

### The Round Table

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*The Round Table is published six times during the school year by the Communications and Journalism classes of Stamford High School, Room 164, Strawberry Hill Avenue, Stamford, Connecticut 06902, (203) 977-4224.*

*The views expressed in The Round Table are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent views of the school, its students or staff. All unsigned editorials are opinions of the editorial board.*

*The Round Table welcomes letters from its readers. Letters must be original and signed. All are subject to editing and verification of authenticity. Anonymous letters will not be printed.*

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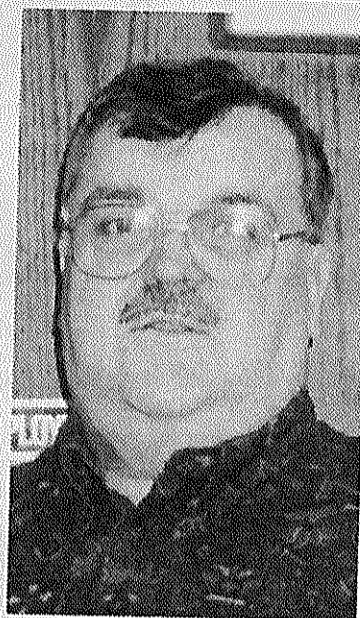
# Teacher Spotlight

Nicole Querze  
Staff Reporter



Whether its her telling stories about Thanksgiving dinner or bugging kids for homework, Ms. Newton's class is never boring. She has been teaching math at SHS for thirty-one years. She has taught

Algebra, Geometry and Advanced Math. Ms. Newton says, "I've always loved teaching. It's a wonderful way to spend your life." She thinks that teachers are born not made and she wants everyone to learn and have fun doing it. Lauren Warshaw says, "She works really well with the students and she is always there when we need her." Ms. Newton has various ways of teaching. She teaches not at the blackboard but on an overhead projector, using different colored markers to make learning more interesting and the problems easier to understand. Not only does Ms. Newton prepare her students for more advanced courses, but also for the SAT and CAPT tests. Ms. Newton is truly a great teacher who cares a great deal about her students. "I don't care what I teach, I just love teaching. It keeps you young."



"What doesn't Mr. Pociadlo do?" asks Mike Gonzalez. Mr. Pociadlo accomplishes everything from teaching computer classes, to selling antiques and advising FBLA

(Future Business Leaders of America). FBLA is run at Rob's Place on the second floor. He has a strict policy that he won't give any student a job he wouldn't do: "I will clean floors when a bagel drops and do the 'cheesing' as my students call it." Mr. Pociadlo always has his ear to the business world, as he says it helps him with running FBLA. He originally sold antiques which he believes is the most difficult market. Mr. Pociadlo has also done a lot for the school with the money made by FBLA. He sent students to the Youth Leadership Conference, gave the Math Department computer equipment, upgraded the business computers and gave \$2100 toward senior scholarships. Mr. Pociadlo is an extraordinary person and SHS is lucky to have him.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As a reader of *The Round Table* and one who places his faith in factual reporting, I was shocked and outraged to read News Editor Jen Kucharski's diatribe against the "conditions" of Westhill's swimming pool ("Dirty Water Makes Me Puke", Volume 26, No. 2, December 20, 1994). While Ms. Kucharski is in contact with the pool throughout the year, her article is filled with inconsistencies, impracticalities, and blatant libel. The piece makes reference to admittedly disgusting substances in the pool, including hairballs, vomit, blood, small rodents, and human waste. As a member of the boy's [sic] swimming team for the past 3 years and a member of the three-season Stamford Sharks Team for the past five, I have never been sick as a result of swimming, nor have I seen anything in the pool besides the occasional Band-Aid. After reading the article, I felt compelled to present it to Frank Santorella, Sr., head custodian of the pool area at Westhill. He labeled the article "ridiculous" and "absurd", then went on to explain how the pool is filtered and chemically cleansed on a regular basis, which would remove or neutralize every substance mentioned. Members of boys' swim teams from both schools disagreed vehemently with the article, as did members of the Stamford Sharks and their respective coaches, whose reactions ranged from anger to amusement.

In any case, the article is derisive to the hard-working janitorial staff of Westhill, who not only put up with year-round swimming but also public swimming. Virtually all public pools suffer from the same problems that Ms. Kucharski mentions, many of which are in a much less sanitary condition, and Westhill High's pool is to be commended for its relative cleanliness. In addition to this undeserved attack on their integrity, the article has a tangible negative effect on swim team morale. Many people who were undecided over their decision to swim for Stamford High have been firmly repelled by the article. I realize that, as a senior, Ms. Kucharski may not feel the need to encourage the athlet-

school, suffering through yet another undermanned and therefore defeatist season, her article is a appalling affront to hopes of a winning season and simply not true.

Wesley S. Chao

Note: As of this writing, Ms. Kucharski has contacted Mr. Santorella and privately apologized, stating that her article is perhaps slightly overblown and offering to rewrite it. Mr. Santorella refused because he thought the article would cause more problems than it would solve, but those of you who wish to swim for Stamford High boys' swimming are still welcome.

*My intent in writing this article was not to criticize any member of the Westhill pool custodial staff, nor to discourage potential athletes from joining their school's swim team. To the contrary of Mr. Chao's allegation of my article being "filled with inconsistencies, impracticalities, and blatant libel," everything I wrote has been seen over the past five years. The editorial's purpose was to stress that all of these things did appear in the pool since the last time it was drained.*

*The furthest extent of Mr. Santorella's conversation with me was that although I had not planned it, the article could be interpreted as implying that these contaminants appear on a daily basis. I apologized to Mr. Santorella not for writing the article, but for any harm it may have caused him.*

*I agree with Mr. Chao that the janitorial staff of Westhill is hard-working and I apologize for any trouble this article has caused them. However, many other local pools are drained on an annual basis. My editorial was meant only to convince the city to take action and drain the pool.*

*Several members of the girls' swim team would agree with me on the things that have been witnessed in the pool. Despite Mr. Chao's statement that, "Members of*

*cle," I was approached by a member of the Stamford High boys' swim team who said he completely agreed with me on the condition of the pool.*

*I offered to write a letter to Mr. Santorella's superiors explaining that the intent of my article was not to criticize him. Although I did not offer to rewrite the article, we will run a correction in the case of an error in reporting. Finally, Mr. Santorella himself was of the opinion that it would be for the best if the entire incident was forgotten and not brought up again in the paper as Mr. Chao has seen fit to do.*

J. Kucharski  
News Editor

It was very obvious in the last edition of *The Round Table* that students of color were not displayed in photos with exception of the young lady asked to comment on beepers and tracking. When there are student spotlights it is very rare that a student of color is seen. Our school is very diverse and students of color make up nearly half of the student body, therefore we had hoped that the school newspaper would be a reflection of that diversity. However it appears


that there was lack of effort on the part of the staff in promoting and recognizing this. The Multicultural Student Union's Mission statement declares "MSU is a club whose purpose is to unite the students of SHS with diverse cultural differences, and insure that these differences are represented to the SHS community." The Multicultural Student Union hopes that in the future that *The Round Table* will take note and do the same.

MSU

*I'd like to thank MSU for bringing the full scope of the diversity problem to our attention. Your complaint certainly is valid and we hope that our readers will note the diversity of this and of future editions of The Round Table.*

*Furthermore, I sincerely hope that we did not offend any of our readers and apologize profusely if we did. I assure you that it was unintentional and is a thing of the past.*

.....



## The Varsity Club.

**Try this simple Varsity Club math quiz:**

Every Friday and Saturday nite when you buy \$10 of tokens at the awesome Varsity Club, you get \$5.00 of tokens free.

**Q: What is your discount?**

**A: (choose one)**

- \$5
- 50%
- 10 rounds of Killer Instinct, Samurai Shodown II, Primal Rage and Revolution X.
- Whatever the answer is, your parents don't want you to play video games.

**And the correct answer is:**

- Bring in this ad for another 4 free tokens.

