

THE SCROLL

Volume XXII, Issue IV

Oakland Mills High School

March 21, 1996

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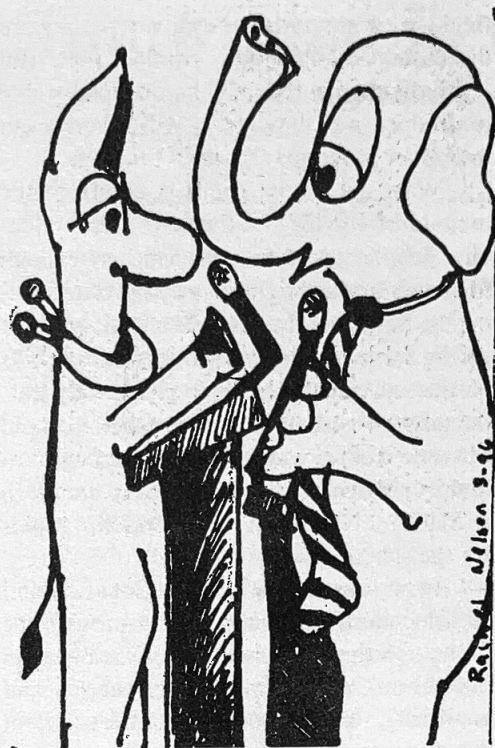
Decisions are made in Maryland Primary

By David Elstein
Staff Writer

On March 5 teachers and some students voted in the primary elections to decide which Republican was going to challenge incumbent Bill Clinton in November's general election as well as to choose judges and school board members for Howard County. Delegates were also chosen to represent both Clinton and the Republican candidate at their respective conventions this summer. The winner with an amazing 54% of the vote is Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.). He also won in the other seven states that held primary elections on March 5.

The first major election was a caucus in Iowa on February 12. A caucus is where participants meet at specific times to discuss platform issues and indicate which candidate they prefer. Bob Dole surprisingly narrowly beat ultraconservative commentator Pat Buchanan by about 3,000 votes. Former Tennessee governor Lamar Alexander got a strong third place showing, while millionaire Steve Forbes came in a dismal fourth.

Pat Buchanan did even better in the first primary in New Hampshire February 20th. He came in first place with a two percentage point edge over Dole and four more than Alexander.



New Hampshire is considered a very important state because it makes or breaks candidates. Before this primary Texas senator Phil Gramm dropped out of the race.

Steve Forbes won his first primary February 24 in Delaware. He was the only major candidate to campaign there since it only sends nine delegates to the Republican National

Convention. There are about 900 total delegates needed to get the Republican nomination.

February 28 was the first of the "Super Tuesdays," where many states hold their primary election on the same day. Primaries were held in Arizona, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Steve Forbes came out the surprising winner in Arizona with a fairly big margin over Buchanan and Dole. In North Dakota Dole had twice as many votes as Forbes who has about 1000 more votes than Buchanan. In South Dakota Dole had 10,000 more votes than Buchanan and 20,000 more than Forbes.

The only primary that occurred between this "Super Tuesday" and Maryland's is the one in South Carolina. Bob Dole won in South Carolina as well as in Puerto Rico. He was the only major candidate to campaign in Maryland, at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.

Pat Buchanan has been criticized by many for his ultraconservative views which include being anti-semitic and racist. His chief political advisor resigned amid allegations that he spoke at militia meetings and pro-white meetings. Two other Buchanan aides also stepped down for similar reasons.

Alan Keyes of Maryland, the only African American running, is fairly popular, but he is only receiving about three percent of the votes.

Giant tapes total surpasses one million dollars

By Melissa Flanzraich
Staff Writer

The Apples for the Students program has become a tradition in local elementary, middle, and high schools. This September OMHS students were greeted with the program by the "Giant Tape Lady," Mrs. Arlene Kutz, who has chaired the drive every year except a 1994-1995.

Last year OM brought in over one million dollars in tapes. This money went toward buying over four computers. This year Mrs. Kutz said, "Our goal this year is 'A mil for the Mill.'"

Wednesday February 28th OM broke the one million dollar goal. Since, Oakland Mills has set a school record by turning in \$1,172,300 in Giant tapes and the total is expected to rise before the program ends. Each class has turned in at least \$200,000 in tapes.

