenquist, who also jumps hurdles, believes that it is hard for a team like Stamford High to compete in the FCIAC conference.

"Going up against established teams like Ridgefield or Danbury is always a challenge," continued Stenquist, "especially when you consider that we only get 35-45 girls a year while Greenwich and Darien usually have doubled that." This does not discourage Cozza, though, who called last year's

season their "best yet." Cozza believes that since the team has basically the same members it did last year, the experience they got from last year's season will help them excel in this one. "It's always great to face teams like Darien and Danbury, who are usually first and second every year," says Cozza, "because there is a lot we can learn from established, successful programs like those."

In terms of personal competition, though, Stamford High's two biggest rivals are Westhill and Brien McMahon. "Those are the schools we always set the bar against," said Cozza, referring to

competing against Westhill and McMahon, "because they have such a similar demographic to us. They're both building programs who face a lot of the same issues that we do, like a lack of support and runners." And since last season was the first in a number of years that the Girl's Indoor Track Team beat Westhill in competition, the team wants the trend to continue. "We're improving, slowly but surely," said Keith. Since it is her last year on the team, Keith wants it to be a special one, not just for her own sake, but for the whole team's as well.

The Lady's U-Knight Together

By Chris Kuczo

The outlook on the Lady Knights' 2011-2012 seasons after last year's crushing defeat at the hands of state title contender Glastonbury in the state playoffs was very bleak and dismal. The Lady Knights were battered and beaten, having lost four key seniors to graduation (Danielle Jordan, Ebony Razor, Devenay Cobbs, and Anabelle Paul). However, as the Lady Knights progress deeper into their (so far) smashing season, the look and tempo of the team have changed for the better.

The Lady Knights are currently undefeated at 4-0 under new first year head coach Todd Parness. Parness took over for long-time predecessor Curtis Timmin, who stepped down from the helm after many years of well-fielded teams. The Lady Knights look to continue their winning streak under the guidance of senior co-captains Lauren Schapiro and Kelsey Cognetta. Cognetta is a welcomed return after a season ending knee injury last year that she sustained while playing St. Joseph in the early stages of the regular season.

The Lady Knights' starting five, which figures to compete with some of the premier teams in the state, consists of Cognetta and Schapiro, along with sophomore Kelsey Santagata, (who, is currently out due to a recently-suffered hip injury, the severity of which is unknown), Ashyla Cody and Brianna Gordon. Seniors Jasmin Barrett, Ricka Williams and Samantha should also see significant minutes off the bench.

The team is looking to stride forward and take the leap from being the 8-11 subpar teams that they were last year

to becoming a perennial FCIAC powerhouse and state title contender. Parness brings a more energetic approach to the team (Schapiro describes it as "fast and aggressive"), but looks to follow in Timmin's footsteps as a proven winner.

Interview with Senior Co-Captains Lauren Schapiro and Kelsey Cognetta

By Chris Kuczo

1. "Based on what we've seen so far of this team this season, do you think there is room for improvement or do you believe the team is playing at its highest caliber? (If so, what is there to improve on?)"

Lauren Schapiro: "There is room for improvement. We could be boxing out better, and being more aggressive."

Kelsey Cognetta: "There is always room for improvement. The more we work hard in practice the better we get."

2. "Seeing as the team lost a lot of your seniors to graduation last season, is it hard to be leaders of this team as seniors?"

LS: "We were close to the seniors last year and we all get along well, so it wasn't hard."

KC: "I think we were all really close and that made it easy to transition."

3. "Was it hard for the team to transition from Curtis Timmin's style of play to Todd Parness'?"

LS: "No, the team transitioned well and adapted to the new style."

KC: "No, I think the team adapted well to the new style of play that Parness wanted to implement."

4. "Do you plan to play basketball competitively beyond high school?"

LS: "I do not, just for fun or pickup."

KC: "Yes I do."

5. "Do you think the team can become FCIAC title contenders? How is the team chemistry?"

LS: "Yes we definitely can, the team chemistry is really good."

KC: "Yes, and I think that we get along well, and this transitions onto the court."

6. "Do you think the team can become city champions once again?"

LS: "Definitely."

KC: "For sure."

7. "Which athlete is most comparable with you? Why so?"

LS: "I like to say Michelle Akers from the old U.S. Women's national soccer team because she works hard and knows the game."

KC: "Hope solo because she has such a competitive spirit."

8. "What are some achievements you hope to accomplish this season?"

