

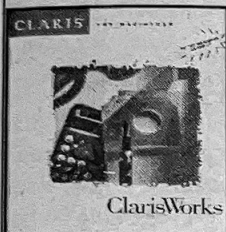
THE SCROLL

Volume XXII Issue 1

Oakland Mills High School

October 17, 1995

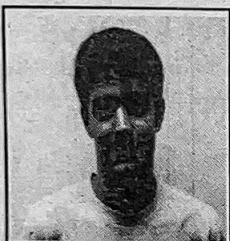
Beneath the Headlines...



PAGE
3

OM REPLACES MICROSOFT
WORKS WITH CLARISWORKS
IN THE COMPUTER LAB.

PAGE
6



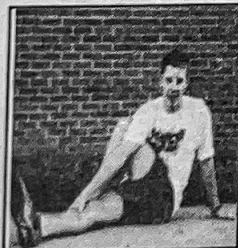
KEVIN WILLIAMS CONTRIB-
UTES TO OM THROUGH AKA-
DEMICS, ATHLETICS, AND
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVI-
TIES.



PAGE
9

THE 1994 STATE CHAMPION
BOYS SOCCER TEAM IS
CURRENTLY 5-1 AND IS
LOOKING TO DEFEND ITS
TITLE.

PAGE
10



SENIOR KEITH JACKSON
PLACED FOURTH AT THE
NATIONAL TRIATHLON
CHAMPIONSHIP IN CHI-
CAGO.

The Scroll INDEX

Editorials.....	2
News.....	3,4
Features.....	5,6,7
Sports.....	8,9,10
Advertisements.....	11,12

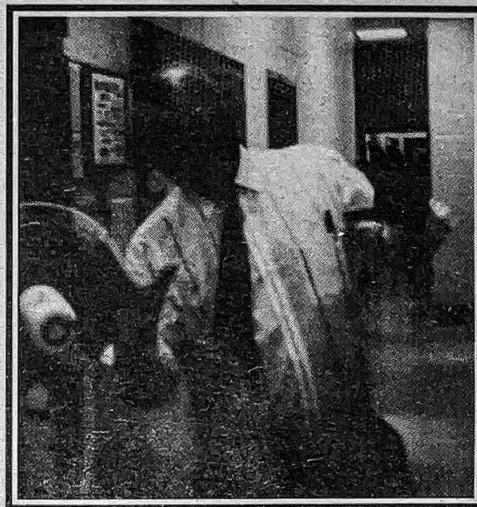
Mr. Peterson takes command

by Terra Dunsmore and Monique McCready

Oakland Mills begins the 1995-1996 school year with several changes. Among them is a new principal, Mr. Marshall Peterson. Peterson, who has replaced Mr. David Bruzga, took over the job on July 1, 1995. Bruzga will head the new High School in Long Reach when it opens in August 1996. Peterson made several changes which should make the school year a promising one.

Although Mr. Peterson made a few changes in the rules, Social Studies Department Chairperson Mr. Lamont Goode says Mr. Peterson, "has not created new rules; he is simply enforcing rules that have been in the records for years." A few of these new rules are no headwear, no food outside of the cafeteria, and the non-committed learners policy.

The non-committed learners policy is enforced by several steps: 1. Teachers warn students who sleep in class, refuse to participate...., 2. Teachers contact parents in attempt to resolve the problem, 3. Students will be referred to guidance, 4. Students are sent back to class with a note indicating commitment, 5. Follow up action will occur if behavior contin-



Principal Peterson. photo by Christine Caldaro

ues.

Mr. Peterson feels that the best thing about being a principal is having "the opportunity to see people being successful, both academically or athletically." However, he believes some students put too much emphasis on extracurricular activities. "A lot more money is spent trying to promote entertainment than

education....The purpose of school is academics," he said.

Peterson knows what it takes to make his school successful, having held several positions at several schools since he began his career in education in 1972, as a teacher at Wilde Lake High School. In 1977 he moved to Centennial High, where he taught until 1983. Then he became an assistant principal at Oakland Mills until 1988, when he moved to Hammond, serving as assistant principal. Mr. Peterson then moved to Gateway as principal for two years until he returned to Hammond as principal in 1991. Mr. Peterson stayed at Hammond until his appointment to Oakland Mills in 1995.

"I have known Mr. Peterson for 24 years." He is "a man of his word... integrity... he makes no threats, but he keeps all promises" and his "expectations for teachers and students are very high," said Mr. Goode.

Business and computer teacher Ms. Diane Ferary, said Mr. Peterson has "set a tone for kids to learn." Peterson is "really looking like a strong principal," continued Ms. Ferary, who is overall "impressed."

Clinton visits Howard County

by Rebecca Doob

Excitement surrounded Mayfield Woods Middle School Wednesday, September 13, as it became the first school in Howard County's history that the President of the United States visited.

President Clinton, on a mission to promote drug education in the schools, helped to launch the middle school's yearly red-ribbon ceremony. Red Ribbon Week, participated in across the nation, is an effort to celebrate students' choice to lead drug and alcohol-free lives. Students wear a red ribbon for the week to publicly declare their commitment to the cause.

The audience numbered nearly 2,000. Among them were Mayfield students, their parents, the faculty of Mayfield, and selected visitors. Among those selected were Mrs. Donna Cook, a guidance counselor at Oakland Mills, and Dan Fingerman, a senior at OM. Dan was chosen to attend the event as a representative for the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Advisory Board of Howard County. Mrs. Cook was invited to attend as the spouse of a math teacher at Mayfield. She also had previously worked at Mayfield for two years and felt "very proud to know that it was chosen at the school that the President would visit."

Before entering the school area, each participant was sent through a highly sensitive metal detector. Passes were also checked to ensure that all who came had been previously invited.

The wait for President Clinton's arrival was



Dan Fingerman shakes hands with the President during his visit to Mayfield Woods Middle School Wednesday, September 13, 1995.

filled with anticipation. Fortunately, it was not long; the President's helicopter was soon brought in for a landing on Mayfield's expansive grounds. Once inside Mayfield, the President met with several Maryland and countywide elected officials.

No more than an hour passed before Clinton came outside to address the crowd. Along with him were Attorney General Janet Reno, Governor Parris Glendening, Lee Brown (director of the national drug policy), and the principal of Mayfield Woods, Mr. Jesse

Smith.

They were accompanied by Terell Brice, a Mayfield student chosen for his admirable leadership skills to introduce the President. In his speech preceding the introduction of Clinton, Brice spoke about the threats to young adults today, including drugs and violence.

Following Brice's introduction, Clinton addressed the crowd. He spoke of the need for young adults to have drug education and

See Clinton, page 3.

Do weighted grades motivate students to learn?

by Josh Warner-Burke

An A is an A is an A. Or is it? If I take an AP class and get an A, does it mean the same thing as a GT student's A? What about an honors A? Is there any difference on your report card, on the honor roll, or in your class rank?

Does the Howard County School Board mean to suggest that the grading scale is absolute, that every teacher adjusts the level of difficulty of their class so that an A is an A is an A? If that's what the Board means to say by ignoring the trend of weighted grades, then they are terribly naive and idealistic.

One of the great things about our school system is the ability of any student to choose

the level of difficulty of his or her courses. But many students decide against the tougher courses because they know there is a good chance the class will lower their GPA.

So many, many students who could be really learning something instead of memorizing it don't live up to their true potential because of the pressure to get good grades.

If our grades were weighted, it would take some of the pressure off of students who choose to take the most difficult courses in the school. They could concentrate on learning, which should be school's most foremost goal.

Now I know some would say it's an elitist idea in its very conception. The argument is that those students in GT classes have higher

IQ's and don't necessarily work harder than those in regular or Honors classes. And there is some truth in this; there are some students who don't work hard to get good grades, but aren't there similar students in most classes?

The majority of students in the highest classes *do* work very hard. Even in our school, which does not have weighted grades, there are many students in the highest classes. But their outstanding efforts are unrecognized by everyone except perhaps their parents.

Isn't it preferable that a student challenge himself rather than play the odds? I hope that's the attitude of the School Board, but by its policy of unweighted grades, that's not the message it sends to students.

Gaither earns high praise

by LeeAnn Roberts

During the past five years, Mr. Tim Gaither, one of two OMHS media specialists, has been one of the most appreciated technical professionals at Oakland Mills High School. He helps students learn how to use OM's computers and comes to the assistance of other staff members when they are having technical problems.

"We couldn't function without him!" enthusiastically declared OM's data clerk, Ms. Pat Glasgow. "He helps the school with all computer jams." Mr. Gaither also has come to the aid of guidance secretary Mrs. Betty Pearson. The computer was crashing on her, but Mr. Gaither calmly fixed the problem. "He was very helpful and supportive," she recalled.

Mr. Bob Siskind, physics teacher at OM, expressed words of gratitude towards Mr. Gaither. "He has had a heavy impact on the way I teach due to new technology and has also helped me to develop new lab equipment for my classroom; Mr. Gaither is a real professional."

Mr. Gaither is also applauded in the front office. "I don't know what we did without him," remarked office bookkeeper Ms. Betty Tennant thoughtfully. "He knows everything about computers, and if there's something he doesn't know, he'll find out for you." She also commended his excellence with the students of Oakland Mills.

Students at OM have come to compliment Mr. Gaither as well. Senior Jessica Matthews appreciates his usefulness in the computer lab. A yearbook student recalls, "He's always there whenever I need help with any computer problems; all you have to do is ask." Other students have also taken note of this; "Mr. Gaither is helpful whenever you get stuck on something and you can't figure out what you are doing," sophomore Jennie Nagle assures. Mr. Gaither received a special county award early last summer for his excellent work with computers.

Not only is Mr. Gaither the computer man, he also substitutes in the front office as an assistant principal. In any case, students and staff always benefit from his knowledge and forbearance.

Shannon Faulkner: just a misguided feminist?

by Johanna Blakely

After her brief, traumatic stay at The Citadel earlier this fall, Shannon Faulkner is ready to try it again. Complaining that she was "stranded, isolated, and hated" at the archaic discipline-centered college, she spent most of her time at the infirmary, ailing of stomach pains.

After a two-and-a-half-year court battle, she ultimately spent less than a week at the institution. She claimed that the stress of

the court case and her lack of support on campus was the cause. Unfortunately, the truth is that she was 20 pounds overweight, out of shape, and in a place where she just does not belong.

The *Washington Post* quoted her as saying, "If other women were there, 'I would definitely consider reapplying to finish my degree... I do not want to be alone again.'" She also complained of having no one to talk to or confide in. If she wanted a sorority, she should

not have gone to The Citadel. However, now 17-year-old Nancy Millette, a senior at a North Carolina military prep academy, is joining the battle for women at The Citadel.

Why do these women want to go to The Citadel, a men's college, largely based on a rigorous training program? What would possess anyone to go there, man or woman?

The school was established during the Civil War to train young men for the inevitable combat that they would have to face. Since then it has turned out young, militant men with great respect for tradition, but no idea about the world around them.

When Faulkner arrived on campus, she was ostracized, and received absolutely no encouragement from her superiors or her peers. This she should have expected. Self-motivation is quite necessary in such an environment. However, what was completely unexcusable was the behavior of her fellow cadets, who made posters, cheered, and celebrated when Faulkner collapsed from exhaustion.