The new-found student involvement and excitement this year is one reason why OM is doing so well in collecting tapes. Fierce competitions between grades and classes have made it easy for students to get involved. The freshmen and the sophomores, who totals have been close during the entire six months, have been constantly fighting for the highest class total. "The freshmen are amazing," said Mrs. Kutz, "They jumped right in!"

Another perpetual battle is between first pe-



OM administrators distribute an ice cream treat courtesy of Giant

riod classes. Many classes challenged each other to see who could bring in more tapes. The loser of these contests buys the other class donuts.

Students also want to get involved because of the rewards they receive. Giant rewarded all Oakland Mills' students with ice cream at lunch on Wednesday, February 7th because OM was the first school in the entire Apples

for the Students program to buy a computer. SGA is awarding first period classes who have high tape submission rate with donuts.

March 2nd at midnight Giant stopped printing pink receipts. Students had until March 14th to get all tapes in, after which Mrs. Kutz will mail them to Giant in return for our computers. "We'll hopefully get four [computers] all together," Mrs. Kutz predicted.



Photo by Josh Warner-Burke

Traffic troubles

By Jeremy Magruder
Assistant Editorial Editor

In recent months, several near-accidents have occurred at the entrance and exit of the school. Trafficwise, the parking lot is indeed a dangerous place, with a bottleneck at both our single entrance and exit in the morning, especially as school is about to begin. Something needs to be done to solve this problem, or serious accidents may occur.

Other high schools also have this problem, but at Oakland Mills the traffic situation is often worse because it has the least accessible means of entering and exiting the parking lot. School administrators are already

thinking of improving the situation; they are discussing adding another entrance port. But it is unlikely that they will be financially able to do this; or if they are, it will severely cut into other programs that need funding.

What the school needs is an affordable method of solving the traffic problem. Ideally, people would be conscientious enough to obey Maryland right-of-way laws; unfortunately, this is not the case. The County won't spring for a crossing guard; therefore it falls on the individual schools to provide the traffic safety it needs. Perhaps a program could be worked out in which students needing community service or who are active in a club such as SHOP or NHS would act as crossing guards for the school.

In any case, if the Howard County Board of Education financially cannot provide the protection that the school needs, it falls upon the school, together with the parents and guardians, to be responsible for the safety of the students.

Should sex education begin early on?

By Josh Warner-Burke
Editorial Editor

At age 15, a third of all boys and a quarter of all girls have already had sex, a million teenage girls get pregnant every year, and HIV is spreading faster among teenagers than among any other age group. Perhaps it's time for a change in the way our society thinks about and educates youth about sex.

Today's teenagers know plenty about sex, but by the time they're taught about birth control, many are already pregnant. By the time they learn that there are STDs other than HIV, they may have already gotten one. As Barbara Dafoe Whitehead writes in *Atlantic Monthly*, "While parents withhold information, the media and the marketplace spew

sexual misinformation. It is this peculiar American combination of repressiveness and permissiveness that leads to sexual wrong thinking and poor sexual decision-making and thus to high rates of teenage pregnancy and STDs."

This is not to say that most or even much of the problem is sexual misinformation. Indeed many teens know the facts but don't act accordingly. But surely more information about sex couldn't hurt. Lack of relevant information is not keeping anyone from having sex; it's an instinct, not an acquired skill. A lack of relevant information is only keeping teenagers from making smart decisions about sex.

The taboo of sex—the embarrassment over the terms involved—keeps teenagers

Teen smoking on the rise

By Rebekah Bowser
Business Manager

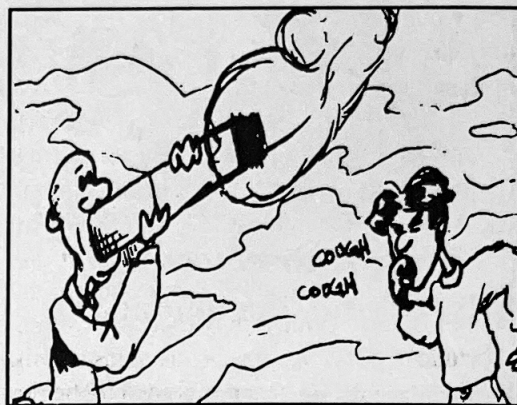
Why are so many students in their teenage years smoking despite all the warnings? It's as if all the warnings and cautions are going in one ear and are transformed into pro-tobacco messages in the brains of naive teenagers.