LS: "I hope to make it as far in the FCIAC and state tournaments as possible."

KC: "I hope that we can get the city title, along with winning FCIACS, and contend in the state playoffs."

Boys Hockey Start Off the Season with a Tie

by Dawn Winsor

The Black Knights Varsity Boy's Hockey team is geared up for another season on the ice. Senior captains Zach Fornaciari and Michael Darna plan to lead the team to victory with a successful season of at least a 500 record. They hope to have their record reflect the team's playing skills better than it did last season. There's a new team attitude this year which will hopefully do just that. The team began training for the upcoming season at Binesbreak. Now into the season, they practice every day, 2 to 3 of those practices occurring at 5:20 AM before school starts. So far the team has played three scrimmages, against Notre Dame of Fairfield (7-0 L), North Haven (4-1 L) and Fairfield Warde (3-3). They had very close games against rivals Westhill and Trinity Catholic at the jamboree on Saturday, December 10th, but due to the fact that they lost four senior defensive starters, their defense was inexperienced at the pre-season event. Despite a rough start to the season, they are looking to improve.

When asked how he planned to lead the team Fornaciari said, "As I embark on the journey of being captain with a 'C' on my chest, I am looking to improve the Black Knights in many aspects of the game". He plans to do this by performing on the ice and leading by example. He describes himself as a vocal leader who picks the team up when they fail. Avid fan Marco Critelli (senior) agreed, saying that "Fornaciari put the team on his back." Assistant Captain Cole Savona (junior) said, "Our team is made up of some of the most interesting gentlemen who want nothing more than to win, crush the opposition and go hard." The biggest opposition the Knights are faced with is Trinity Catholic. But with their nonsense, disciplined coach Doug Robinson, this contest shouldn't be too hard. The hockey team also has many fans who attend games. When asked to share his thoughts on the upcoming season, fan Zhenya Nalywayko (senior) said, "the way I see it, with the great contingent of players on the team, there is no way the season can be anything but great, they're going to hatch the dragon," referring to a



Mark Polakoff

quickly-spreading motto started by team member Tom "Boggs" Molgano (freshman). The Knights played their first game Thursday, December 15 in East Haven, where they tied 5-5. Since then they've played Daniel Hand (4-2 L). Their next matchup is against Branford at Terry Connors Ice Rink, Wednesday, December 21st at 6:40. Go watch them "hatch the dragon!"

Boys' Hockey Jamboree

By Even Berkovitz

Saturday at 3:30 the exciting annual jamboree, a precursor to each new season for the boys' Stamford High hockey team, took place. A jamboree consists of teams all over Stamford meeting up for an opportunity to get some play time in—and of course bragging rights.

First up: Westhill. The initial half of the game was a close one, with the first goal not occurring until just 43 seconds before halftime. Unfortunately, it was not our own, but our near-comeback showed zeal and commitment. A two minute penalty on WHS right after the beginning of the second half got the energy of the Stamford High team going. With two big checks by a few of our Black Knights about three minutes in, the effort really began to show and the ardor grew—and it almost paid off when CJ DeVaglio almost scored a breakaway goal. Coming back at us, another two minute penalty was given to WHS for tripping. It's a good thing the period almost came to an end, because within the last four minutes of this game, two on-ice fights almost broke out. While in the end WHS won fair and square (1-0), the Stamford High squad must be credited with a valiant effort.

On to the next game: the Knights versus the Crusaders. The vehemence of this game was the most dramatic of the night. Our team came out of the locker room positive and ready to give their very best. Every Knight on the ice (and watching from the stands) felt like they had bumped into the blunt corner of a table top, as if they were shot, when

Trinity scored a goal only forty-five seconds into the first half. After a start-off between Knight Cole Savona and another Trinity player, both were awarded two minutes in the box.