How disciplined could a group of young men be if they are allowed to act this way in reaction to a failure of a peer? Would they have acted this way if Faulkner was a man? Obviously the ideals of the cadets have not changed since the institution was founded. How can we allow American youth to attend The Citadel when it is obvious that they are taught male superiority instead of equality, and muscle and firepower instead of intelligence and diplomacy.

Instead of preaching equality at The Citadel, Shannon Faulkner should preach the end of this outdated institution, or at least suggest that the school update its primeval moral code. The Citadel had its time, but its time has long passed; its present need is highly questionable.

A trial is set in November to decide if perhaps a women's leadership program at Converse College would be an alternative for women wishing to join the cadets at The Citadel. This is not an alternative; this is an insult. This suggestion does not address the problem; it simply dismisses it.

There will always be another Shannon Faulkner attempting to force her way into a male establishment, but sending her somewhere else is not going to alleviate the struggle. Whether or not Shannon Faulkner was the feminist to take on the Citadel is not the question. The question is, why can't the US Military establish an academy with equal opportunities for men and women?

Oakland Mills High School
9410 Kilimanjaro Road
Columbia, MD 21045
Volume XXII, Issue 1

Editor-in-Chief:

Layout Editor:

Assistant Layout Editor:

News Editor:

Feature Editors:

Sports Editors:

Editorial Editor:

Assistant Editorial Editor:

Graphics Editor:

Assistant Graphics Editor:

Photography Editor:

Assistant Photography Editor:

Business Manager:

Faculty Advisor:

Technical Guru:

Johanna Blakely

Eric Prange

Tim Pumplin

Erin Morrow

Megan Rickard

Eric Prange

Sabrina Warner

Spencer Adamson

Josh Warner-Burke

Jeremy Magruder

Alan Henry

Miguel Rodriguez

Christine Caldaro

Rebecca Doob

Megan Rickard

Abraham Wright

Tim Gaither

Staff: Jean Beaman~Rebekah Bowser~Erica Burr~Rebecca Doob~Terra Dunsmore~David Elstein~Melissa Flanzraich~Douglas Freiland~Elwood Greene~Lori Harvey~Kokya Hayes~James Kolsky~Adam Lutz~Monique McCready~Jennifer Nagle~LeeAnn Roberts~Miguel "Burrito" Rodriguez~Chris Sadler~Carolyn Sharp~Liam Straton~Stephen Wissing

We want your opinion!

The *Scroll* Staff wants to know what you think about the new school policies. There are no rules about how to write it, as long as you're honest about your opinion. We cannot guarantee that your response will be printed, but every response will be read. If it is appropriate and clear, we will print your opinion and your picture in the next issue of *The Scroll*.

This next issue will be printed **November 22**. That means we need your editorial by **October 15**. Submit them to Josh Warner-Burke, Johanna Blakely, or Mr. Wright (in room 211).

This year brings new staff changes

by The Scroll staff

Social studies teacher Ms. Haggard has a double title this year. In addition to teaching World History in the mornings, she is now part-time guidance counselor for OMHS students.

She will deal with local papers, such as the *Columbia Flier* and the Howard County Section of the *Baltimore Sun*, regarding accomplishments (both academic and athletic) of Oakland Mills students and faculty. She also works with freshmen programs to ease the transition from middle to high school.

In addition, Ms. Haggard administers community service for students who need it to graduate. She came into this position when an increasing number of counselors were put in each school. She completed her course work five or six years ago and has assisted in guidance ever since.

Besides Mrs. Haggard, there are many new changes to the Oakland Mills High School staff. These include custodian Ava Crosland and secretary Janet Ayres. Mr. John Lowe is now teaching English full-time. Other changes to the staff include Daniel Warrington, an ESOL teacher and tutor; Marilyn Holland, the new Spanish teacher; and Bill McCarron, who teaches Latin and Spanish.

Mrs. Ayres came to Oakland Mills after a 10 year hiatus from being an immunologist to take care of her son, who is now in middle school. She chose to come to OM because she felt that she wanted "to do a little work," because she liked the working conditions of a school environment.

This was not the first year at OM for Mr. Lowe. After his first year of teaching Spanish classes part-time, and his second of teaching half Spanish and half ninth grade English, he is now a full-time teacher of English.

Mr. Warrington is no stranger to the Howard County School System. Born and reared in Montreal, Canada, he is perfectly suited for teaching French, which he has done at Howard High School. Then, there were no more openings at Howard for French teachers, so he accepted a position as a teacher of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). He is continuing his ESOL legacy here at OM. When asked about teaching at OM, Warrington exuberantly replied, "I love it!"

Mrs. Holland came to Oakland Mills High School from Patuxent Valley Middle School, where she taught Spanish, French, Reading, and advisory. She now teaches Spanish 2 and 3 here at the Mill. She has previously taught at Glenelg High School and Wilde Lake High School.

Since there is only one combined class for all four levels of Latin, Bill McCarron's teaching schedule now includes a Spanish I class. He spends his time split between Wilde Lake and Oakland Mills High Schools, teaching two classes at each school.

Staff members who left the Mill after the 1994-95 school year include office secretary Florence Jackson; Ms. Shelly McPherson and Mr. Ciaran Lesikar, who are on sabbatical; Ms. Jennifer Fernandez, who is on leave; Guidance Counselor Robert Arroyo, who is assigned to Mt. Hebron High School; Ms. Kim Rosado, who is full-time at Owen Brown Middle School; and Custodian Ava Crosland, who transferred to Phelps Luck Elementary School.



During their sophomore year, former OM students Ethan Fingerman and Kelly Naylor dreamed of an engraved-brick patio that would let students and staff leave their mark at OMHS. Unfortunately, they graduated before their dream was realized.

The project fell on Betsy Renner, who turned the patio into a dream of her own. After months of hard work, she came upon the final step: construction. A small, hardworking group of students began construction August 22. "This is not the end," quotes Renner exuberantly, "but a beginning." The final result can be seen outside the gym hallway entrance: names of students on bricks, radiating out from a Scorpion centerpiece.

Magnet program allows fulfillment of requirements

by Christine Caldaro

The philosophy of the Technology Magnet Program is to prepare students for careers not just jobs. The two teachers bringing this to Oakland Mills High School are Robert Sharp, the Intro to Technology teacher, and Robert Hodge, the Mechanical Drawing teacher. Both teachers are well qualified for the job, having college degrees and experience in many departments.

The technology Magnet program is a program that offers many opportunities for young adults. There are two programs being offered at Eastern and River Hill High School.

The first is the Career and Technology Prep strand. "This is appropriate for students who, upon graduation from high school, plan to seek employment, acquire further training on the job, or enter a two-year community college program," explained Mr. Hodge. The requirements for Career and Technology Prep strand is to be enrolled in at least Algebra 1 by the ninth grade. Second, the University strand is designed to prepare students for a four-year college or university program. The requirement for the University strand is to be in Algebra 2 GT.

These two programs offer five clusters for the students in the programs. They are Biotechnology; Communications; Construction and Manufacturing; Energy, Power, and Transportation; and Human Services.

All ages ranging from elementary to high school are interested in this program. For the elementary and middle school students there is hope. A special committee is currently working on identifying instructional and curricular strategies and initiatives that will reach back into middle and elementary schools to ensure students who display interest and desire to participate in the Tech Magnet Program will meet the requirements. All high school students have to meet the requirements of Basic Research Designs Method, Introduction to Technology, Principles of Technology, Computer Applications 1/2, and Problem Solving using Pascal.

The Technology Magnet Program will open in 1997. Students enrolled receive a class schedule depending on what their acquired cluster is. Students also must receive all required credits in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, Fine Arts, and electives.

The program also provides a total of 600 out-of-district seats available, and many entertaining activities such as field trips, clubs, seminars, and other interesting activities.

The response to it has been positive. Many of the "Elite" world are trying to make this program better and more efficient. This is the initial year for the program. It should be up and running by 1998.

Clinton visits Howard County

Clinton, from page 1

prevention in the schools and elsewhere. He also spoke of the anniversary of the crime bill. Dan Fingerman points out, "It was a nice coincidence that the red-ribbon ceremony corresponded with the anniversary of the crime bill." Reflecting on Clinton's speech, Mrs. Cook remembers, "He was so charismatic... when he was speaking, it was as if he was speaking to each one of us."

President Clinton, along with 10 Mayfield students, signed a pledge promising to remain nonusers. He then merged into the crowd, shaking as many hands as possible. One of those lucky enough to actually speak with the President was Fingerman. "It was exciting to meet President Clinton, even though I only talked to him for about half a minute... he sounds a lot better in person than on TV."

Clarix invades the Mill

by Tim Pumplun

During the summer, Oakland Mills High School upgraded the Macintosh Computers in the Media Center computer lab with a new word processing program, ClarixWorks. Media Specialist Tim Gaither felt that the old word processing program, Microsoft Works, was too complex to use and did not have enough features to make it a good all-around word processor for students and staff.

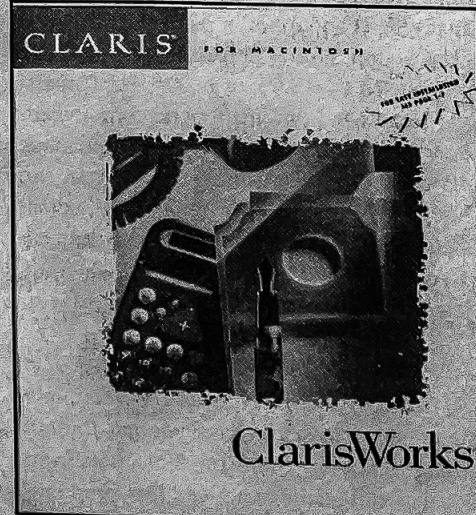
The upgrade to ClarixWorks was chosen "because the new computers [in the computer lab] will not run the upgrade to Microsoft Works, Microsoft Works 2.0," said Mr. Gaither. ClarixWorks was chosen for its simplicity and myriad of features. The only problems that students and staff have with ClarixWorks is confusion from its newness or obliviousness to its many features and capabilities. "As always, there are problems when people use new applications, but the people will learn," Gaither commented faithfully.

Undoubtedly, ClarixWorks does everything Microsoft Works does and a great deal more. ClarixWorks has many more functions for all types of word processing, from writing documents, creating spreadsheets and databases, to more artistic forms, such as drawing or painting. For students typing notes, the easy outlining feature is useful for organization. For those writing compositions or research papers, it has an easy to use spell checking function, find/change capabilities, and simple footnoting. For the journalistic student, there is easy word counting, multiple column settings, and double spacing. Those doing desktop publishing will use the many typefaces, type styles, and text colors, along with graphics and pictures to make any written document look interesting.

Unfortunately, ClarixWorks takes up more memory in the computers and runs slower than Microsoft Works, but the new features make the trade-offs worthwhile.

From the main users of the new ClarixWorks, there are mixed opinions of the word processing program. Junior Alan Henry responded to ClarixWorks by saying, "Some parts are really, really good, and some are just bad. But overall, I like it." Junior Lori Harvey definitively spoke for the application, saying "I like it better than Microsoft Works because it's easy to work with and because it has more functions."

Despite the initial level of difficulty for some users, the upgrade to ClarixWorks is a step forward into the technological age for Oakland Mills High School.