Most people know that part of the problem is peer pressure. Teenagers are smoking because they think that it is "cool." Then the tobacco monster takes over, and teens become addicted to cigarettes and find it very difficult to stop. Some still smoke on even if health becomes a problem.

Smoking can cause bronchitis, cancer, emphysema, bad teeth, bad breath, and the list is endless. Why on earth would anyone introduce this awful thing into their bodies? Senior Amy Harris said, "I have a bad case of bronchitis and I still smoke; it makes me feel better." She continued, "Just because I am sick it doesn't mean that I no longer crave a cigarette." Smoking when you're sick has be-

come even easier, since tobacco companies have come out with light cigarettes and menthol cigarettes to ensure that smokers keep on smoking.

Surprisingly enough, more teenage girls smoke than teenage boys. Most girls think it will make them more attractive by giving them a sophisticated look. Senior Jocelyn McAllister commented, "I feel that it gives me a really disgusting look!" Most boys think girls who smoke are gross. "I get a ride home with a girl who smokes," says an anonymous junior. "I absolutely hate the smell, and I almost throw up every time I get in her car!"



Cartoon by Geoff Roth

Black History Month

By Lori Harvey
Staff Writer

Since 1924, thanks to black historian Carter G. Woodson, February has been designated Black History Month. This is supposedly a time when school children perform plays or make posters about a few of the late Negro greats, and basically when the country gives lip service in tribute to black legends. But recently, a candidate for the Howard County school board, Mr. Vincent Pugliese, declared that Black History Month should be eliminated and that "the history of all the races should be taught throughout the school year."

This point of view is absolutely correct. Children are taught, from the first grade up, to admire white heroes such as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. They are told constantly about these men's great accomplishments. Why shouldn't they know as much about George Washington Carver as they do about Thomas Edison? Men like Frederick Douglass and Martin Luther King, Jr. are not just black heroes; they are American heroes and should be recognized as such! Black history should be studied year round, not only because of African American students, but because it has value for all students.

In a country as diverse as the US, it is not only myopic, but potentially dangerous to continue to teach only one culture on a consistent basis. It is inevitable that today's generation of kids will find themselves challenged in a diverse work world. Moreover, it is naive to expect today's students to be able to get along in a racially and ethnically diverse society without understanding other cultures and their histories. People fear what they do not know. This causes stereotyping, isolation of certain groups in schools, tension and prejudice in the workplace, hate groups, biased government and judicial systems, and even war.

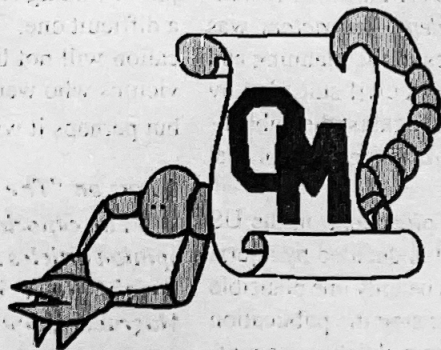
Teaching African American and other cultures as part of the historical chronology is the right choice.

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"A lack of relevant information is only keeping teenagers from making smart decisions about sex."

from the dangers of pregnancy and STDs.

These reasons should appeal to all responsible parents. The most common reaction is going to be a concern that a more liberal education might increase sexual activity, but this fear denies that students can make firm decisions; it assumes that a decision of abstinence could be easily toppled over by just a little more information. Thankfully the youth of today are much stronger than that.

Should students have the right to drink on trips abroad?

Yes

No

By Megan Rickard
Staff Writer

By LeeAnn Roberts
Staff Writer

When a waiter in Paris asked some Howard County students who were on a school-sponsored trip to France last April if they would like wine with their evening meal, the teenagers said yes. Knowing perfectly well that there is no drinking age in most of Europe, they decided to go against Howard County's no-drinking policy on school trips. They reasoned, if native teens can drink, so can we, if we are supposed to be immersing ourselves in the French culture. Legally, they were correct, but by the provisions of the School Board's policy, they were not. When the students tried to leave the restaurant, thinking that the wine had been included in the pre-paid meal, they were caught by their teachers.