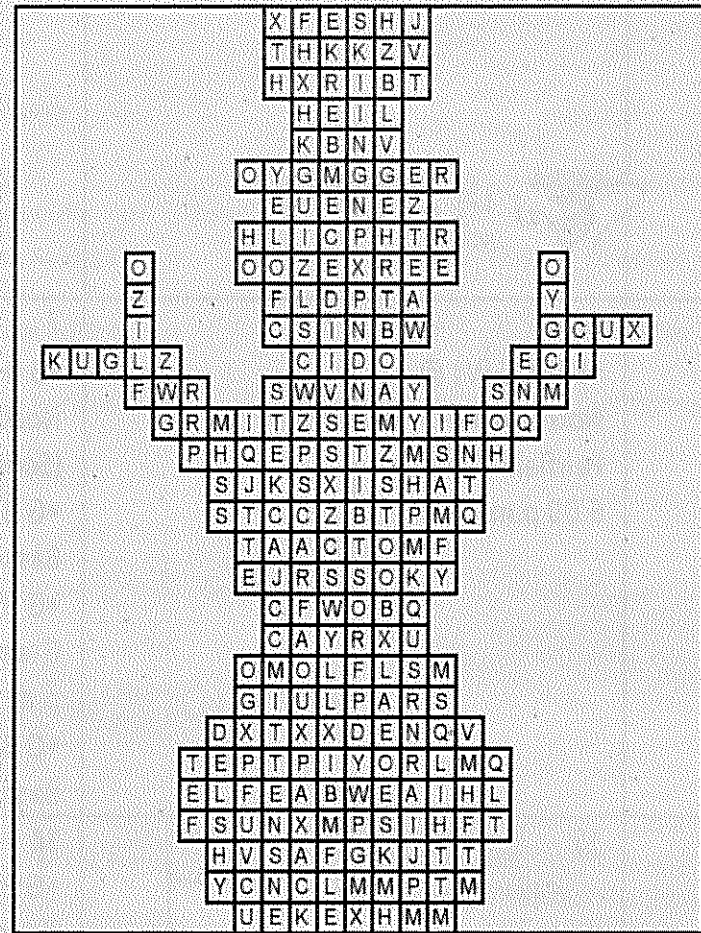
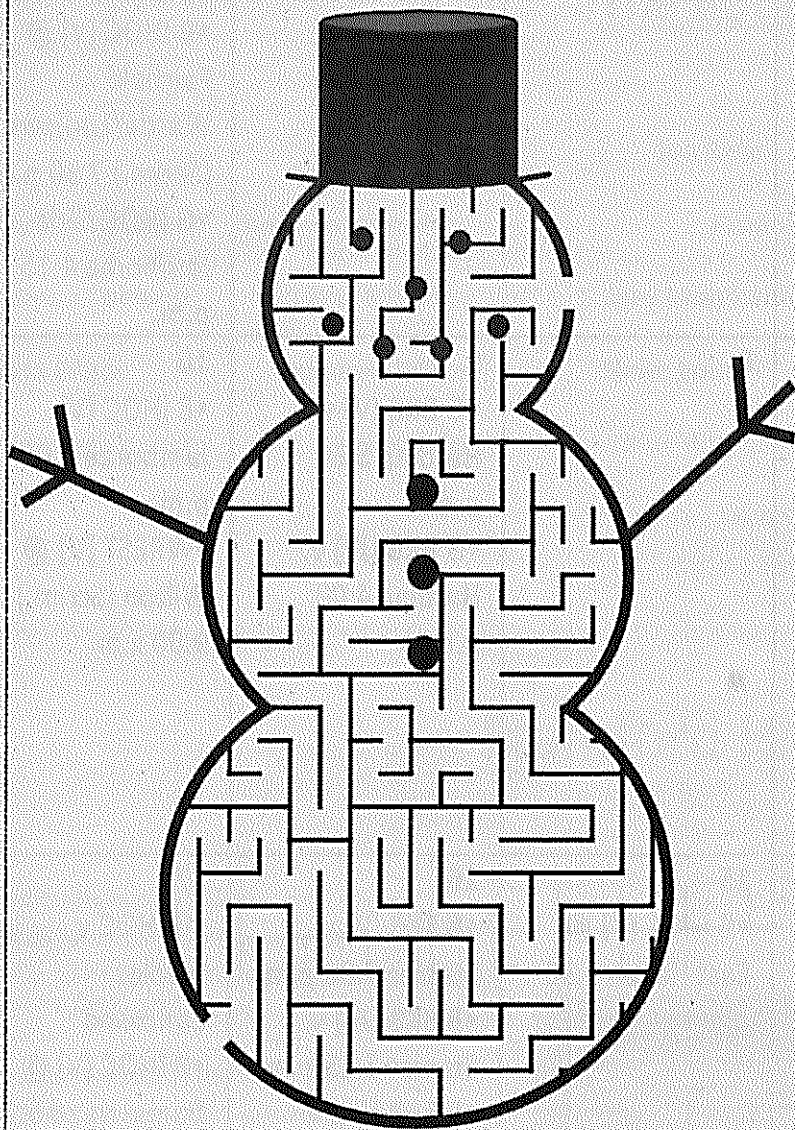
Mark Polakoff

With the next five minutes came an oddly exciting-yet-uneventful period of the game, and with just less than five minutes left in the first half, an exhilarating breakaway goal by Zach Fornaciari shook the crowd. Let me tell you, standing next to the SHS fan squad, the cheers were always deafening but silent in comparison to those heard after Zach backed his first goal up with another just three minutes later.