New rules change life at the Mill

by David Elstein and Johanna Blakely

With the coming of a new principal, Mr. Marshall Peterson, the students and faculty at OM have found new rules and policies to be adopted. Many of these changes are embraced fully, with the hope that stricter rules are exactly what this school needs. But of course change will always meet opposition, and getting used to these changes will not be easy, but administration and faculty feel that the student body as a whole will benefit from the changes in policy.

Changes in some cases are minor, but there are some big changes. The rules are even written in a different place than usual. Some of the rules are still in that lengthy packet, but many of the rules are in the Oakland Mills folder given to students on the first day of school. This is due to the shortage of paper and other materials that the school is experiencing.

One of the minor changes has to do with lunch. Not only does the first lunch shift have to eat lunch at 10:15 (which was decided last year), but students can no longer eat lunch outside. Because of the trash problem and the concern for the appearance of the school, food is no longer aloud outside the cafeteria. Students have a habit of leaving trash around the building, and Mr. Peterson feels that the campus should be kept clean so the commu-

nity will have a higher opinion of O.M.

Another new policy that Mr. Peterson has introduced and feels strongly about is his non-committed learners policy. This pertains to those students who sleep in class, read non-classroom related materials, and refuse to participate. Even though this is a basic policy of the county, Mr. Peterson thinks highly of this rule and is willing to enforce it. Punishment for first offense non-committed learners is a warning, followed by the contacting of parents. If it persists you will be referred to the guidance office and if it still occurs, appropriate follow up action will be taken.

The goal of this policy is to rid our classrooms of those students who constantly impede other on students' learning. These "non-committed learners" do not allow their peers to get the best education possible, and hopefully, with this new policy, school will go back to being more learning based.

These rule changes, along with the new drug policy, are stricter, but the school feels that they may be the best thing for OM to crack down on the major problems that give this school a bad reputation.

Ultimately, these new rules are to raise morale and school spirit, and to alleviate some of the problems that the school should not have to deal with.

Financial cutbacks affect OMHS

by Jeremy Magruder

As the 1995 School Year began, it became very apparent that one thing was missing: money. Yes, thanks to the budget-slashing attempts of local governments, Howard County public schools have once again fallen victim to the ax. Large numbers of funds were removed from school budgets, leaving teachers and students high and dry.

The budget cuts affected Oakland Mills High School in several ways. At the top of the list is materials. Ms. Paula Micka, foreign language department head, noticed, "We have students that don't even have appropriate textbooks. We even had to borrow books from other schools!" In fact, the foreign language department took the blow heavily, suffering from a lack of not only books, but also educational videos and other important materials.

The Social Studies department also felt the sting caused by a lack of materials. Department Head Mr. Lamonte Goode commented, "We would really like to have books and maps updated." Some textbooks throughout the school are very literally bursting at the seams. Old, outdated editions of textbooks can be seen in many corners of the school. But materials is just the first of the problems associated with the cutbacks.

Staffing was also affected by the budget reductions. Ms. Micka noticed, "We certainly have enough classes to have another foreign language teacher." Many other teachers from other departments also noticed this problem.

The explanation is that students are taking more classes because of the four-period day, so more teachers are needed to cover the classes. But new teachers were not hired. As a result, there are many classes stuffed with 34 or 35 students, or as many as the county will allow, in the case of nonacademic classes.

Technology was affected as well. This year, essential software and technological improvements were not purchased, thanks to the hacked-apart budget. Even some supplies that were already purchased had restrictions placed upon them. One such supply is the copying machine. Each teacher must keep use of the copying machine very limited. This restriction was placed on the copying machine because each time that it is used an impression is placed upon it. These impressions build up, and eventually parts need to be replaced. The current budget cannot afford that.

However, this is not the first year that budget reductions have affected Oakland Mills. The first of these changes occurred three years ago. Starting then, the county stopped paying for any substitute teachers beyond an allotted number. Teachers could no longer take as many field trips as they deem essential because Oakland Mills would have to pay for the substitutes. Junior Tim Pumplun commented that without field trips, "We don't get to go anywhere or learn things about all the wonderful experiences in life."

Other schools face similar problems throughout the country.

OM introduces new drug policy

by David Elstein

Oakland Mills is on its way to become a drug-free school. That is the goal Principal Mr. Marshall Peterson, who became the principal of OMHS July 1, is trying to attain.

This process began late summer. The Friday prior to the students' arrival for the first day of school on Monday, a panel of student representatives talked to the faculty about drug use at Oakland Mills. The representatives included drug-free students as well as students who have experience with drugs. Warning signs of drug users and how they get out of class, together with tips to teachers and administrators in dealing with such abusers, were among the panel's primary concerns.

Teachers learned exactly where the students use drugs ranging from the parking lot to the hill adjacent to Oakland Mills.

Many students on the panel mentioned that a number of teachers don't "care." They added, however, that some teachers do show that they care, but too many appear not to care even if they highly suspect a student is using drugs.

The faculty did listen hard because it wanted to hear what the students had to say. At the end of the students' presentation, the faculty gave a standing ovation.

The teachers seem to be listening; they are patrolling the parking lots and getting stricter in the hallways.

Why is it so cold in here?

by Josh Warner-Burke

The teacher's voice drones on but the only thing on the students' minds is how cold it is. They dream of the warm, 70-degree air outside. But they are stuck, shivering, in a building with few windows and a climate-control system that gives them 65 degree and below temperatures.

There is a problem with the temperature in the building. Some, perhaps most, classes are colder than they should be. When asked whether climate control is a problem, English Teacher Ms. Arlene Kutz responded, "Of course." She elaborated by saying, "it definitely affects learning. It's hard to pay attention when you are shivering." Mr. Cornelius Freeman, a vice principal, agreed: "I think everybody's been concerned about the environment in the building." What OM students don't know, however, is why it is so cold in this building.

It started when the school was built in the early 1970s as an *open-space building*. Basically, there were few walls in order to promote a more open feeling, as the name implies. This system was eventually condemned because every classroom was too loud. So minor renovations were done to the school throughout the '80s, and some major ones took place in the early '90s to make it what it is today, enclosed smaller classrooms.

This is where the story becomes a bit murky. According to most teachers and administrators at Oakland Mills, including Mr. Peterson and Mr. Freeman, the heating and cooling system was not adequately renovated when we went to an enclosed design. According to Mr. Tom Kierzkowski, Director of School Facilities in Howard County, "... changes were made to the heating and air-conditioning system to accommodate the classroom enclosures."

Mr. Kierzkowski also claims, "There's a clear guideline by the Board of Education which explains that the temperature should range between 70 degrees for heating and 80 degrees for cooling," and that "if, for any reason, the temperature does go out of the recommended range, the Maintenance Department is notified by the school administration or custodial staff, and a technician responds to the request."

But classrooms at our high school fall below that range. Actually, the temperature in

this school is set at 68 in the winter and 78 in the summer, according to Ms. Donna Burton, Building Supervisor. But even still, now and during the winter months, the temperature often falls below 68 degrees. There are several explanations for this.

First, there have been no complaints this year. Ms. Burton had heard nothing about the English Department being cold until research began for this article. The reason for this the writer can only attempt to understand. According to Ms. Kutz, "We've all complained enormously [in past years]." It seems as though teachers have given up on the administration, be it of this school or the county, and its ability to respond to their complaints.

Mr. Freeman expressed exasperation at the situation wherein "one teacher complains it's too cold, so you set it warmer; then you got another complaining that it's too hot." Ms. Judy Pasquantonio, Instructional Assistant, added that Mr. Freeman has to deal with the "bureaucracy" of the school system, and that sometimes a complaint won't be dealt with for a long time, or sometimes what Maintenance considers "dealt with" is only a quick fix.

Mr. Freeman acknowledged that we need a new system. He understands that the cost would probably be exorbitant, but says, "I think that it would be worthwhile." Mr. Peterson acknowledges the need for a new system as well, but, "It's all a function of cost, and it's all a function of available revenue." He went on to talk about the many taps on resources that pressure the School System for money.

Ms. Pasquantonio believes "the people in this building have done all they can." According to her, not much will get done about the problem until the PTSA gets involved. Freeman seconds her conclusion, using a simile to exhibit his point. At Centennial, for years the administration complained to the Board that a traffic light was needed outside of the school, and their requests were ignored. Until finally, a student was killed there. Then the Board responded to their request.

When Ms. Pasquantonio was faced with, "You work here; you know what's going on better than the parents do. Why don't they listen to you?" She responded loudly and forcefully, "Your parents are taxpayers. They [the Board] are accountable to your parents. I work for them. I'm accountable to them."

Class of '99 hits right track

OM freshmen class looks hopeful

by Lori Harvey

Excited and a little nervous, the Class of '99 gathered for orientation, on the morning of August 24th. There are 301 of them, one of the largest freshman classes in Oakland Mills history.

Over a third of the Class of '99 are enrolled in talent pool English. Seventy-eight of them also are taking World History Honors, and forty-five are enrolled in GT. They are studying a wide variety of languages including French, Spanish, Latin, and Italian. Many of them are on the advanced level (level 2 or above), and a large number of those on level 1 are taking honors.

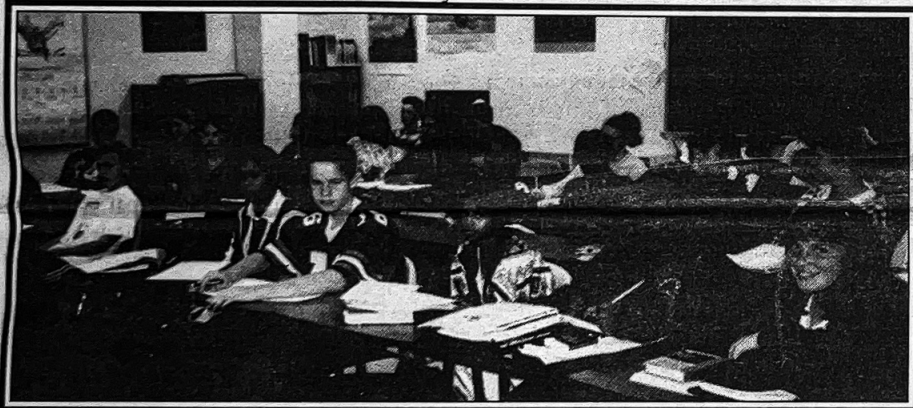
A strong point among this year's freshman seems to be science. An amazing 88 freshman are enrolled in biology, 25 of whom are in honors and 56 in GT. There are 38 students enrolled in Earth Science GT, and almost one third of the freshman class take Geometry

Honors or Algebra II GT.

This should prove to be an excellent year at the Mill for JV sports with over 45 percent of the freshman class either currently playing a fall sport or planning to play a sport in the winter or spring.

A talented bunch, the Class of 99 will definitely add a lot to the Mills' performing arts department, with many very talented singers, dancers, and actors. Many clubs should also see a nice boost in attendance this year.

As for their impressions, most freshmen are excited and optimistic about being a part of the Mill, despite the fact that this year a brand new experience for them. "This place is awesome!" exclaimed Carmen Ball. Many of them also like the idea of having a different type of schedule. "I really like the fact that I don't see the same teachers every day," commented David Mason.



Freshmen adjust to high school academics

by Jean Beaman

Although the 301 members of the freshman class will definitely be challenged academically at OMHS this year, they appear to be prepared for the competition. They are adjusting to the four period day and advanced classes surprisingly well.