**GET INTO THE GAME**

# Color Guard Looking Good Under New Management

**Nicole Whitman**  
Staff Reporter

If you are looking for an after school activity that is fun and shows true school spirit, then check out the SHS Color Guard. The guard consists of twenty talented young women spinning and whirling flags along with four determined young men pivoting rifles all to the entertaining music of the SHS band. This style of performance was instituted by Jeffery Dawson, a security guard here at SHS, who acquired the Color Guard program from long-standing coach, Mr. Zecca, last year.

From 1976 until 1980, minus the four years he took off, Mr. Zecca has been in charge of

the SHS Color Guard. When he recently decided to retire from the teaching profession, he also retired from his position as color guard coach.

In 1981, the band leader took control of the color guard until he became ill and retired in 1984. Mr. Zecca then resumed his position until last year when the determined Mr. Dawson took over. The new coach recalled the intricate skills of the Color Guard from his high school and New York University education. However, SHS is not the first school Dawson has taught Color Guard to; others include Staples, Bridgeport High and Norwalk High.

Dawson states, "This year is a rebuilding year for the

Color Guard. Next year we plan to compete for championships in New Jersey."

If anyone is interested in joining Color Guard, practices are Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from two o'clock to three o'clock and Saturday mornings from ten to twelve o'clock. Listen for the announcements on SHS on the Air. Come and support our Color Guard by either joining or cheering them on in their triumphant fight for nationals in New Jersey.



## High Winds Responsible for Damage over Vacation

**Rick Allen**  
Staff Reporter

If you've walked by or looked out the windows of the old Stamford High building you've more than likely noticed the scaffolding running roughly 65 feet up its side, blocking the view of some classrooms. Workers who, during the beginning of January had closed off the area around the southeast corner of the new building, are now replacing part of the upper back wall where strong gusts of wind blew down two formidable blocks of limestone over Christmas vacation. According to officials the limestone blocks weighed between 600 and 700 pounds.

The slabs of rock fell on Christmas Eve morning as a result of the raging storm's 70 mph winds. It caused the pieces to crash through a sheet metal awning and break apart near the loading dock used by maintenance workers.

The wreckage was discovered by Stamford High School's security firm who picked up the noises made by the disturbance and thought it was made by someone trying to break in or vandalize the school. Quickly, school officials were notified and during Christmas weekend contractors were called in to view the problem and assess the damage.

If this situation had occurred during the normal school week, the results would probably have been quite tragic. Luckily, there aren't any other parts that seem likely to fall.

It is estimated to take two or three weeks to restore the broken wall at a cost of at least \$40,000.



SHS in the process of repairs after wind damage.  
Photo by Goldschmidt

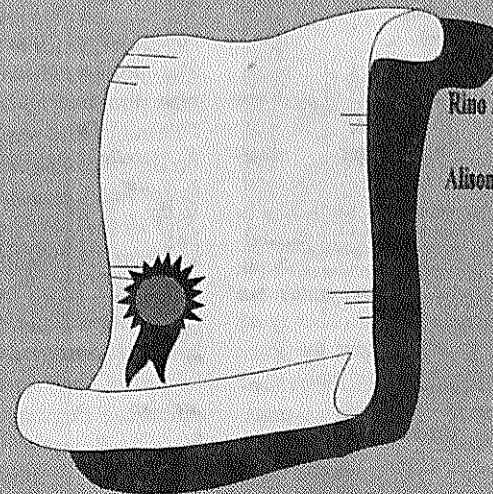
A related project that is not scheduled to take place for a while is the replacement of the roof on the 70-year-old building. This will cost approximately \$349,440 to repair. The Board of Education submitted an invocation for the project to the planning board a few months ago. If this passes it will still need to be approved by the

## College Acceptances

- Becky Adatto - Moravian College
- Jamie Austin - Fitchburg State U., Central CT State U., Southern CT State U.
- Ralph Day - Kings College
- Darlene Bell - U. of Maryland at Eastern Shore
- Kenny Blank - USC
- Kelly Bocuzzo - Misericordia, Manhattenville.
- Paul Cassidy - Catholic University of America
- Liz Caney - UCONN, U. of Maryland.
- Anthony Chan - West Virginia Wesleyan College, U. of New Haven, Penn State University.
- Shelly Chang - Brown University
- Melissa Connors - Eastern Connecticut State U.
- Noreen Corcoran - Fordham U.
- Eddie Corsello - West Virginia Wesleyan College, Gannon U.
- Cindy Costello - Kenyon U.
- Brian Daley - U. of Notre Dame, Georgetown U., Boston College.
- Jenna DeLuca - U. of Rhode Island, Salve Regina.
- Steven Demain - U. of Jacksonville, Ohio State U.
- Eddie Desalle - Texas A&M U., Indiana U., Georgia Tech.
- Christy Grasso - UCONN
- Ethan Heftman - U. of Oregon, Pacific U.
- Alison Hirsch - UCONN
- Brant Kantor - U. of Michigan, UMASS
- Kris Kessler - UMASS, UCONN, U. of Delaware, Penn State U.

Jen Klements - Western Ct State U., Central CT State U., Johnson and Wales

- Emily Koplick - Washington U.
- Christina Licursi - U. of Maryland, U. of New Hampshire
- Melissa Lilner - U. of Michigan, U. of Maryland
- Sarah Lourie - U. of Kansas
- Francesco Malagisi - UCONN
- Adriana Mallozzi - UMASS
- Katie McKeon - Loyola College, UCONN
- Eli Miloslavsky - UCONN Honors Program
- Sachiyo Minegishi - MIT
- Rino Nori - UCONN Honors, Rutgers U., Bryant College
- Jen Oyster - Keuka College
- Alison Paluch - Long Island U., Rider College, Wittenberg
- Liz Pia - UCONN, Manhattenville
- Jorge Perez - UCONN
- Julie Pirri - Providence College
- Melanie Puzza - Colby College
- Vanessa Rosado - UCONN.
- Tim Slater - U. of Southern Maine, UMASS
- Nakia Stovell - Virginia Wesleyan, Norfolk, Howard.
- Jen Tamborino - Bryant College
- Luigi Tartaglia - Western CT State U., UCONN.
- Lisa Tomas - U. of New Haven
- Kathleen Toronto - Central Ct State U., Becker College
- Karen Tymula - Boston College, UCONN, Villanova, Saint Anselm
- Keva Velasquez - U. of Rhode Island
- Chris Vigilante - U. of New Hampshire, Jacksonville, U of Tampa, UCONN, Florida State U., Rollins, Ohio State
- Chissy Yozzella - Temple U., UCONN, U. of Delaware, UMASS.
- Kim Whithead - UMASS, UCONN



# Bilingual Curriculum Proves a Valuable Asset

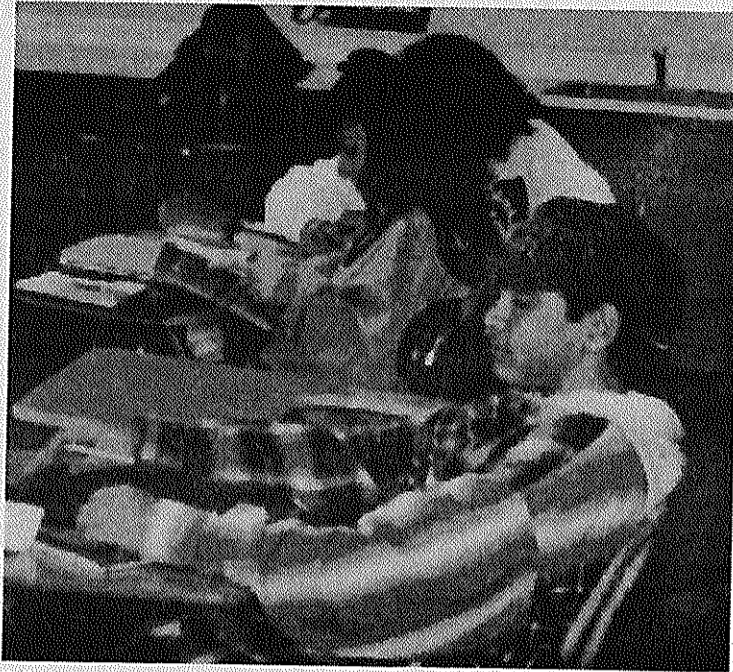
Nicole Querze  
Staff Reporter

Imagine going to a foreign country and not knowing the native language. That's what faces all the bilingual students in SHS. Bilingual students take up 5% of Stamford High School. "The Bilingual Program is for students who can't speak English at all," stated Mr. Franchia, a bilingual teacher. In a country like the United States where English is the most popular language, bilingual education provides foreign-born students the opportunity to fit in. Yet, in the 27 years the Bilingual Program has been in effect, many have questioned its validity.