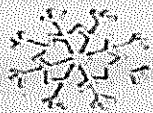
The second half began, and the Crusaders pushed through to score another goal, bringing the score tied at 2-2 just twenty-five seconds in. With a great deal of pressure on their shoulders, the Black Knights just couldn't scramble quickly enough to come up with another goal! While it was ultimately a disappointing evening for the Black Knights, both of our (well played) games showed commitment and a promising season ahead. GO BLACK KNIGHTS!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
				1	2	3 •B IHOC [V] @ Fairfield Warde/Ludlowe (Scrim.) 7:30 p.m. •G IHOC Girls Jamboree 4:15 p.m.
4	5 •B IHOC [V] @ Notre Dame- Fairfield (Scrim.) 6:00 p.m.	6	7 •B IHOC [V] v. North Haven (Scrim.) 6:40 p.m. •G BKB [V] v. Bassick 5:30 p.m. •G IHOC v. Greenwich 8:10 p.m. •G BKB [JV] v. Bassick 4:00 p.m.	8	9 •G BKB [V] v. Harding 5:30 p.m. •G BKB [JV] v. Harding 4:00 p.m.	10 •B IHOC [V] Jamboree 4:00 p.m. •WREST [V] @ Wilton (Scrim.) 9:00 a.m.
11	12	13	14 •G BKB [V] v. Greenwich 5:30 p.m. •G BKB [JV] v. Greenwich 4:00 p.m. •B BKB [V] @ Greenwich 7:00 p.m. •WREST [V] @ Danbury 4:00 p.m. •G IHOC @ New Canaan 8:30 p.m. •B BKB [JV] @ Greenwich 5:15 p.m. •B BKB [FR] @ Greenwich 4:00 p.m. •B SWIM [V] @ Danbury 6:30 p.m.	15 •B IHOC [V] @ East Haven 7:30 p.m.	16 •B BKB [V] v. Staples 7:00 p.m. •B BKB [JV] v. Staples 5:15 p.m. •B BKB [FR] v. Staples 4:00 p.m. •G BKB [V] @ Staples 7:00 p.m. •G BKB [JV] @ Staples 5:15 p.m.	17 •G IHOC v. Staples - Cancelled •B IHOC [V] @ Daniel Hand 5:15 p.m. •B ITCK [V] @ Staples, Harding, Fairfield Ludlowe, Bassick 10:00 a.m. •WREST [V] Skip Arden Tournament 10:00 a.m. •G ITCK [V] @ Staples, Harding, Fairfield Ludlowe, Bassick 10:00 a.m.
18	19 •G IHOC @ Darien 8:00 p.m.	20 •G BKB [V] v. Brien McMahon 5:30 p.m. •G BKB [JV] v. Brien McMahon 4:00 p.m. •B BKB [V] @ Brien McMahon 7:00 p.m. •B BKB [JV] @ Brien McMahon 5:15 p.m. •B IHOC [JV] @ Brookfield- Bethel-Danbury 4:00 p.m. •B BKB [FR] @ Brien McMahon 4:00 p.m.	21 •B IHOC [V] v. Branford 6:40 p.m. • First day of Chanukah	22 •WREST [V] @ Bridgeport Central 4:00 p.m.	23 •B IHOC [JV] @ Greenwich 1:45 p.m. CHRISTMAS BREAK!!	27 •B BKB [V] v. Brien McMahon 8:00 p.m. •WREST [V] Danbury Holiday Tournament 9:15 a.m. •G ITCK [V] Winter Relays 10:00 a.m.