"If you have homework on an A day, you don't have to do that assignment for another day," said Freshmen Jacob Jennifer of Mr. Lowe's 9th grade English class. Jacob not only understands the schedule, he likes it.

Freshmen are taking a variety of classes,

in GT, honors, or regular levels. These classes include Biology 1 GT, English 9 GT, English 9 Regular, English 9 Honors, Earth Science Honors/GT, Algebra GT, World History GT. Students are also active in foreign languages, such as Spanish, German, and French.

Freshmen are also taking many different electives this year. With the four-period day, 9th grade students have a choice of another class besides their other academic classes. Many of them have decided to fulfill their fine arts or tech. ed. requirement.

The initial fears are present with some



9th graders find time for extracurriculars

by Miguel Rodriguez

One of the main extracurricular activities in which freshmen participate is JV fall sports, including football, boys' and girls' soccer, and field hockey.

Among the most popular in high school sports is football. "I've been waiting a long time to be able to play football for the Oakland Mills team," comments captain of the JV team TJ Welch. Football seems to get the highest attendance to games and is the sport played at the Homecoming game. The only real turnoff is the fact that there is not a girls football team. "I really wish that more sports were coed," comments exasperated freshman Jamie Sauer, who is also the goalie for the JV Field Hockey team.

Another attention-grabbing sport is soccer. Parents of soccer players are very supportive of their sons and daughters. It is also a very challenging sport to get into shape for. "Their not going to have much fun the first two weeks," explains JV coach Rick Bantz. "Players will spend most of the time running a few miles uphill in order to get in shape." Freshman Marcos Rodriguez comments, "It's real hard work, but I have fun whenever we play."

Of course the girls JV team has begun with Ms. Judy Pasquantonio as coach. "I have a good crop of freshmen girls this year," ob-

serves Ms. P, "... although in small numbers, I think they will be a good addition to the girls program here at Oakland Mills." The freshmen on the team are glad that some sports at OM, like soccer, have a team for girls.

Another sport getting the attention of Oakland Mills' female freshmen is Field Hockey. Some anonymous freshmen were worried about playing this sport because of its frequent violent occurrences. "I got hit in the face with a stick," said JV player Dawn Christianson pointing to a bruise below her eye. But for most girls, this is a great chance to be part of the team. "I like playing field hockey," said Jennifer Keast. "It was easier for me to meet people at a new school."

Sports have always been great after school activities for students of every grade. Freshmen in particular love to take place in some activities that were not available in their middle schools.

The variety of sports offered in high school is one of the primary ways students, including freshmen, escape some of the pressures of everyday life.

Further, OMHS parents of both male and female freshmen are very supportive, especially in attending home and away games, and meets, selling refreshments at the concession stand, and in cheering the teams on to victory.

done.

And what are these freshmen like? Just ask their former 8th grade teachers. Owen Brown Middle's Social Studies teacher Mr. Vincent James said the group, "seemed to enjoy a good challenge." Oakland Mills Middle teacher Mrs. Selsky said they were "one of my favorite classes."

Overall, students are making a good transition from middle school to high school classes. Freshman Russ Eckell sums it up by saying, "I hope to learn progressively through the year."

What Freshmen have to say about high school

The Scroll: What do you think about Oakland Mills High School?

"It's a lot of fun, but it's a lot of work too." -Karmen Ball

"High school is bigger and better than middle school." -Lavender Boyce

"It has its challenges." -Toya Gordon

"High school is too much work." -Sean Collins

"It's no big thrill." -Nadia Crenshaw

"I think the four-period schedule stinks." -Naomi Sandler

"So far it has been a great experience." -Scharais Sullivan-Thompson

The Scroll: What was your biggest fear when entering high school?

"Getting a lot of homework." -Sabrina Altema

"I was afraid that everyone would be bigger than me." -Naomi Sandler

"Meeting new people." -Heather Albritton

"I was afraid that I would never find my classes." -Christine Rampulla

"Getting beat up." -Matt Browning

"I was afraid of getting lost." -Lavender Boyce

"Initiation." -Dawn Christenson

Kevin Williams shows his versatility



by Josh Warner-Burke

He's 10 points away from a perfect score on his SAT. By the time he graduates he will have taken eight advanced placement courses and currently maintains a 4.0 average; he's not likely to lose. This year he'll play three varsity sports: Cross Country, Indoor Track, and Outdoor Track. He's also captain of the It's Academic team and co-captain of the Math team.

His vital statistics scream Ivy League. But if you ever talk to him, you'll know he's actually very shy and modest. He's often unno-

ticed and passed over when people talk about the best and the brightest at Oakland Mills. If he's known at all, it's as "the genius"; not many people take the time to get to know him as a person.

"Why do you do it all? What is your drive?" I ask him. He pauses, there is silence, then he responds, "I guess I've just always done so well that I expect myself to do well." He added that his parents have been an added push. His parents are surprised if Kevin doesn't get straight A's.

His schedule this year is composed of AP English, AP Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Spanish, AP Psychology, Programming in C, and Lab Aide for the science department. After reeling off this list of five college-level courses (more college-level courses, in fact, than most college students), he added, "which I think is ridiculously difficult... I don't think I'm gonna make it this year," and laughs.

When asked how he copes with the enormous amount of stress put on him by school and everything he's involved in, he responded:

"I guess I just like to forget about it for a few minutes... listen to music, go outside and play basketball... and then when I come in I usually feel much better and can get back to work again."

On the weekends Kevin likes to go out and play pool or poker with friends. Often he goes to events put on by SHOP (of which he's been an active member since his sophomore year). He also likes to watch football; "That's a luxury I don't often have."

Kevin is looking at Rice, Duke, and Swarthmore as his top three colleges. No one really doubts he'll get in, but according to him, "it may just come down to money." He chose these three schools because they offer merit-based scholarships. In college, he would like to continue running and keep in shape.

The most important thing he thinks he's contributed so far is his versatility. Contributing to Oakland Mills High School academically, athletically, and extracurricular wise, means a lot to Kevin.

Custodians keep the Mill immaculate

by Rebekah Bowser

Every morning Donna Burton, custodian supervisor of Oakland Mills High School, unlocks the doors of the school and prepares for the eager students and staff. Of course, students would have trouble learning in a unclean environment. That's why OMHS has Donna Burton and her competent staff of six.

Burton has worked at O.M. since 1988 and she feels that the outlook is better than previous years. Since the periods are longer and the teachers patrol students in the halls, graffiti and loitering have decreased. "Last year we had to paint the boys bathroom 25 times, the graffiti was terrible!" Burton said in disgust.

The day staff, that works from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., is in charge of opening up the school every morning, checking all the bathrooms to make sure they are stocked with all the necessary supplies, setting up the cafeteria for breakfast, and cleaning up after every lunch shift. Donna also handles any minor problems in the school, but if the job gets to big for her to handle, she calls upon the maintenance crew for assistance. If the problem goes beyond, then it is her job to get in touch with an administrator.

From 2:30 to 11:00 p.m., Rickey Hackett takes over the job of building supervisor. Every night the custodial night staff of five must prepare the building for the following school day. They clean and restock all the bathrooms, including the ones in the locker rooms, collect trash, sweep and buff the halls, sweep and mop the locker rooms, sweep the gym, and vacuum every carpeted classroom. Then Rickey Hackett closes and secures the school.

The custodial staff is appreciated at OM. Mrs. Jane Shephard, English teacher, said, "I think they do a wonderful job in keeping the halls immaculate and the school campus in tip top shape." Mr. Freeman, a Vice-Principal at OM believes, "The custodial staff has always done an excellent job."

Ex-SGA vice-president attends arts academy in Michigan

by Miguel Rodriguez

OMHS senior Adam Gold is attending Interlochen Arts Academy this school year. This school, located in Northern Michigan, will enable him to pursue his passion for percussion.

Adam's mother thinks this is a "...great opportunity for him." The school offers good academic classes. Adam takes Calculus and British Literature and participates in the school orchestra, the percussion ensemble, and the jazz band; all of which meet daily. Instead of getting the usual Saturday and Sunday off, he gets Sunday and Monday off, going to school the rest of the days.

Many things influenced his transition from Oakland Mills to a top-rate music school. First, he has played drums since he was in third grade. During his first years in high school, he was lead drummer in the symphonic and marching bands. Another musical accomplish-

ment was Adam's participation in Maryland's All-State band as a leading drummer there as well. He also performed solos in both county

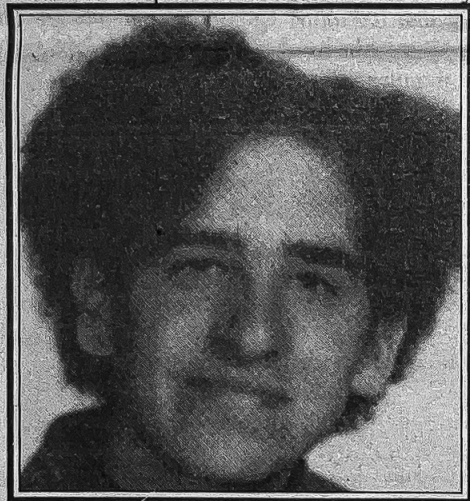


photo of Adam Gold provided by yearbook.

and state solo and ensemble festivals, always receiving superior ratings.

Adam also participated in the local rock band KoanFusion along with senior David Kaplan, and Oakland Mills alumni Dan Gordon and Phil Dodge. KoanFusion saw some success with the "Columbia Scene."

Adam is a diligent student as well. Aside from earning good grades, being on the honor role, and in the National Honor Society, he also was the 1994-'95 SGA vice president.

Furhter, Adam is a very funny and well-liked person. "He is a talented drummer, and I am proud to be his friend. I wish him the best of luck," Senior Johanna Blakely continued "We had some really fun times, we've been in school together since kindergarten. I will miss him a lot." "Adam could take a bad day and make it better," adds senior Rachel Nelson, "I can't wait 'till he gets back."

Adam will return to Columbia in December to celebrate the winter holiday. He should graduate in June, then attend the college of his choice. His college choice is uncertain, but whatever his course of study, the future looks bright for this talented musician.

OM class of '96 scores high on PSAT

by Sabrina Warner

Traditionally high school students take the PSAT as a practice for the SAT which they take their senior year. Many students preform extremely well on the PSAT and are rewarded for their achievements by being selected to become potential National Merit Finalists.

This year three OMHS students have been selected as National Merit semifinalists. Josh Warner-Burke, Noah Sandler, and Kevin Williams have placed within the top 15,000 students in the nation and have the possibility of receiving up to \$2,000 scholarships. Twenty more students have placed among the top 50,000 students in the nation, and have been named Commended Students in the National Merit Scholarship. These students include Dan Fingerman, David Grey, Mark Garafano,

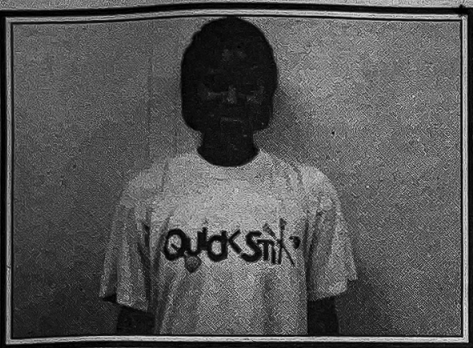
Stephon Lord, Dean Menegay, Ginny Dye, Elizabeth Renner, Gayle Gillespe, David Kaplan, Dan Regan, Themby Scott, Terri Hayman, Lauren Knott, Evan Coren, Kira Krapcho, Anne Ryder, Johanna Blakely, Spencer Adamson, Stefan Zimmerman, and Shomo Sinha.