Bilingual education in the United States dates back to

the first half of the 19th century. In order to facilitate their assimilation, night school programs were set up within the public school systems to offer courses in English and other basic skills. These programs were not funded by the state or the federal government. However, many felt and still feel that foreign-speaking students should be placed in English classes instead of being taught in their native language.

This is a myth as bilingual classes are taught in English. For instance, Mr. Franchia teaches all his classes in English, and the students texts are also in English. The only time Spanish is spoken is when students do not understand. The bilingual students in SHS are predominately Hispanic, which is why the pro-



Bilingual students working to improve their English.

Photo by Goldschmidt

gram is geared to the Spanish-speaking.

Our country's language may be in the midst of a change. Language is one thing that unites this country. In the past 15 years, more than 40% of all legal immigration into the United States came from Mexico. If this continues, Spanish may become the dominant language, but until then, the bilingual program is still necessary. The pattern of immigration has changed and has resulted in a greater concentration of immigrants speaking the same language than ever before.

Hence, bilingual education is a must for the school systems to uphold, and a plus for those involved and indeed, for our entire society.

Here's just some of the



## Community Service...

Continued from Page 1...

Added Mr. Ramadell, "Do I support a community service requirement? I do indeed. I'm very emphatic about it. I think that we have to get more involved with the 80% of the population that pays taxes to support the school system and doesn't directly benefit from it."

Yet regardless of individual opinions, such a program

might be implemented despite protests. A New York Supreme Court recently allowed a public school to continue its requirement of community service for graduation. Will such a program come to Stamford?

"I'd like to see one implemented some time in the near future," said Mr. Markosky. "I think it's a definite possibility."

# A Day in the Life of...

Staff reporters Nicole Querze and Melody Poma followed three students around for a day to find out what it's like to be Mike Gonzalez, Michael J. Mohan, and Sherwayne McLean for a day.

He's one of the friendly faces that many kids who snack between classes should already know. He's Mike Gonzalez. Mike, a senior, is the president of the Future Business Leaders of America which means he can be found on the second floor distributing munchies to a hungry crowd in the five minute break. To Mike, it is all about business, a subject which dominates his school schedule. Some of Mike's business-related courses are economics, accounting and business exploration. These courses are all beneficial to Mike because he plans on pursuing a career in the field of business/marketing management. One of his mentors on the given subject is Mr. Pociadlo simply because Mike likes his teaching techniques and what Mr. Pociadlo stands for—helping others.

Instead of napping or just plain skipping study halls,

Peach Arizona Iced Tea, playing solitaire and thinking of new romantic ways to "woo" his beloved girlfriend. (That's right ladies, he's already spoken for.)

The 2 p.m. dismissal bell has a different meaning for Mike. This bell tells him he has to run to the student parking lot and transfer his car to the

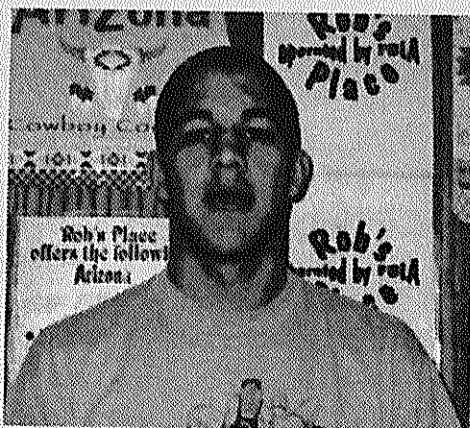


Photo by Poma

teacher's lot. From there, he faces a vigorous wrestling practice which takes over the rest of his afternoon.

Once he leaves the school again it is already dark and it is time to head on home so that he can rejuvenate himself for the next day.

Michael J. Mohan is best known for his famous position as pitcher on the SHS varsity baseball team. Besides that, Mike also goes to the Y.M.C.A. every day after school to

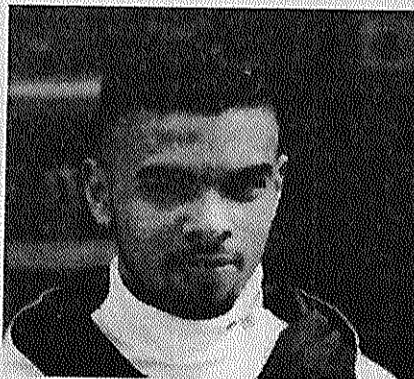


Photo by Saunders

weightlifts to get into shape for baseball.

"One thing that I found funny about baseball," says the star pitcher, "was that when I was pitching against Bridgeport Central. I told one of the players on the opposing team that I have never had a homerun hit off me. And in the next inning a big fat kid from Central hit one over the left center field fence. I guess I jinxed myself." Not only does Mike play baseball for SHS but he also participates in the American Legion in the summer.

Sports are not the only important activity in Mike Mohan's life. A major part of his day deals with his girlfriend, Zaida, who he meets every morning for breakfast and a leisurely walk to school. Spending time together during school consists of walking down the hall together to Zaida's next class. When the dismissal bell

School happens to be very important to Mike, who plans to go to college, "I don't know just yet what I want to major in but I do know that I want to go to college." When the a day comes to a close, Mike returns home to eat his dinner and do his homework as a dedicated student does.

Last year, Sherwayne McLean's surroundings changed completely. Sherwayne came from Florida and settled in what was one of the coldest winters in Connecticut.

Once he started Stamford High, he knew he had to be active. Therefore, he became a member of both the football and outdoor track teams. At SHS, Sherwayne developed some favorites, such as Mr. Moriarty as a teacher, raisin bagels for a snack

and math as a subject. Sherwayne gives "200%" in his advanced math class because he plans on seeking a career in finance. In his classes, he stays alert by reminding himself of

Sherwayne can be found playing "bones" a.k.a. dominoes with a group of his friends.

When the school day ends, Sherwayne strolls down to the Stamford Town Center where he is presently employed when he works from 2:30 until 9 p.m.

When asked about the differences between Florida and Stamford High (besides the climate, of course), Sherwayne stated that Florida had more popular, "legitimate" teen hangouts. But when asked about the students, he said that Stamford

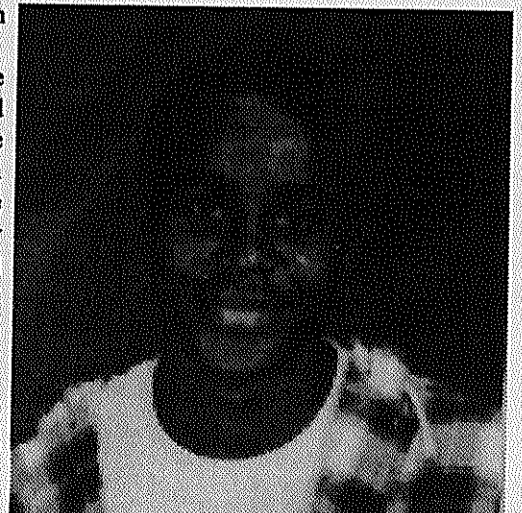


Photo courtesy of Yearbook takes the cake because of the friendly acceptance they gave to this new student.

# Opinions

The Round Table February 27, 1995

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## Can We Leave Now?

Stamford High once had an open campus policy. Will it ever have one again?