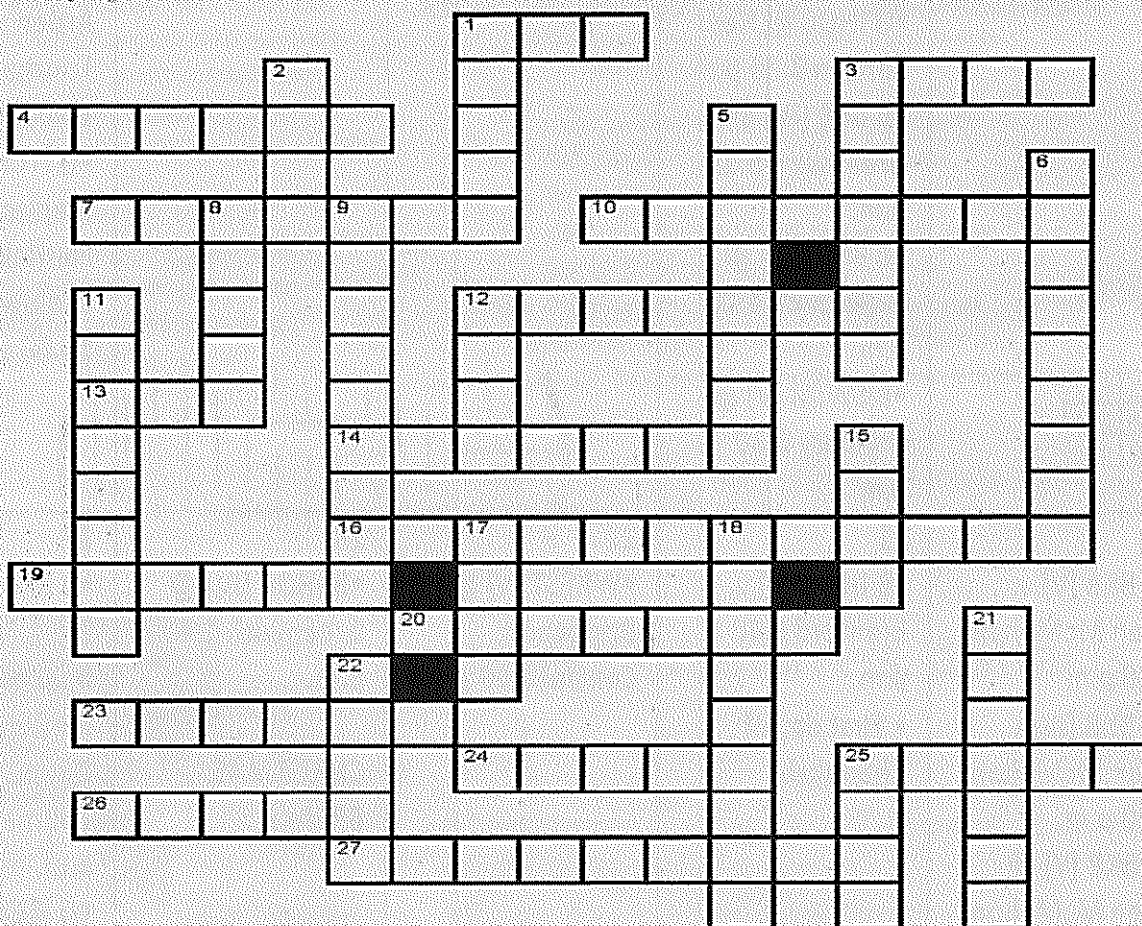
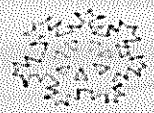
Can you find all the Knight Heads throughout the issue?



BOOTS COLD DECEMBER FIREPLACE FROSTBITE HAT
HOLIDAYS ICE JACKETS MITTENS SCARF SKIING
SLED SNOW SNOWMAN WINTER



Winter Crossword



Across

1. A fun thing you can do on snow.
3. Change ice to water.
4. Something you wear to keep your hands warm.
7. Head south for the winter like birds do.
10. A long break from school.
12. A winter person?
13. Frozen water.
14. Happy _____!
16. A drink that warms you up in winter.
19. Change water to ice.
20. The first month of the year.
23. Ice hanging from your roof.
24. This covers windows in winter.
25. Something you wear to keep your neck warm.
26. These keep your feet dry in winter.
27. Sleep through the winter.

Down

1. A fun thing you can do on ice.
2. A large animal that hibernates.
3. These keep your hands warm in winter. Hint: No fingers.
5. The last month of the year.
6. A piece of snow.
8. Large birds that migrate.
9. Snow crashing down a mountain.
11. A snowstorm.
12. White fluffy stuff that covers the ground.
15. If you are not careful, you might catch a _____.
17. The opposite of freeze.
18. Merry _____!
21. A warm article of clothing.
22. Wet, partly melted, snow.
25. Something you sit on as you ride down a hill.