To arrive at a composite score to compare the students nationwide, the verbal score is added twice to the math score. Josh received a verbal score of 80 and a math score of 69. This gives him an index of 229; his overall score being 1490. Noah earned a 76 verbal and a 72 math, which gives him a 224 total index and a 1480. Kevin received a verbal score of 71 and a math score of 80, which gives him a composite score of 222 and an overall score of 1510.



photo of custodial staff by Rebecca Doob

OM students enjoy exceptional summer



Angela Hill by David Elstein

The summer was unexpectedly exciting for senior Angela Hill. She spent six weeks in Cambridge, Massachusetts at Massachusetts Institute of Technology taking classes in a variety of subjects.

At M.I.T., Angela took Physics, Calculus, Biophysical Chemistry, Writing, and Design. In one class, she had to do some engineering with others in a group; they had to build a car and compete it against other groups. Angela, though, does not want to be an engineer.

When she wasn't in classes, she was often studying because there was "a lot of homework" assigned.

Angela recommends this very productive experience to other students. By the way, she added that it is free, "you pay to get there and the extra spending money." The trip was very worthwhile to Angela and it was a great learning experience that also was enjoyable. She became friends with many other students, and has called and written to some of them.



Josh Warner-Burke by M. Flanzraich

This past summer senior Josh Warner-Burke participated in an exchange program with Cergy-Pontoise, France. For Josh, who has studied French since seventh grade, France was an exciting experience.

The program sent 20 American students to Cergy-Pontoise. There the Americans met their French partners, at whose homes they stayed for 16 days.

The main purpose of the trip was getting to know the other students. So a large part of the program consisted of group activities in which students spoke exclusively in French. "It was fun getting to know the French students and experiencing their culture," Josh said enthusiastically.

After spending 16 days in France, the American students, with their French hosts, returned to America. According to Josh, "The French students were impressed because everything was bigger . . . but they disliked the food."



Chris Miller by A. Wright

Senior Chris Miller got an early start on his career this past summer when he completed eight weeks of basic training at Ft. Leonardwood, Missouri.

Miller enrolled in the US-army May 9th under the Delayed Enlistment Program, an option for anyone who wants a break in service. The person enlists, takes basic training, then is released to fulfill another obligation before reentering military service.

Miller's interest in the military is not foreign; his father is a 30-year retired Master Sergeant (US Navy); his mother, Cpt. Susan Miller, is serving her 29th year in the US Navy. Chris too plans to make the military his career, despite his parents' difference of opinion. "My dad is all for it; but my Mom wants me to go to college," Chris admitted.

After graduation, Miller will complete Advanced Individual Training in truck vehicles repair, then attend airborne school.



Mindy Wiltshire by Steve Wissing

Last July, junior Mindy Wiltshire did something that few other Columbia Students are able to do. She lived in Barcelona, Spain for one month with her two friends, Irma and

Laida. While there, Mindy had the opportunity to improve on her Spanish and to have a great time.

In Barcelona, Mindy spoke Spanish almost continuously. She even spoke Spanish to Irma and Laida who do speak English. Every time she heard a new word she wrote it down and studied every night. When Mindy needed to go to the doctor, she also had to know Spanish. "The doctor's English was so bad that I asked him to speak Spanish so I could understand," explained Mindy.

Here at Oakland Mills, her experience has changed her schooling. Previously Mindy thought that Spanish was just another class. Now she says, "I actually enjoy going to Spanish class."



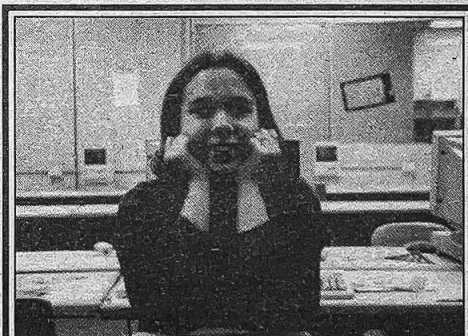
Michelle Osterberger by James Kolsky

This past summer, Michelle Osterberger had her initial experience working with Don Shea, an Oakland Mills Social Studies teacher at a soccer camp that Shea owns. His camp is called The Soccer Camp.

Michelle taught children from ages 9 to 12 how to do the basic moves of soccer including passing and shooting the ball. The Soccer Camp took place at several schools including Oakland Mills, Centennial, and Elkton. Michelle worked with students at all schools.

Some Oakland Mills alumni also worked with Mr. Shea. They included Matt Sutton, Keith Murphy, Aaron Dane, and Dante Washington. Washington who is an Olympic and United States national soccer player was the main attraction at Shea's camp.

According to Michelle, the children had a great time at the camp. Michelle also had fun working with Mr. Shea and Dante Washington. She thought working at the camp was a good experience for her future.



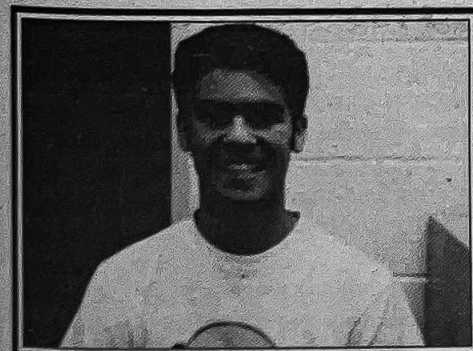
Rebekah Bowser by L. Harvey

Last year proved to be a challenging one for senior Rebekah Bowser, who spent her junior year as an exchange student in La Spezia, Italy. Rebekah and 350 other teens from

around the world were chosen to participate in the AFS exchange program for the 1994-95 school year.

Rebekah stayed with her 17 year-old host, Alessandro, and his family. While there, she attended a native Italian school, studying Italian, English, Italian history, Italian art, math, science, and religion. Because the school she attended was a language school, she was required to spend a minimum of 20 hours a week studying just language and the arts. "It was really hard," admitted Rebekah, "but just the idea of being there made it all worthwhile."

Her Italian brother came to America to visit her for two weeks this past summer. Also, Neva Negri, an Italian exchange student, is currently living with her family.



Dan Fingerman by Chris Sadler

For two months this summer, Oakland Mills senior Dan Fingerman attended summer classes at one of the U.S. ivy towers, Harvard University. Dan lived on campus while taking courses in political philosophy and communications, Introduction to Political Philosophy and Communications, The Representa-

tion, Transmission, and Transformation of Information.

College has a very different structure from high school," said Fingerman. "There is much more reading and writing involved." He also mentioned that classes aren't necessarily everyday or back to back, but there was little discussion in class, and Dan was expected to understand everything he read. His grade was determined by one or two exams and a three-hour final. When asked about the Harvard campus, Dan said that it was, "... nice," and, "... well laid out."

Because Dan only took two classes, he had time to get involved in extracurricular activities such as volunteering in a local homeless shelter, playing tennis or volleyball.

This experience must have had an impact on Fingerman because his first choice for college is Harvard.



Lori Harvey by Liam Straton

This summer while many students were at home sleeping or lounging around, Lori Harvey, a junior at Oakland Mills High School, was starting her college career a little early. Lori participated in the American University's summer semester from July 9 to 28, studying Print and Broadcast Journalism.

While at this seminar in Washington, D.C. Lori and the rest of her class had the chance to talk to and ask it questions of some of our country's top political decision makers and receive direct answers. As a part of the course, Lori had the option of earning two college credits. In order to be accepted, she was required to send in a transcript of her grades, write an essay telling why she wanted to attend the program, and get teacher recommendations.

While in our nation's capital Lori toured the city, talked to senators and attended class. As in any other class, Lori and her classmates had assignments every day and a final exam at the end of the session. She had to study before she could enjoy any kind of free time.

Lori enthusiastically said "It taught me a lot about time management and what college life is really like."

Cross-Country teams continue the tradition

by Erin Morrow

For both the girls' and boys' Cross-country teams, the results from the home meet on September 26 were very promising. The boys defended their 11-year winning streak by beating the defending county champions Wilde Lake by a narrow margin of two points, while the Lady Scorpions, who easily defeated Wilde Lake by 21 points, showed signs of returning to last year's high form.

Despite their performance at the season's opening home meet, the defending champion Lady Scorpions did not perform as expected throughout the first month of the season. "I don't ever remember a squad being as snake-bitten as this group with injuries," said Coach Steve Carnahan. The team had been running without junior Justine Lutterodt, who is recovering from a stress fracture; and all-county team member Dawn Strait, who had knee surgery last month. Currently leading the Lady Scorpions are junior all-county team member Lauren Drake, senior co-captain Rachel Nelson, seniors Liz Ball and Jessica Matthews, and freshman Sarah Condon. Condon, as well as sophomore Kristin Sunderdick, have both been strong contributors as first year runners. "Our team shows strength we've never had before. Along with training hard at practices during the season, a lot of us ran over the summer," commented Nelson.

Despite a slow start, including an eighth-place finish at the Jack Griffin Invitational and a tenth-place finish at the Howard County Invitational, the team is still optimistic about the rest of the season. "We're looking better now that we are getting some of our runners back from injuries," said Ball.

Of this year's Boys' Cross-Country Team, senior tri-captain Steve Petro said, "Our team has a tremendous amount of potential. For the first part of the season, the potential went unfulfilled, but judging from performance at the home meet, we are now well on our way to living up to the expected performance level that has come to represent Oakland Mills Cross-Country." Petro, one of last year's all-county and all-metro selection, will lead the team as it runs against the toughest county competition in years.

Other runners who have been competing for varsity positions include senior tri-captains Sean Harbaugh and Dean Menegay, seniors Kevin Williams, Michael Herdson, and Danny Brown, and juniors Joseph Schoney and Chris Oxford. "This year's team has a comradery that pushes each runner to put forth his best effort, which creates a pride in the team and the school," commented Menegay.

Like the girls' team, the boys' cross-country team has not performed as anticipated throughout the first month of the season. The team finished ninth at the Jack Griffin Invitational, fourth at the Howard County Invitational, and fifth at the Westminster Invitational.

Despite the sub-standard results, Coach Carnahan remains optimistic. "The current group of runners is doing everything it can," commented Coach Carnahan. "In that respect, I am very satisfied with the effort."

Though the team has already come up short against county rivals Wilde Lake, Centennial, and Atholton, the squad has the potential to place well in the county, regional, and state championship meets.

Football team looks to the State Playoffs

by Kokya Hayes

The Oakland Mills Varsity Football team kicked off a new season with a big bang on Friday September 8, by winning its first game against Aberdeen.