### Freedom to those who deserve it: An open campus would not hurt SHS.

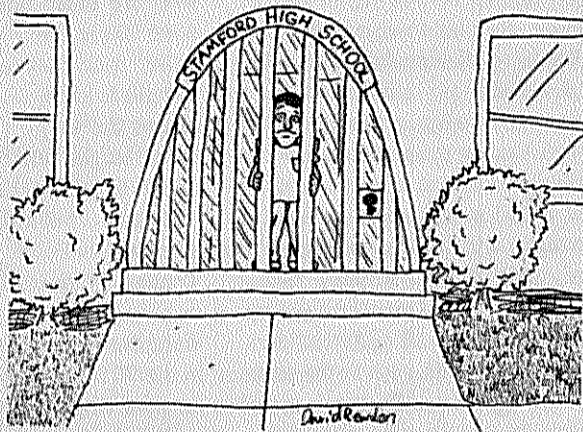
Liz Caney  
Opinions Editor

**Pro**

Why do I have to come to school for a first period study hall when I can sleep an extra hour? This is a common question of the students here at SHS, and to tell you the truth I wonder the same thing. I see no reason for those who have a first period study hall to drag themselves out of bed depriving them of an extra hour of sleep.

The question does not only pertain to first period, but also to last period study halls. I understand that it is near impossible to grant everyone with a study the right to roam free, but I propose a method to retain order in SHS. Why not grant the right to an open campus to those students who display that they are mature enough to uphold the responsibility? If one is working up to his or her potential, and maintaining a decent G.P.A., I see no reason why an open campus is an unreasonable request.

If I sleep through study hall, with a parents written or verbal consent, I see no reason for my name to be added onto the tardy list. If I leave last period because I have a study hall, I'm not going to go around disrupting other classes, I have better things to do. If a student is responsible for their actions, is aware of the consequences they face for abusing that independence; then that indi-



vidual is free to use his or her own judgement to determine right from wrong.

The question of liability is raised. The school can get sued if something happens to a student during school off of school grounds. If the parent, and administrator give consent, then it should be the responsibility of the student and the parent, not of the school.

An open campus would be beneficial to the school. Students who have a study hall last are anxious to leave. Why make them stay in a room for 45 minutes doing nothing. At least those with first and last period study halls should not be penalized for missing them. Those who work hard to uphold a certain G.P.A. should have the right to be excused from their first and seventh period studies. Now, if grades were given in study hall, that would be another issue altogether.

### Open Campus is Dangerous and Unnecessary

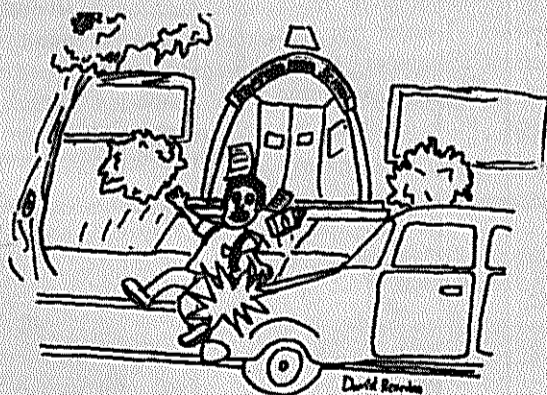
Mr. Carmine Limone  
Guest Writer

When discussing the issue of an open campus many potential dangers are brought to mind.

Identification is a major problem. How would the administration be able to determine who has a legitimate free period, and who is just leaving because they feel like it? One may argue that parental consent may be the answer, but it would be near impossible to determine if every student leaving the building had his or her parent's permission to do so. The school system would leave itself open to tremendous criticism if a student's achievement suffered because of this policy.

Liability is another problem SHS would face if an open campus policy were instilled. By law, *In loco parentis*, the school district assumes the role of a parent during school hours. If a student, when off campus, were involved in an accident, the school district could be held liable. There are only a handful of schools in Fairfield County which do have an open campus. When New Cannan had an open campus, several students left school grounds and were involved in a serious accident. This case is presently, I believe, in court.

Security on campus is another concern when discussing the fate of open campus. The district has allocated resources and finances in their desire to create a safe, well-managed environment. An open campus would greatly impede



the district's ability to accomplish this goal.

Open campus is not a new, effective possibility. It is a quick dying idea. As a final point I believe that an open campus would seriously interrupt the educational environment of our school. We have been charged with the education of the young people in Stamford. An open campus this concept would only make our already difficult job more difficult!

**Con**

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★★★★

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### Speak Out:

Should SHS adopt an open campus policy?

Ms. Ryan

Guidance Counselor

"I would like to see an open-ended campus where first and last periods are open for seniors with a study hall."



Manoucheka Bastien

Grade 9

"Kids don't want to stay in school for their entire study hall."



Patrick Magann

Grade 10

"I see no problem with an open campus, as long as the students come back on time, and don't disrupt anyone."



Janell Neulinger

Grade 11

"I don't think we could. Students would abuse the privilege. There isn't a way to limit [open campus] so that it would still be equitable."



Anna Nardi

Grade 12

"Open campus should be allowed, especially for seniors. At times, I have study hall from 11:35-1:11 and must stay in the building."



Janie Krasnogor

Grade 12

"Seniors should have the privilege. It would be more productive if I were able to leave and then come back."



**CHEATING AT SHS  
SHS STUDENTS SPEAK  
OUT: Should SHS  
INSTITUTE AN HONOR CODE**

# Special

## SHS Explores the

### Cheating is not Uncommon Among Students

**Michelle Adelman  
Staff Reporter**

Staring onto the blank sheet of paper, the student draws no answers. As he begins to panic, he realizes there is a way out of this misery. There is an escape, and it is called cheating.

A cheating epidemic is exploding in high schools across the country and it is spreading throughout Stamford High School. Nobody is left unaffected by this disease as it can be found on all academic ability levels. Why the outbreak of cheating? Paul Krouse, head of Educational Communication Inc., attributes this cheating to outside influences such as family and peer pressure. However, a major influence for many students is the ever present pressure to get in to a choice college and to succeed. Since college admissions depend heavily upon GPA, obtaining good grades throughout high school may be essential.

According to the *Miami Herald*, cheating is far less preva-

lent in high schools where innovative measures are taken against cheating. At Forest Hills High School in Boca Raton, Florida, a distinctive zero is given to any student a teacher finds cheating.

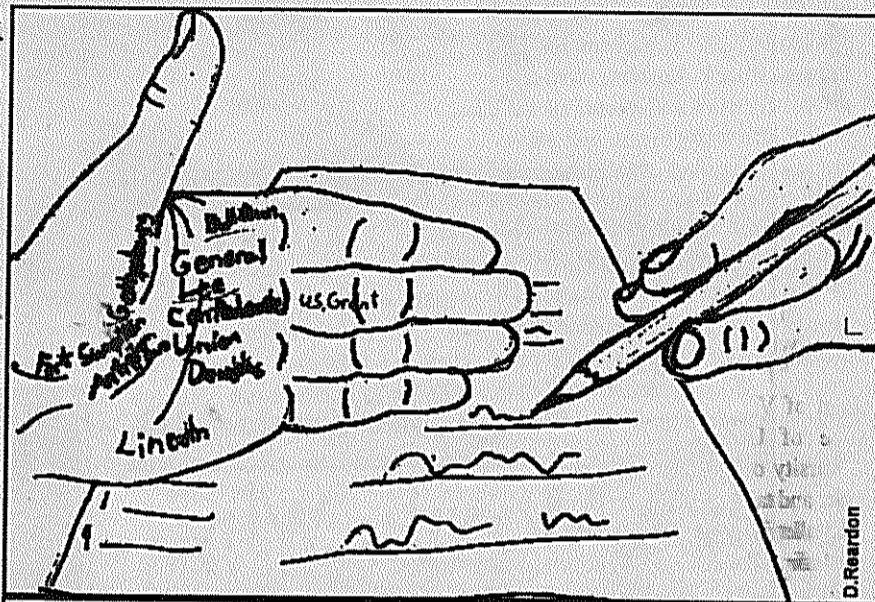
At SHS, each teacher has his or her own policy pertaining to cheating. However, many believe these policies are ineffective and, in some cases, are not enforced. Many SHS students say they feel that their teachers are oblivious that students may be cheating right "under their noses." Numerous students say that they feel that teachers rarely notice when their pupils are cheating. Often, students boast about escaping apprehension from a teacher after cheating. SHS American History teacher Miss Gibson states, "I feel strongly against it [cheating]. Everyone in the class is hurt by cheating, not just the cheater." Further, SHS History teacher Mr. Epstein says, "SHS should outline cheating more carefully and explicitly and, therefore, if it is done, the consequences are

severe. I think a great percentage of students cheat and don't even know it, be it on homework or plagiarism."