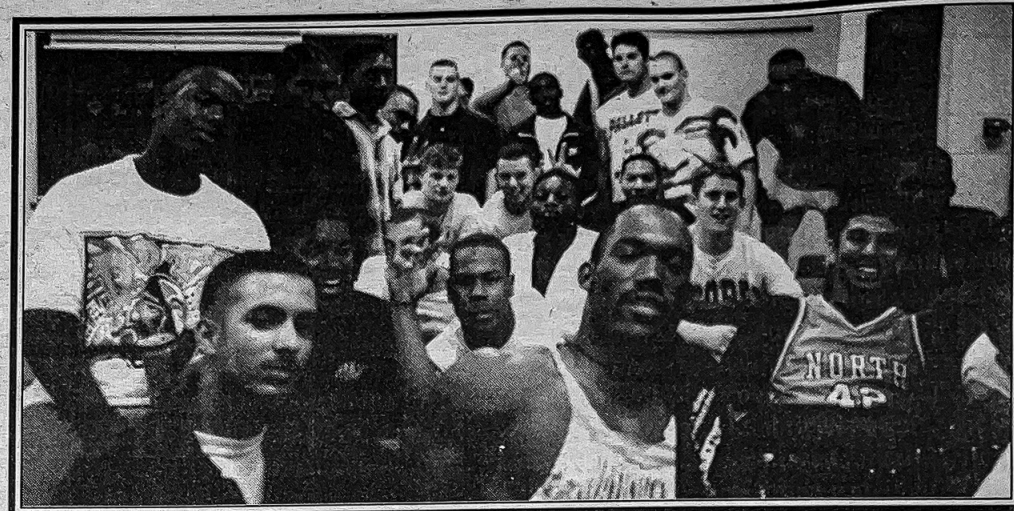
"I'm really looking forward to this year," said junior running back, Quan Davis as he excitedly paced back and forth. "I think we're going to do very well," he continued with a grin. Coach Singleton agreed. "We're relying on our defense squad and quick running game," he commented.

Most of the players, including sophomore offensive tackles Paul Duffy and Mark Turnbough, feel that with all the talent on the team, their season will be the best that OM has had in a long time. "We're going to do real well," Duffy said with excitement. "With a lot of talent, this is going to be a serious season," Turnbough concurred. Oakland Mills has great skillful players like Irving Conwell, Brain Howard, Fardan Carter, Antiwan Jones, Matt Rollman, and Paul Brown.

Ranking number 1 in the Howard County varsity football league, the Oakland Mills Scorpions are charging their way to the top of their division. "The in-county only trouble we'll face is with Wilde Lake," said senior cornerback Paul Brown, as he talked about OM's only threat on the field. "Wilde Lake is good, but I think we could beat them," he said.

OM was defeated by Fort Hill in the playoffs for State Championship last year, by a score of 30-18. The players believed they lost due to numerous uncontrollable circumstances.

"The game was filled with a lot of hostile



OM's varsity football team talk about their strategy before the game.

emotions, but the outcome was a learning experience, because it mentally prepared us for next season," said senior offensive guard Carlos Mungo. "It put a reminder in all the returning players heads, that we have one goal and one goal only: that is to repeat as County Champions and bring the first State Championship to OM Football," Mungo continued. Senior quarterback/defensive back Irving Conwell agrees. "I'm really mad, because I thought we were better than that team," Conwell said regarding Fort Hill; "but we're building from last year." Conwell is expecting not only an appearance in the State Playoffs, but a marked improvement over last year's first round exit.

This goal, while plausible, will be difficult after two consecutive losses to Lingonore and

Thomas Johnson, neither of which were expected. "We played well, but the offensive line didn't give enough time for the QB to throw the ball," senior receiver/quarterback, Casey Moffett, said regarding their first loss against Lingonore.

After an 0-1-2 start, the Scorpions will have to be perfect in county play to advance to the State Playoffs.

With all the running, working on plays, and excellent effort on the part of both coaches and athletes during practices, Oakland Mills football players want to meet their goals of achieving county and state championships. Being ranked at fifth in the state by the *Baltimore Sun*, the Scorpions do not have far to go to meet their goal, and bring the spirit back to OM football.

Girls' soccer sets sights on state championship

by Spencer Adamson

The members of the Oakland Mills Girls' Varsity Soccer team were up with the fog on the morning of August 15. It was that day that the 1995 season began; however, the quest for the 1995 State Championship began last fall, after a 3-1 loss to Fallston in the State Final. *Columbia Flyer* "Player to Watch," senior Ginny Dye, will be content with nothing less than to eclipse the mark made last year: to win the 2A State Championship.

While this goal is indeed possible, Sabrina Warner, Dye's senior co-captain, acknowledges the difficulty of such a feat. "Hopefully by the time we reach the playoffs, everyone will buckle down and be ready for what's ahead," Warner explained.

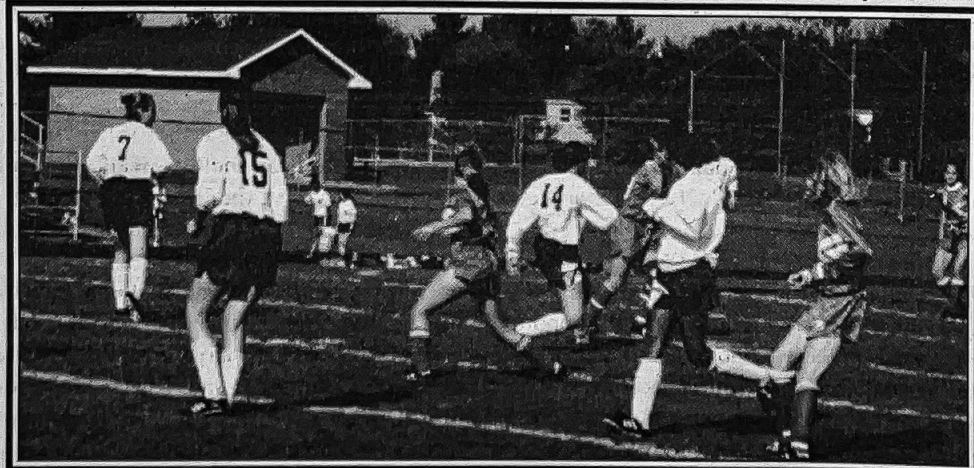
Dye, who has aspirations to play Division

I soccer after graduation, is counting on a successful playoff to attract attention from college scouts. Major intercollegiate soccer programs are traditionally well represented at Maryland's State Final games. Barring a disastrous season or a major injury, Dye should be in line for a substantial athletic scholarship.

Coach Steve Matters' team began with an auspicious 0-1-2 start that included a rough season opener at Seton Keough, whom the Scorpions beat by five goals last year, including three by Dye, a 1-1 draw with Arundel, and a 2-1 loss to Fallston, who garnered a national ranking. Although winless in their first three games, the Oakland Mills girls were ranked number four by the *Washington Post*, a rank that brought hope to the team, along with a huge hunk of responsibility. "It made

my day, but now we have a lot to live up to," Warner said. If the *Washington Post* is correct, the team should come around. With an imposing schedule that includes three potentially nationally ranked teams: Fallston, who narrowly bettered this year's Scorpions best effort to date; McDonough, with *Parade* All-American Lauri Schwoy; and county rival Centennial, led by 1994 Howard County Player of the Year Lauren Molinaro. Other tough games will be against Wilde Lake, with *Columbia Flyer* "Player to Watch," Amanda Berman, and the perennially strong Glenelg squad.

The skill, experience, leadership, and desire to achieve their goal should lead the Scorpions past these bumps in the road. Senior strikers Dye, who led the team in goals last season, and Antionette Bwalya both have immense scoring potential. Senior outside midfielders Rachel Wisnieski and Katie Vatalaro provide tough physical play and exceptional speed on opposite sides of the field. Stability is the strength of center sophomore midfielders Noelle Brown and Leslie Miller. Warner, along with junior Stephanie Romach, junior stopper Michelle Osterberger, and sophomore sweeper Jennifer Johnson provide stellar defense. The goalkeeper position is filled by Junior Niyeshia Ford, a second team all-county selection her sophomore year, who protected five consecutive shutouts through the Regional playoffs and into the States.



OM boys' soccer looks to repeat

by Ellwood Greene

The boys' soccer team opens the new season ranked in the top 10 in the state. Not only is the team looking to repeat as state champs, but they will play one of the toughest schedules in the state.

"I think we will be a good offensive team," said head coach Don Shea. "We will be an experienced team that should be able to compete with anyone."

The Scorpions will have 25 players on the opening roster, including 15 returning seniors. Some players include four-year varsity and leading scorer from last year, Simon Bwalya, team captain Daniel Stoutenborough, midfielder Luke Tourtlotte, striker Zuri Barnes, striker Jason Gotis, and goal keeper Chris Miller. In addition to the 15 seniors, there are 6 juniors and 4 sophomores. Other key players returning from last year's team are Mark Zirkle, Joe Mitchell, and Paul Sanin.

Some of these team members received individual honors for their performances last year. This list includes Simon Bwalya, who was a second team all-metro and all-county performer. Joining him on the all-county team was striker Zuri Barnes and sweeper Dan Stoutenborough. Coach Shea also was named metro coach-of-the-year. He has collected eight state championships while coaching soccer at Oakland Mills. Eight state titles is more than any other school in the state.

Although the team's loss of players such as Matt Cartwright, Mike Jenkins, and Kyle Stephens will hurt the team leadership, there is a lot of depth and experience on this year's

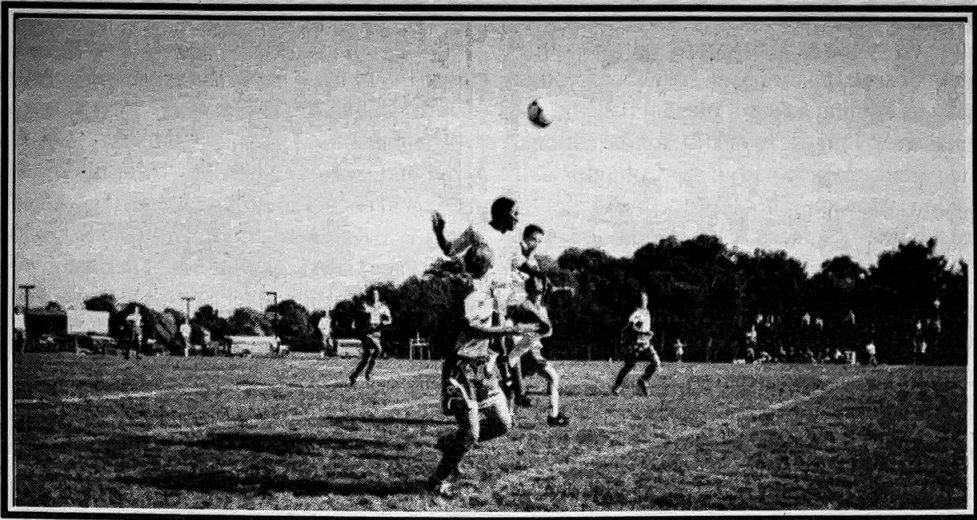


photo by Christine Caldaro

team. Juniors Chris Ford, Vaughn Stebbins, and Brad Mosher should help to provide depth to this team which is stacked with senior players. One "Player To Watch" according to the *Columbia Flyer*, is Zuri Barnes. This article also recognized Simon Bwalya and Dan Stoutenborough.

"We hope to improve our goal tending by working at it everyday," said coach Shea. To do this, the Scorpions added John Sunderdick, and converted Chris Miller from stopper to help out veteran goalie Matt West.

This year's schedule is no cakewalk for the defending state champs. Last year to get to the championship game, they had to beat teams such as Glenelg, Rockville, North Harford, and in the final game, Middletown. This year the Scorpions will play tough in-county teams such as

Centennial, Howard, and Hammond. The undisputed game to watch is the second-to-last game of the season at home against Centennial. "Our toughest games will be against our in-county rivals," said coach Shea enthusiastically.