For those students who do not cheat, tests can be frustrating. It is unfair that some students study to obtain high marks while others obtain high marks unethically, by cheating.

As the frustration rises, so does the temptation and the number of cheaters increase. A recent survey given at MIT shows that 83% of college students admit to cheating at least once throughout their college careers. This study proves that even at the finest of learning institutions, students cheat.

As the number of cheaters is ever rising, honest test taking may be becoming non-



**To cheat or not to cheat:  
A common question facing students**

existent. Many feel that the CAPT test, which focuses on process and analysis, rather than a certain "right answer," may be the new wave in testing.

However, for now, perhaps teachers should think twice before sending a student to the library or the math office for a test to take alone with nothing but

his or her bookbag.

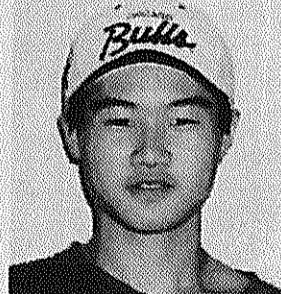
There is no panacea for the cheating disease. No matter what measures are taken, it appears that students are able to elude teachers' traps. In the end, it is up to the students to use their morals and their ethics and choose not to cheat. The cure rests within every student.

## Speak Out should SHS Institute an Honor Code?



"I would support an honor code because I believe it is important to promote good ideals such as trust."

**Heather Demunn  
Senior**



"I believe it would be an effective measure against cheating."

**Yoshimi Endo  
Junior**



"I would not support an honor code set up by a school system because it must be acceptable to everybody. Therefore, it would be watered down and meaningless."

**Mr. Krein  
Chemistry Teacher**



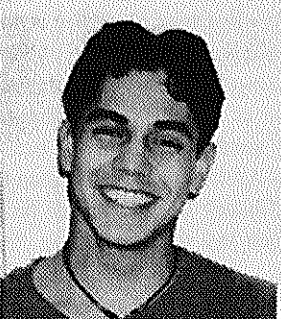
"I don't cheat and I don't want others to have an advantage by cheating so I would support an honor code."

**Erik Anderson  
Sophomore**



"I think it is ridiculous because no one is ever going to follow the honor code."

**Canaan Crouch  
Senior**



"I wouldn't support it because I don't think people would go by it."

**Rocky Vera  
Sophomore**

## MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION DECA

### THINKING ABOUT WHICH COURSE TO TAKE?

### How about taking MARKETING & DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION DECA?

▶ COURSE # 218 = DECA 1 - 5 POINTS ◀

COURSE # 228 = DECA 2 - 10 POINTS (WORK/STUDY)

★ JOBS

★ DECA STORE

★ CONTESTS

★ TRIPS

★ SCHOLARSHIPS FOR COLLEGE



TRAIN FOR: RETAIL - BANKS - HOTELS - STARTING A BUSINESS

# Section

## Pro

Chris Saunders  
Editor-in-Chief

A significant majority of colleges and universities in this country have chosen to integrate, into their school's social atmosphere, codes of honor which, when agreed to upon admission, hold the applicant to a strict moral code.

The honor code has been used in such a manner with much success.

"The honor code is apparent in every aspect of Virginia life," says a secretary for the office of Undergraduate Admissions for the University of Virginia. "Students can check out books and take unproctored or in-dorm tests. The lost wallet is always returned to its owner... the penalty for violations of the honor code is expulsion. The system is a great success."

If an honor code works in such an environment, would it be applicable to SHS?

Apparently so. "Cheating erodes society," says Mr. Skruck. "It simply means that you can't trust someone."

Mr. Skruck is one of the first in the Stamford School system to instrument an honor code in his Psychology and Senior Seminar classes.

"Cheating is a way of life [for many]. People feel as if they have to engage in the practice of cheating."

In many of his classes, Mr. Skruck gives unproctored tests and quizzes. He says, "I create situations where a student's honor code is tested because one can practice honesty only where there is no authority figure forcing adherence to the code."

Through this practice of allowing students to conscientiously make the choice between following a set of morals or choosing to cheat, students find that most, if not all, of their peers adhere to the code.

"I've never known anyone [in my class] to cheat during one of Mr. Skruck's tests," says one senior student. "I can't even imagine someone doing that. It's so taboo."

Granted, the honor code is not a true obstacle to cheating:

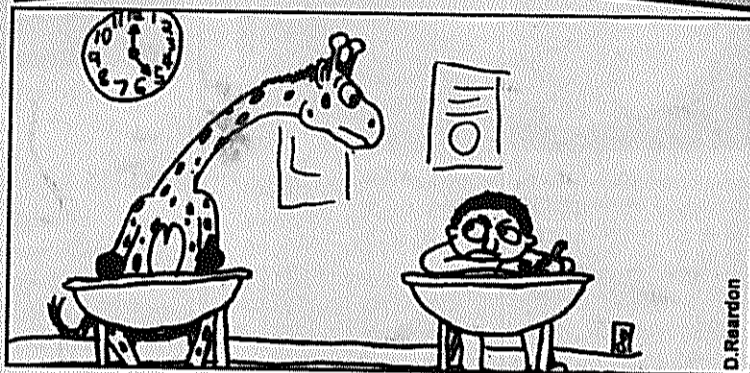
"I don't think it's a real deterrent, but exists only to bring attention to possible judgment to cheat or not to cheat. It ought to be in that sense -- not in terms of a punishment," says Skruck.

Yet with the apparent success of programs such as Mr. Skruck's and the University of Virginia's, the question remains: should honor codes be instituted for all of Stamford's schools?

"I'd love to see an honor code as part of the rules and regulations... for school," says Mr. Skruck.

An Honor Code Should be Instituted in SHS

An Honor Code will not be Beneficial to SHS



Poll conducted by Nathaniel Parody and Ethan Heftman

### Student Poll

Have you ever cheated?	93% YES
Do you think cheating is wrong?	53%
When you cheat do you feel guilty?	48%
If you noticed that the student sitting next to you was looking at your paper would you...	
...cover up your paper?	33%
...let him continue to cheat?	66%
...tell the teacher?	1%
Should rules against cheating be more strictly enforced?	81% No 19% Yes

### Teacher Poll

Do you think cheating is a problem at SHS?	80% YES
What is the most common way that students cheat?	
...by looking at other student's paper during a test.	40%
...by using a cheat sheet.	40%
...by revealing the test to other students who have not taken the test yet.	20%
Do you leave your classroom during tests or quizzes?	90%
Approximately what is the average number of students caught in a quarter cheating in your class?	3 to 4
What are your penalties for cheating?	
...warnings.	10%
...automatic failure.	80%

## Con

Matias Nino  
Special Section Editor

Through reason and logic, one can come to the final conclusion that an honor code cannot possibly deter the majority of the students at SHS from cheating.

An honor code which forces students to pledge a refrainment from cheating will only benefit SHS if the students are morally strict and if they will keep their word. Although there are students at SHS who consider themselves honorable and ethical, little morality can be discerned from a school ridden with vandalism and crime.

As said by Mr. Skruck, cheating is stealing, and hence, immoral. If cheating is immoral, then honest or moral students will not cheat even when there is no honor code. It must therefore be assumed that the goal of an honor code is to prevent those students who value their word from cheating. If a pledge has no meaning to a student, it is worthless. Wesley Chao, a SHS junior, says "an honor code is like a lock on a door, it lets the honest students know that cheating is forbidden while the dishonest students completely disregard it."

Due to the modern fall of morality in the United States and the increasing trend to "do whatever you want", an honor code cannot possibly dissuade immoral students from cheating, and will therefore not be beneficial to SHS.

If a system to discourage cheating is to be instilled into the SHS student body, it must be effective to at least the majority of the student populace. If an honor code does not hold any meaning to the majority of SHS, then students will continue to cheat, regardless of the fact.

Punishment, for example, is a universal language, and can very easily communicate the wrongness of cheating regardless of the student's sense of morality.

"Students cannot be trusted and, therefore, must be made to promise not to cheat." This is what the honor code may be interpreted as by some students and teachers. Many students would be offended by their teachers' distrust. Many teachers also feel that they can keep students from cheating without the assistance of an honor code.

If a teacher believes an honor code which allows him to give unproctored tests will stop all the students from cheating, he is sadly mistaken. However, if handled correctly by a teacher, an honor code can lead students who think cheating is a favorable option to think twice when deciding whether or not to cheat on the next test or quiz. And that does not have enough significance to benefit SHS.

!!!!

The Round Table  
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Calendars soon for  
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Soon...

April Fool's  
Edition

Round Table!

# SPORTS

## SHS Boys' Basketball Prepares for Post Season

Scott Sommers  
Asst. Sports Editor

This year, newspaper readers will be hard pressed to find any articles on the Stamford High School boys basketball team. All the hype and publicity this year has gone to Trinity Catholic and Westhill because of stand-out players Jamar Dunmore and Rashamel Jones, while Stamford High has quietly remained in their shadows.

Though these well publicized neighboring high schools have gotten off to solid starts, Stamford has surprised everyone by being atop their division. Don't write off the Black Knights because they haven't gotten much recognition. Though Coach Jim Moriarty views the team goal as "making the F.C.I.A.C. post season," he goes on to say that, "Depending on how fast this team matures, we could advance to the final four for the state championship."

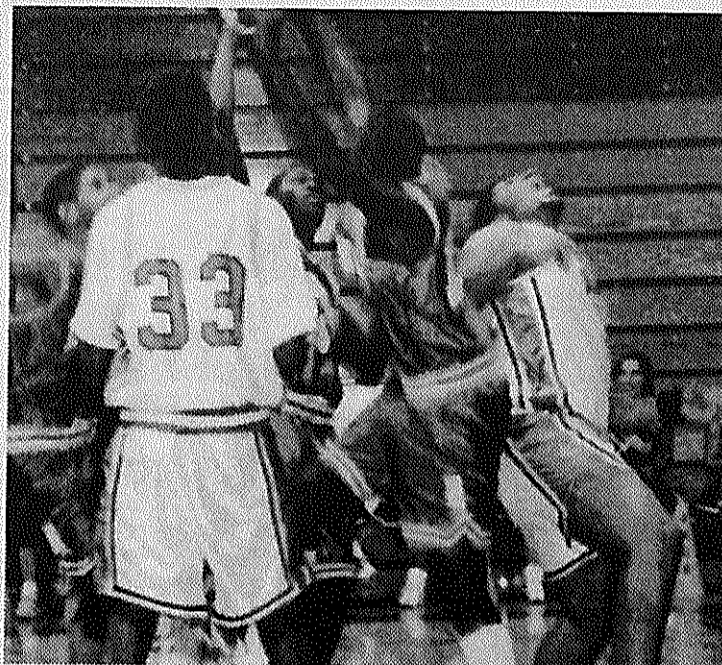
The lack of publicity

actually may be an advantage for the Black Knights. There is less pressure and sometimes teams actually take Stamford lightly. Many teams have slept on Stamford High... and paid for it. Warren Harding, one of the state's top ranked teams, was shocked by the upstart Knights, as Stamford nipped them in overtime. The Knights also demolished the Westhill Vikings in front of a sell-out crowd in the Kuzco Gym. Stamford doesn't have any major stars or All-Americans but they do have impressive depth. "Our team goes ten men deep," says Moriarty of his squad. Unlike Stamford High, the other Stamford schools are focused around two or three key players. Trinity Catholic gets twenty-plus points a night from both Rashamel Jones and Earl Johnson, while the rest of the team's contributions are kept to a minimum. Westhill uses more players than Catholic, but other than Jamar Dunmore, Franklin Deveaux, and Steve Armistead,

the rest of the team is not a factor.

The Black Knights have a vast number of players who can make major contributions. Junior Prentice Parham provides the Knights with great shooting and good defense. Parham and senior Ronald Foreman are two of Stamford's key players. Foreman's dazzling dribbling ability and excellent shooting are invaluable to the team. Guard Teon Joseph and Hector Collazzo provide the Knights with a very quick and exciting backcourt. Playing center, Tyshawn Spinks provides the team with desperately needed rebounds and has the ability to hit clutch shots. The bench is a very big advantage that Stamford High has over other teams. At any time junior Matt Manewal, senior Greg Hood, and sophomore Elisha Jones can enter the game and contribute for the team.

One big problem this team has is its inability to grab rebounds. The team has had a year long struggle getting rebounds against much bigger



Senior Tyshawn Spinks goes for the rebound as Ron Foreman looks on during a victory over Harding. (Photo by Goldschmidt.)

teams. Moriarty says, "What we lack in rebounding, we make up with speed." Despite their size, there is no doubt this is a very fast and mobile team. This year fans and students of Stamford High have been treated to an exciting

season. The season is winding down and the time where champions are born begins now. After qualifying for the F.C.I.A.C.s, the Black Knights lost the element of surprise, and have proved that Stamford High is no pushover.

## Girl's Basketball Battles for Success

Michelle Adelman  
Staff Reporter

The girls basketball season is now well under way and despite a shaky start, the team has begun to come together. The starting five consists of all veteran varsity players, four of whom have been in the starting lineup in the past. Erin McHugh, an All-F.C.I.A.C. 1st team selection last year, starts at center, while Darlene Dwight, Maria Zezima, Ali Hirsch, and Michelle Adelman round out the starting team.

After beginning the season with a poor showing including two losses by over twenty points, morale was running on empty. However,

Christmas vacation provided a great boost at the annual Kuzco Holiday Tournament. Led by tournament MVP Erin McHugh and all-tournament selection Darlene Dwight, the Black Knights squeaked through to win their third consecutive game. In a hard fought battle Stamford downed Bassick 50-40. But their greatest challenge came in the finals against a quick, smooth-shooting Jonathan Law squad. The lead went back and forth for the entire game, but in the end Stamford's power prevailed, and they won the game 41-40.

Unfortunately, the team has lost its hopes for the city title. The team lost a heart-breaker against city rival Trinity-Catholic. Ahead by two

points in the final fifty-four seconds, Stamford seemed to have victory within its grasp. But poor shot selection and a defensive lapse allowed the Crusaders to get back into the game, taking a lead that they refused to give back. Stamford lost 46-43 and watched the Trinity Catholic team strip the city trophy from their own gym.

After that tough loss, the team is faced with the challenge of putting the pieces back together in time to find a berth in the F.C.I.A.C. playoffs and the state tournament. The team is loaded with talent and if they can learn to use their experience and work together, they will surprise many with their success in the post-season.

## McHugh Breaks 1000 Points

Kerri Tompkins  
Staff Reporter

Erin McHugh is only the second female athlete at Stamford High to score over a thousand points. She reached this goal on January 20, against Bridgeport Central. On January 24, Erin made another miracle happen when she broke the school record. Her standing total of points is now 1,063. While leading the Lady Knights to a victory over the Lady Vikings she scored 26 points. Erin has accomplished a great deal during her high school years. She hopes to continue her success in college. Not only is Erin an excellent athlete, but she still manages time to be an honor roll student. Erin, who stands an even six feet, wants to remind those boys that she will "always average more points a game than they will." The Round Table staff would like to wish Erin the best of luck in college and years to come.