"We work hard and give a lot of effort," said senior striker Zuri Barnes. "One day at a time, any team can get beat on any given day," Joe Mitchell said. "If we play hard we have enough depth to compete with anyone," said junior Chris Ford. To prepare for the season the team had long summer practices which included running and intense drills. With this talent and experience, this is a team that believes it can win. "We will continue to get better as season goes on," said captain Dan Stoutenborough.

Field Hockey striving for a winning season

by Erica Buir

Things are looking good for the Varsity and the Junior Varsity Field Hockey teams. They have the ability to have a winning season. The players have a lot of drive, team unity and the will to win. "I'm looking forward to a successful year with players who have a lot of heart and aggressiveness," said senior and team captain Whitney Sale.

There are many returning players on Varsity. Seniors Carolyn Schultz, Anne Ryder, Christie Stewart and junior Melissa Hampshire have played on Varsity since their sophomore year. Some key defense players are Captain Whitney Sale, Captain Katie Combs and Carolyn Schultz. A key offense player is Christie Stewart. Anne Ryder, who also this past summer played in a league in Europe, is a major midfield player.

This year, the offense has a greater chance to score, and the team should be stronger in county competition. "The team seems to be gelling out, and we should be good competition for any team," said senior Carolyn Schultz. There are open regionals this year, so the field hockey team will undoubtedly play in them.

All the players, including Coach Chris Marsiglia who wants the team to succeed as a team, not just to win, have a lot of enthusiasm. "I'm really happy to be a part of this year's field hockey team because of how well we all work together and how we all have the determination and will to win," said captain and senior Katie Combs.

Things are looking pretty good for the Junior Varsity Field Hockey team as well. The team is working hard together with their coach, Paula Cooney, to play their best. "I think we have a good team and we will do better than we did last year," said returning sophomore Rebecca Klein.

On Saturday, September 9, both Varsity and Junior Varsity went to St. Paul's schools for a playday. As they scrimmaged against other teams, it helped them to learn more about each other and also brought the teams closer together.

Top senior athletes search for colleges

by Sabrina Warner

Senior Ginny Dye is used to reporters asking her questions about the latest record she has set, or how she scored the goal that won the game for her team. She has been a three sport varsity athlete since her freshman year. Dye is the starting striker for soccer, the point guard for the basketball team, and plays an important role in the success of the outdoor track team. In addition to her success as an athlete she is also an excellent student. She has a 3.95 GPA and is ranked number ten in her class.



With statistics like Dye's it is no surprise that she is interested in excellent schools such as Penn State, Brown University, and Wake Forest. Soccer is her primary sport and she plans to continue playing in college at a division I school like Brown, which is one of her top choices right now.

Last year Dye made First Team All County, the All-State team, and the All-metro team, she is looking to hopefully repeat her success this year. Dye is one of the leading forces behind the varsity women's soccer team last year. She was the leading scorer, the cause of many of the other goals, and general inspirational force and team leader. This year much of the same is expected from Dye.

by Sabrina Warner

When someone stands over six feet tall, weighs over 200 pounds, is the starting runningback and linebacker for the varsity football team, and maintains an A+ average, it comes as no surprise that he is recruited by top universities across the nation.



Howard has been looked at by schools such as Brown University, Cornell University, Duke University, Stanford University, Carnegie Mellon University and the Naval Academy. Although Brown, which is an Ivy League school, cannot offer him any scholarships, the other schools are offering financial incentives.

Howard has been a strong football player since middle school. He has potential to be a very good player in college, providing he becomes a nastier," commented offensive coach Sam Singleton. Not only is Howard a very skilled football player, but he also excels academically. He has a 3.89 GPA, and has a class rank of 27 out of 263 students.

Howard's story is extraordinary because he has recently lost his mother, one of his strongest supporters. But with the caring support of his father, brothers Anthony, and David, and sister Karen, coupled with an incredibly strong will, Howard will carry on to become one of OMHS's most successful student athletes.

by S. Adamson

At the Oakland Mills home Cross-country meet, the only people that could follow Steve Petro's orange and black jersey was the crowd: the opposing runners had lost track of him. After he led his team to a narrow two point victory, everyone on the team, including coach Steve Carnahan, was ecstatic with Petro's blue-ribbon run.

But after the fall has gone by, after the 1995 cross-country season has receded to the back of Petro's mind, the 1996 division I season will be in the forefront. So what team's jersey will his opponents be losing track of then?

The gold and green of the College of William and Mary is Petro's preferred jersey, and therefore the one he will most likely wear. Other possibilities include Wake Forest, Haverford College, the University of Richmond, University of Maryland at College Park, and Brown University.

"Steve is a strong candidate to be a Division I runner," said Carnahan, his mentor. He continued "He is way above where Greg was last year," Carnahan said in reference to former Oakland Mills and current Brown University runner Greg Curtis.



Schedules

Cross-Country

- Sat., Oct. 14 - OM at Lancer Invitational
- Tue., Oct. 17 - OM at Wilde Lake vs. Centennial, Atholton 4:00
- Thu., Oct. 26 - Howard County Championships at Howard Community College 4:00
- Thu., Nov. 2, - 2A South Regionals at Centennial 2:00
- Sat., Nov. 11 - State Meet at Hereford High School

Field Hockey

- Wed., Oct. 11 - OM vs. Howard 3:30
- Fri., Oct. 13 - OM at Mt. Hebron 3:30
- Mon., Oct. 16 - OM vs. Centennial 3:15
- Wed., Oct. 18 - OM at Wilde Lake 3:15
- Tue., Oct. 24 - OM vs. Atholton 3:30
- Oct. 26-Nov. 2 - Regionals
- Nov. 6, 8 - State Semifinals at Goucher College
- Nov. 11 - State Finals at Goucher College

Football

- Sat., Oct. 14 - OM at Wilde Lake 2:00
- Sat., Oct. 21 - OM vs. Glenelg 2:00
- Sat., Nov. 4 - OM vs. Hammond 2:00
- Fri., Nov. 10 - OM at Howard 7:00
- Nov. 17-18 - State Quarterfinals
- Nov. 24-25 - State Semifinals
- Dec. 1-2 - State Finals at University of Maryland, College Park

Triathlete Keith Jackson ranked fourth in the nation

by Sabrina Warner

Being the best at what you do is not an easy thing to accomplish. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to get to the top. Senior Keith Jackson is one individual who works hard and gets recognized for his talent. He is fourth in the nation among all triathlon athletes.

Jackson earned this honor in Chicago, on August 27, 1995, where the national race was held. There were over 30 participants from all around the nation at the race, all trying to

become number one. After one mile of swimming, 25 miles of biking, and six miles running, Jackson finished ahead of about 25 other athletes, earning a fourth place finish and national rank. In order to qualify for the national race, Keith participated in the Columbia Triathlon. However, in order to ensure that he had qualified, he raced in the Marathon Sports triathlon where he requalified.

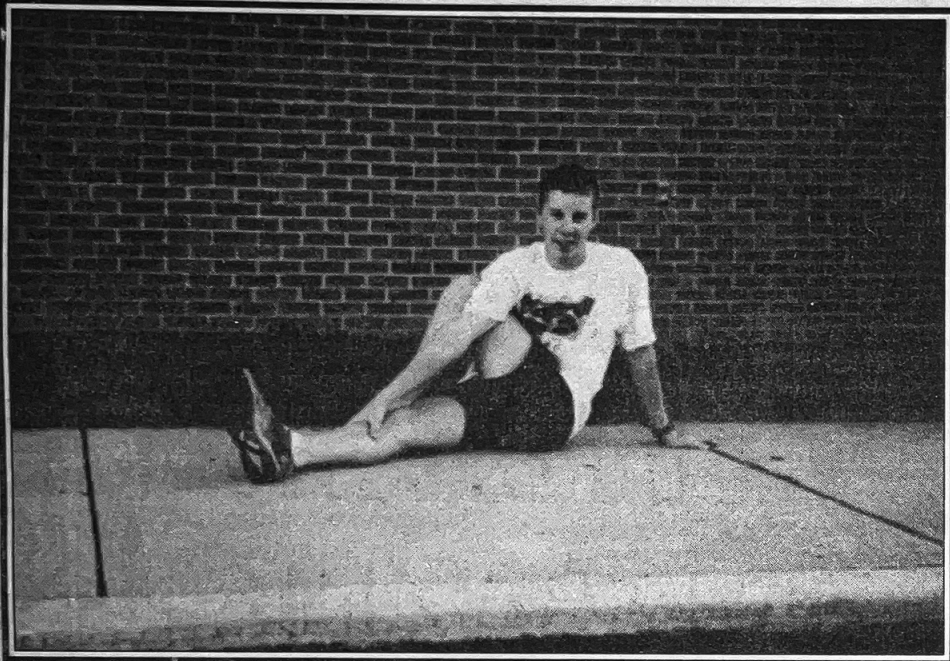
Unlike most top national-level athletes, Keith has not been racing all his life. "I got started when I saw the Ironman triathlon on

T.V. Joe Nassau got me into it," he commented. That was in 1992, when he and Nassau took a class to learn more about the sport and how to train for triathalons.

His racing season lasts from early March to the end of November; however, his training season begins as early as December. Once races start, depending on the month, he could have up to three races a month. There are two basic types of triathalons: sprint distance, and Olympic distance. For the sprint distance races the swimming is 1/2 mile, biking is 15 miles, and running is 3 miles. In the Olympic distance race swimming is 1 mile, biking is 25 miles, and running is 6 miles. Triathalons are hard and very demanding and there is intense training involved. The endurance necessary to complete one of these trying races, especially competitively, is more than the average person can handle.

"I usually run or bike in the afternoons," stated Keith. He went on to explain that he alternates the days he runs and bikes, he swims at night three or four times a week, he bikes six days a week, and lifts weights two or three days a week. In the fall all the training he does on his own is on top of his training for cross-country.

"I wasn't feeling the greatest at nationals, but I did all right," commented Keith. With all the hard work Keith puts into succeeding in his sport, it's no wonder that he wants to qualify for the World tournament next year. He has the potential to go all the way, but we'll have to wait until next year to see if he can become a world champion.



Volleyball looks to better their record

by Jennie Nagle

This year's Varsity and JV volleyball teams are looking forward to a victorious season. Seniors Jean Haverstick and Lisa Skaggs, who are the Varsity team captains, will attempt to lead the Scorpions in improving their previous

record of six wins, nine losses. According to sophomore JV player Erin Moore, "They give the team a lot of incentive and enthusiasm." She went on to say, "It is necessary for us to have these things in order to be a good team, and we are [good] because of that."

Five of the varsity team's nine losses last year came against Glenelg and Centennial, so naturally this year's most challenging games will be those played against these teams. "We had a hard time against Centennial and Glenelg last year, and we are hoping to be able to come together as a team and beat them this year," said Moore.

Last year Glenelg beat Oakland Mills' Varsity team three times during the regular season, and again in the regionals. Glenelg defeated the Scorpions twice by the score of three to one and once three to zero. However, sophomore Alison Roach predicted a change for this year's team. "They're going to do very well (against Glenelg) this year, much better than last year," she said.