Erin McHugh is the second female athlete to score over 1,000 points in SHS varsity basketball games and the current high score holder

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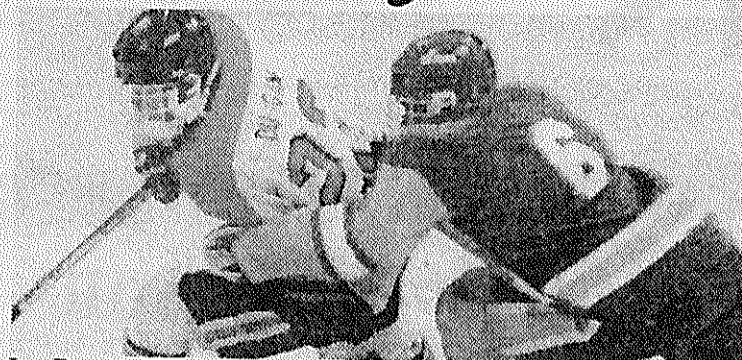
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**Get ten (10) punched holes and you'll receive a free sandwich.**

# Hockey Team Ices Opponents



**Ian Duggan sneaks by his Trinity Catholic opponent in a recent game.**  
Photo courtesy of *The Advocate*

**Larry Arango**  
Staff Reporter

Thanks to big time play by all of the players, the Stamford High Ice Hockey team is back atop the F.C.I.A.C. standings. They are lead by senior center Tim Slater, defenseman Mike Collins, Justin D'agostino, and junior right wing Brian Fratturo. This foursome along

with the rest of the team has given coach Sass one of his best teams in the past few years.

Tim Slater, the senior captain and leading scorer on the team said that he feels that, "the team will make the states and possibly the F.C.I.A.C.'s." He also reiterated that this has been the "best hockey team Stamford High has had in a few years." This team is not only talented, but it is well coached by Dr. Sass.

Coaching players and assembling the talent is not always easy, but has done a very good job.

Hopefully the ice hockey team will continue to improve, not only winning more games, but becoming some teams' worst nightmare in the playoffs. Watch out! Hockey is back at SHS!

## Husky-Mania Strikes the State

**Peter Hebert**  
Sports Editor

As the heart of winter rolls by, many Connecticut residents have caught a contagious fever. Don't rush to your doctor to learn about this sickness though; travel no further than Storrs, Connecticut, now the hotbed of college hoops. March Madness is quickly approaching, but a crazed period of countless exciting basketball games is nothing new to the University of Connecticut basketball fans.

The UConn mens' team has only one loss on its record, and is currently the top ranked team in the nation. And the men aren't even the best team in their own gym. The Connecticut women's team has completely dominated their opponents, and have yet to lose a game. They are the unanimous number one team in the country and are showing no signs of letting up. By far, the most impressive outing during the season was a blowout of the then top ranked Tennessee Volunteers. UConn has been led all year by All-American forward Rebecca Lobo while Jen Rizzotti has also

been a huge help to the team. The women Huskies have been consistently demolishing ranked opponents by over twenty points.

The men's team, though not as dominant, has been just as



explosive. The team is led by pre-season Big East forwards Donny Marshall and Ray Allen. Allen, only a sophomore, has amazed scouts and analysts with his incredible yet consistent performances. As a small forward, he has the ability to play inside and also drain countless three pointers. The University of Miami quickly learned about Allen's outside shot when he burned them for 8 three pointers. At guard, Kevin Ollie and Israeli-native Doron Sheffer give

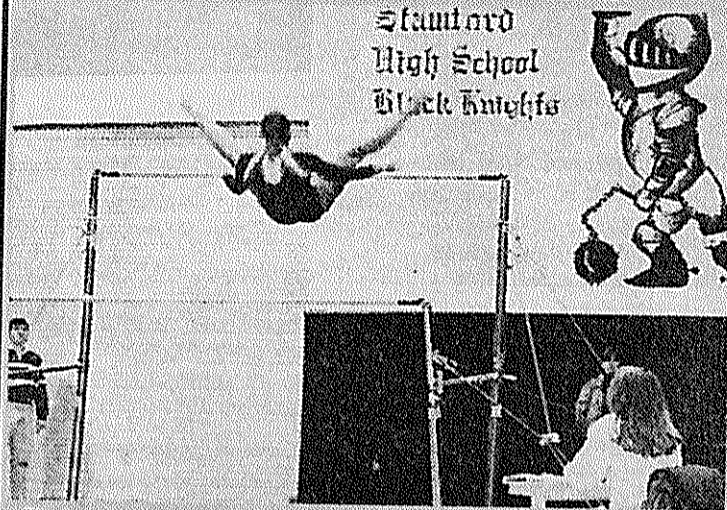
UConn a quick and intelligent backcourt. Towering center Travis Knight has played beyond expectations and has been a major force on the boards.

The atmosphere around the UConn campus is "wild and frenzied" as UConn freshman and SHS graduate Mike Lombardo put it. "Seeing the Huskies' basketball teams lose is almost as rare as finding a ticket." It is the first time in history that a Men's and Women's basketball team are ranked number one in the nation at the same time.

UConn basketball fans around the state are hoping that March will bring an answer to their prayers. The way UConn is playing, it doesn't seem they need any divine intervention but put on your seat belt cause it looks to be an exciting ride.

## Gymnastics Captures City Championship

Stamford High School Black Knights



Flying through the air; SHS gymnasts at work.

**Lisa Goldschmidt**  
Photo Editor

Stamford High won their first city championship since 1983, as they defeated Westhill 130.1 to 110.8. The Knights were led by an incredible performance from sophomore Jeri Bellwin. She dominated, taking first place in all four events. Senior captain Keva Velazquez also had an impressive performance, tying for first in both the vault and on the uneven bars. Velazquez placed third overall. Senior Jessica Eis was tied for second place on the beam while taking third place on the floor. All around, Jessica placed fourth. So far this has been one of the best years for the Girls' Gymnastics team in recent history. Eis explains, "We're working hard, and it is finally paying off."

January 25, 1995

Stamford High School

Re: Jacqueline Marrero

Dear Mr. Levy,

I just wanted to add the following comments to Jackie's evaluation form to emphasize how pleased we have been with her work.

Jackie has been an asset to my department. She learns quickly, takes initiative and works extremely well independently. Jackie is very bright and has the added ability to analyze a situation or problem and find the logical solution without the need for constant monitoring. This has been a beneficial extra to my department because she can complete a task with minimal supervision, thus allowing me to attend to other matters.

The ratings I have given Jackie are a true evaluation of her performance and her overall attitude in a work environment. She is more mature and capable than many "adult" employees I have supervised over the past years. It is refreshing to see someone so young who does not need a "baby-sitter" to perform in a professional and conscientious manner.

I thank you for sending her to us and congratulate the school system for whatever it contributed to her development.

If there are any questions please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Agostine

cc: E.S. Schwartz  
M. Bacco

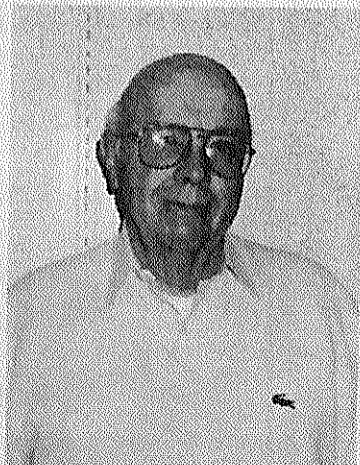
**DECA - "The Gateway from School to Work"**

## Mr. Neylan, Veteran Teacher, Appointed Athletic Director

**Sarika Doshi**  
Staff Reporter

The job of athletic director does not belong to just an ordinary man, it belongs to Mr. Neylan. It can't be under anyone as the job not only includes going to every single home game or match that involves Stamford High, it involves making sure there are referees and officials at each game, taking care of transportation to away games and also making sure there is adequate security. Mr. Neylan, who became the director this September after Mr. Kuzco's retirement, says he spends at least 25 to 30 hours a week carrying out his duties, but he doesn't mind because he loves his job. Due to a number of factors, first being his location, he knows he is able to talk to most coaches and administrators right here in the school. Also, the coaches of all the interscholastic teams "have been cooperative and easy to work with," commented Neylan. Being athletic director is quite a

English teacher at SHS, but this year he teaches 3 English classes rather than his normal load of 5 due to his extra duties.



Mr. Neylan is happy in his new position. (Photo Goldschmidt)

His goal as athletic director is, "Making minor sports (track, soccer, golf, etc.) into major sports such as football and basketball, thus helping them find more participation. The selection of Mr. Neylan as athletic director is definitely a step in the right direction for the athletic programs of Stamford High.



SPORTS LIGHT

# Jessica Mitchell Runs To Glory

**Peter Hebert**  
Sports Editor

What is there to say about a student athlete who has already done so much? All one can do is let her accomplishments speak for themselves. In just four short years, Senior Jessica Mitchell has gone from not participating in organized sports, to becoming a multiple State and State Open Track Champion, as well as a superb field hockey player.

Jessica began her sports career by playing field hockey. She first became a member of the varsity squad her junior year and played well enough to be recognized as an All-West (F.C.I.A.C.) selection. This year Jessica, also a captain, fully realized her potential and became a First team All-F.C.I.A.C. and 2nd team All-State member.

In Indoor Track, Jessica has down right dominated. In her sophomore year, she exploded

ed on to the scene, placing third in the Counties in the 500 meters, while later improving her time to win both the State Class L and State Open title at the same event. She then went on to place second in all of New England in the 500m. In her junior year, Mitchell went even further, finally winning the F.C.I.A.C. crown at the 800 meter race. But that was only the beginning. She went on a tear, winning both the State Class L and State Open titles again, but this time in the 800 m and 1000 m. "My greatest accomplishment was winning those two State L titles in the same day," recalls Mitchell. "It was hard, and I was mainly competing against an East Hartford runner whose time was .2 seconds behind me in the 800 meter and 1 second behind me in the 1000 meter. The 800 meter race was the most exciting because I was in third place for most of the race, until I edged ahead." Jessica also went on to place 2nd



Jessica Mitchell doesn't stop at just anything. (Photo by Goldschmidt)

in the New Englands again in the 1000 meters.

Furthermore, Jessica has encountered this amazing success in Outdoor Track, where as a junior, she placed 1st in the F.C.I.A.C., and 3rd in the both State Class LL and State Open in the 800 m. She also runs unaffiliated

from Stamford High School. Her 4 X 800 meter team, consisting of 3 other runners from the New Haven and Hartford area, won first place in the USA Track and Field Junior Olympics.

"I don't set goals for myself. I just think about what I'd like to do," states Jessica. It

seems like she is able to do everything. She also maintains a 3.46 grade point average, and weighted ranks among the top ten percent of her class, due to the heavy course load she carries. She plans on running at the collegiate level and is interested in the University of Pennsylvania, Cornell, Brown, Georgetown, and Syracuse. Recently, Jessica was even recognized as one of the top 100 minority students in the state.

Holding school records in the 800 meter and 1000 meter and also part of the record holding 4 X 400 indoor relay, and 4 X 800 m outdoor relay, Mitchell has had one of the most successful athletic careers in Stamford High School history. Jessica Mitchell is living proof that the student athlete does still exist and is alive and well, wearing the orange and black of SHS.

## Stars in the Knight

Ron Lomax



This Senior Wrestling Tri-Captain is one of the main reasons Stamford High has a 17-3 record and is ranked in the top ten in the state. He has a 19-1 dual meet record and is the Weston and Danbury Tournament champion. He is a 2 time F.C.I.A.C. Champ while he placed third in the 1994 State "LL" Tournament.

Kristen McHugh



This freshman looks to be following in the footsteps of her elder sister Erin. She is already a member of two varsity sports. She became a starter in just her first year in volleyball, and comes off the bench as a forward in basketball. She plans on completing the varsity tri-fecta by playing softball in the spring.

Andrew Dempsey-Karp



As a freshman, he played on the Varsity Soccer team and was often a starter. He is currently a member of the Wrestling team, where he competes at the 130 lb. weight class. He greatly improved over the season and finished with a 13-4 record placing fourth in the F.C.I.A.C. He also plans to play baseball in the spring.

Beth Haas



This sophomore played 3 varsity sports as a freshman last year. She was All-West (F.C.I.A.C.) in volleyball this year and is currently playing varsity basketball. Her best sport is softball, in which she was All-West as a freshman. She was also a member of the Girls' 14-15 year old Babe Ruth National Championship team. She was the winning pitcher and was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

Bill Fletcher



This junior amassed 803 yards rushing, running the ball for an average of 7.6 yards per carry. He had 13 rushing touchdowns, while returning 2 kick returns and 2 punts for touchdowns. Fletcher had an outstanding final game against Westhill, which included over 100 yards rushing, and 5 touchdowns.

## Athletes, Coaches Reevaluate Causes of Eating Disorders

**Gabrielle Birkner**  
Special Section Editor

Internationally recognized gymnast Christy Henrich, then 20, told the Independence [Mo.] Examiner, "My life is a horrifying nightmare. It feels like there is a beast inside of me, like a monster. It feels evil." The beast which Henrich spoke about in early 1993, was the eating disorder anorexia nervosa. For more than two years, it malnourished her body, distorted her view of her physical appearance and earlier this year—it killed her. In the wake of this tragedy, many question what drives so many young athletes to such mentally anguishing, physically deteriorating, and, too often, deadly diseases.

The American College

disorder. Females, in fact, are far more likely than males to acquire eating disorders. Dr. Kimberly Yeager who is Director of Public Health Practices at San Diego State University, attributes this high percentage to athletes' focus on sustaining a prescribed body weight. "Athletes appear willing and eager to attempt any measure to achieve an advantage. This at-any-cost approach has been supported—indeed encouraged by coaches, athletic trainers and parents," states Yeager in a report for the Journal of the American Medical Association.

She says she believes that all adolescent athletes are at risk for what she calls a 'disordered pattern of eating, usually anorexia nervosa—an addictive starvation diet due to a distorted

with Henrich say that coach Al Fong put a great importance on Henrich's weight and made remarks to her about losing weight. Fong, however, emphatically denies making these comments.

At Stamford High School, many athletic team coaches are addressing the issue of eating disorders. SHS Cross Country and Track coach Art Brown says he believes it is crucial for coaches talk with their athletes pertaining to what he calls, "the value of nutrition and healthy eating habits." As a preventative measure, he regularly hands out pamphlets and brochures regarding the dangers of eating disorders. Stamford Wrestling coach Jon Albrecht

of weight to wrestle in a particular weight class. However, he says he does not believe that they are at any risk for the distorted body image associated with many eating disorders as he follows strict guidelines put out by the state concerning wrestlers' weight and body fat percentage. Both Brown and Albrecht say eating disorders are not prevalent among their athletes as they believe they take the proper preventative measures against such disorders.

What can coaches and parents do to prevent eating disorders among athletes? Nothing can prevent it 100%, but it helps for them to take the emphasis off "being thin" and place it on "being healthy." Some psychologists recommend both team nutritionists and team physicians to

weigh-ins and weight requirements for sports teams should be eliminated.

Although Henrich lost her battle against the beast inside of her, against anorexia nervosa, the disease can be cured through psychotherapy and medical care. Some doctors even recommend a twelve step program for addiction—to cure the mental illness associated with eating disorders and to restore an accurate body image. Dr. Auelia Nattiv, who is an Assistant Clinical Professor at UCLA says to reduce the risk of eating disorders, coaches, athletic trainers and parents must promote "positive and realistic images that reflect normal and healthy images." For many athletes, recovering from an eating disorder

# Sports Photo of the Month



SAY CHEESE! Senior captain and F.C.I.A.C. Champion Caanan "Ouch" Grouch smiles for the camera as he painfully pins his Trumbull opponent. (Photo by Goldschmidt)

## The Round Table

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