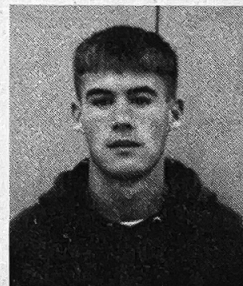
The JV Volleyball Team is hoping that this season can be as good as the last one, which ended with a winning record of ten wins and five losses. Since "Coach Lesikar kept every single freshman this year," Erin Moore is hopeful that the effort from freshman, sophomores who helped the team to finish so successfully last year, and captains Sarah Berndt, Lindsey McElroy, and Laura Zimmerman, the team can do at least as well as last year.

Soccer standout Daniel Stoutenborough gains European experience

by Spencer Adamson

Daniel Stoutenborough has played soccer since he was a toddler. He is a three-year letterman for the Oakland Mills Scorpions, and was the anchor of last year's State Championship team. His current club team, the Columbia Rangers, made an appearance in the Maryland State Cup finals and the quarterfinals of the Columbia Invitational, one of the top four nationwide soccer tournaments in terms of prestige. His former club team, Columbia City United, was two time Maryland State Champions and qualified once for the Eastern Regionals. This summer, Stoutenborough added to his list of soccer attributes by playing as a guest player for the Eastern Regional Champion Richmond Monarchs.

His European jaunt included a two-week series of games against top German competition. Of the nine games the team played, Stoutenborough scored in four, making him a very valuable addition to the Regional Champion Monarchs. He found the trip extremely beneficial because it was a new level of competition that could not be found in America. He was also introduced to a unique soccer style that can only be found abroad.



Local sports rankings: what are they worth?

by Spencer Adamson

While flipping through the Tuesday paper's sports page, I read that after the second week of the soccer season, the Oakland Mills Girls' Varsity Soccer Team was ranked fourth in the *Washington Post*, and seventh in the *Baltimore Sun*. Their record was 0-2-2. The Football Team, who was ranked in the top fifteen in both of these major metropolitan newspapers, had a record of 1-2. I'm not trying to say that either of these teams is poor, or that they don't deserve respect; I'm saying that the ranking system is severely out of whack.

So I was wondering: How do they get these rankings? On what basis do they determine if team A comes before team B? Rick Belz, *Sun* Staff Writer and notorious fan of Centennial, told me that compiling the rankings happens when all the local sports staff writers and editors sit around a table and make a list. I was hesitant to ask how long this process takes. I wouldn't have believed the answer anyway.

Last year's final boys' soccer rankings read as follows: 1. Centennial, 2. Archbishop Curley, 3. Calvert Hall, 4. Oakland Mills. The funny thing about these rankings is that the third ranked Calvert Hall played the second ranked Archbishop Curley three times that season: Twice in the regular season, which the two teams split, and one in the MIAA championship game, which Calvert Hall won decisively. A week later these rankings came out.

I called the *Washington Post's* Sports Section and asked how the rankings are compiled. I was told that it was an independent vote by the local sports writers who specialize in that sport. The football guys vote for the football teams, and the soccer guys vote for the soccer teams. This got me thinking: how many of those voting writers have seen every team that they're going to rank? How do they know if Oakland Mills is better than Loyola if they never go head to head? Do these guys honestly know who can beat who if they never play?

Gilman, an MIAA school that plays against the likes of Calvert Hall, Curley, Loyola, and other Baltimore private schools, had a pre-season soccer ranking of seven. One week later, Gilman was beat 3-0 by Oakland Mills, crushed 5-1 by Curley, and embarrassed 6-0 by Calvert Hall. They were later beaten by Mount St. Joe, Loyola, and McDonough, all of who were ranked below Gilman. The blurb in the paper that accompanied Gilman's number seven rank read, "This is the year of the Greyhound."

I'm not suggesting that the ranking system be abolished, perhaps not even reformed. When I think of how often the college rankings done by the Associated Press, which have been altered and perfected since their conception to make an absolute ordered list of the best teams in the land, are absolutely wrong, I understand that reform doesn't help. It's not the people's perception of the ranks. People need to realize that these ranks are made up in a noisy, smoky room by guys who haven't seen too many games. They are not definitive. They are an educated guess of what might happen if every team played every team. The rankings can be informative and entertaining if perceived in this way, and as nothing more.

Schedules

Boys' Soccer

Wed., Oct. 11 - OM at Atholton 3:15
Fri., Oct. 13 - OM at Howard 7:00
Mon., Oct. 16 - OM at Glenelg 3:05
Wed., Oct. 18 - OM vs. Centennial 3:00
Tue., Oct. 24 - OM vs. Hammond 3:00
Oct. 27 - Nov. 8 - Regional Playoffs
Nov. 10-11 - State Semifinals
Nov. 18 - State Finals at Old Mill HS

Girls' Soccer

Wed., Oct. 11 - OM vs. Atholton 3:15
Fri., Oct. 13 - OM vs. Howard 3:05
Mon., Oct. 16 - OM vs. Glenelg 3:05
Wed., Oct. 18 - OM at Centennial 3:00
Tue., Oct. 24 - OM at Hammond 3:00
Oct. 27 - Nov. 8 - Regional Playoffs
Nov. 10-11 - State Semifinals
Nov. 17 - State Finals at North County

Volleyball

Thu., Oct. 12 - OM at Atholton 4:45
Mon., Oct. 16 - OM vs. Glenelg 4:45
Thu., Oct. 19 - OM at Centennial 4:45
Tue., Oct. 24 - OM at Wilde Lake 4:45
Fri., Oct. 27 - OM vs. Hammond 4:45
Mon., Oct. 30 - OM at Mt. Hebron 4:45
Wed., Nov. 1 - OM vs. Howard 4:45
Nov. 3-11 - Regional Playoffs
Nov. 14 - State Semifinals
Nov. 18 - State Finals at CCC



BAYSHORE CRAB AND SEAFOOD HOUSE

Shrimp, Oysters, Live Lobster, and
Fresh Fish Daily

**FREE FRENCH FRIES
WITH SANDWICH
WITH THIS AD**

- Try Our NEW Carry-Out Menu For Lunch or Dinner •
- Steamed Crabs Available Year Round •
- Soups, Salads, Crab Cakes Homemade Daily •

Luncheon Specials Include:

- Soups & Sandwiches
- Chicken Salad
- Shrimp Salad
- Buffalo Wings
- Hot Maryland Crab Dip and a host of other choices

Dinner Platters Include:

- Crab Cakes
- Fried Shrimp & Oysters
- Scallops, fish
and the list goes on.

To Phone In Order
call 301-596-5492

Conveniently located in the
Oakland Mills Village Center off
Thunder Hill Road or Stevens
Forest road.

**DO YOU HAVE A POEM
OR SHORT STORY
YOU'VE
ALWAYS WANTED TO
PUBLISH?**

IF SO, SUBMIT IT TO

**THE OMHS
LITERARY
MAGAZINE.**

**SEE MR. WRIGHT OR PUT YOUR
WRITING IN THE LIT MAG BOX IN
THE FRONT OFFICE.**

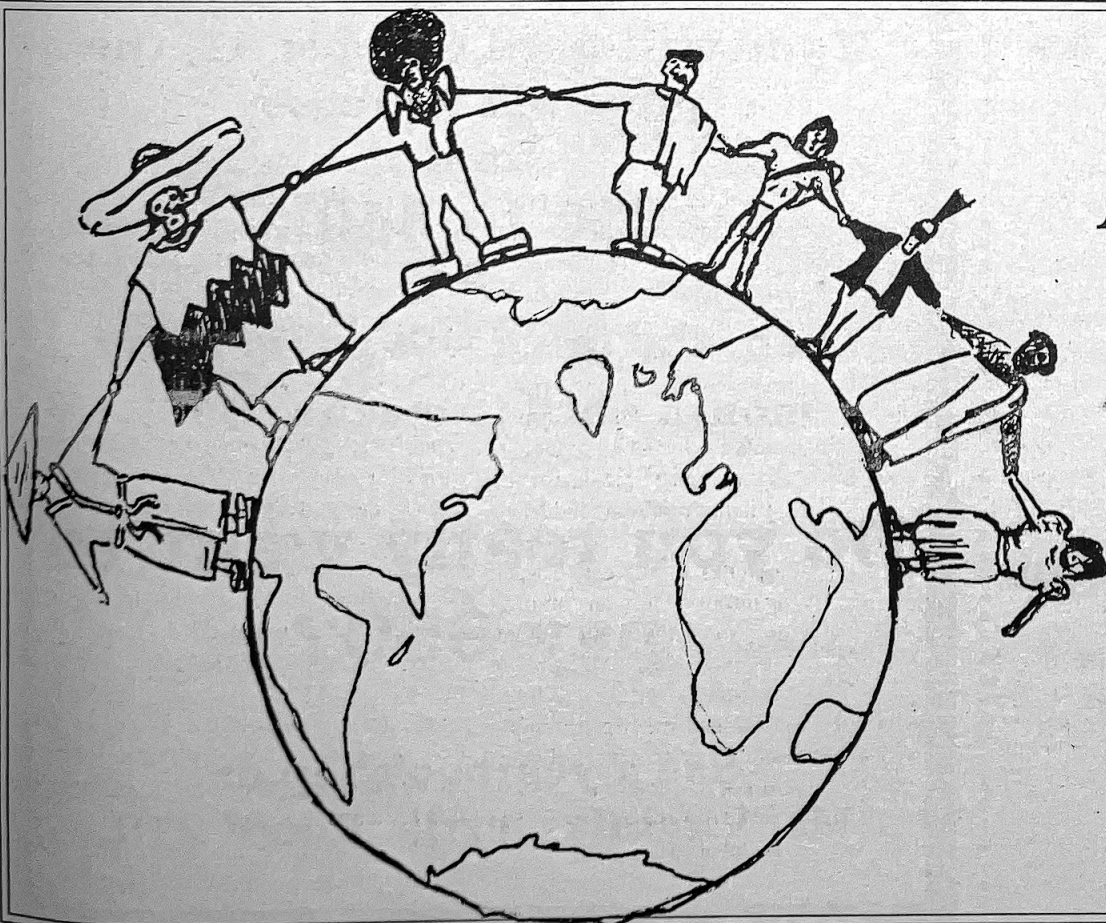


Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts

9630 Easkel Ring Road, Columbia, MD 21043
(410) 992-4313

Musical Theatre
Creative Dramatics
Theatre Dance
Grades K-Adults

Artistic Director - *Joby Orenstein*



Support
***International
Club***

**French Club
Italian Club
Spanish Club
German Club
Latin Club**

FOOTBALL

FIELD HOCKEY

GIRLS' SOCCER BOYS' SOCCER

**THE OMHS WINTER SPORTS SEASON IS ON!
COME OUT AND SHOW
YOUR SUPPORT!**

VOLLEYBALL

BOYS' CROSS-COUNTRY

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY

**THE OAKLAND MILLS
DRAMA DEPARTMENT**

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

"BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS"

*BY NEIL SIMON
MS. HOLLY PASCIULLO, DIRECTOR*

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
AND
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
AT 8:00 PM**

**IN THE OAKLAND MILLS HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM**

**ADULTS: \$5
STUDENTS: \$4
UNDER 12: \$2**

**SO, YOU STILL
HAVEN'T BOUGHT
YOUR YEARBOOK?**

**If you wait until October 31, the
price will increase
from
\$35 to \$40.**

**Then, the price will go up every
month until it reaches \$50!**

**Do you really want to
pay \$50?**

**See a yearbook rep or
Ms. Virginia Curtis, Room 210.**