"True, these students should not have gone against the policy, but is this policy fair?"

As a result, those students who were drinking were suspended from all extracurricular activities for the following year.

True, these students should not have gone against this policy, but is this policy fair? If students are traveling to learn about other countries, should they not live by these cultures for the short time they are there? What needs to happen is for students to be responsible when they are in other countries and realize that they represent the US when they travel. This responsibility includes being mature about alcohol. The county's original policy, administered up until a few years ago, allowed those parents who would permit their children to drink in moderation while visiting other countries to sign permission forms. This way, parents who were against their children drinking had the opportunity not to sign the form.

When foreign students come to America, they come to get an idea of what our country is like. They are confronted with our laws, and they respect them and try to live for a short time as an American teenager would. With more understanding among the Board, teachers, and parents, our students should also be able to live by the laws of the foreign countries as a learning experience.

The foreign language department of Oakland Mills has scheduled its annual trip to France for April 2 through 14, over spring break. During the trip, students will be able to learn and experience the culture of France. However, they are also expected to act maturely and follow the rules and guidelines of the Howard County Public School System.

But before the trip begins a controversy between students and the Board of Education over the rule that students are not allowed to drink alcoholic beverages while in Europe must be settled.

Last year, Wilde Lake students on a school-sponsored trip to France were offered wine in a restaurant; and although they were

"The parents are not the ones responsible for the students while in Europe."

aware of the no-drinking rule, they accepted. The students were caught by teachers, thus beginning an ongoing dispute about the no-alcohol rule.

There are students who feel that alcohol is a major part of the culture of Europe, and in order to fully experience the life of a European, taking a few sips of wine is necessary. They argue that with a parent permission form, the no-alcohol rule should be waived.

But the parents are not the ones responsible for the students while in Europe. When giving permission for their children to go with the foreign language department of OM, parents should then leave all other rule decisions up to those teachers who take them on the trip. If one rule was controlled by parents instead of teachers, then what would stop other rules from being controlled by parents who are not even in the same country?

Furthermore, the original rule was made for a good reason. Melissa Flanzraich, a sophomore going on the trip this April, believes that the no-alcohol rule is fair. "I think it's good that we aren't allowed to drink alcohol on the trip because most American teenagers aren't responsible enough not to abuse the privilege."

From Out of Right Field

TIM O'BRIEN SPEAKS

President Bill Clinton complained the other day that he felt wronged by the media, they were "... holding him to impossibly high standards." I will forego the temptation to address the oxymoronic nature of "media standards," to question how Mr. Clinton would like to be judged. What are these impossibly high standards we must not apply to him? Those applied to turn George Bush out of office and put him in? To whom should we compare Mr. Clinton? Is he afraid that he pales in comparison to Ronald Reagan? Jimmy Carter brokered Camp David. LBJ pushed through

massive civil rights legislation. Nixon opened both China and the Soviet Union. While he often quotes JFK, we've seen Kennedy, heard Kennedy and frankly, Mr. Clinton, you are no John Kennedy! Ike may have done as much as a caretaker for the office despite nearly dropping dead of a bad heart. You knew where the buck stopped with Harry Truman. FDR? Well let's not try that comparison. At his current rate, Mr. Clinton is in danger of being favorably compared to Millard Fillmore! Instead of trying to get the standards lowered, Mr. Clinton, how about measuring up!



Cartoon by Rachel Nelson

Snow plan in need of revision

By Josh Warner-Burke
Editorial Editor

Beginning April 1, time will be added onto the school day in order to make up the last snow day and any subsequent snow days. The principal of each Howard County school will determine how the time will be spent. Principal Marshall Peterson is leaning towards adding an additional period to the normal schedule, on a revolving basis. In this way, after fourth period we would go to another period for a half hour or so.

While that is a good reaction to the addition of time to the school day, far better than adding time to each period, the Board's method of solving the problem is not a good one.

And what's the problem? The problem is it snowed, as it does every winter. One would think that the Board would be accustomed to such weather and plan accordingly, but such is not the case, for no snow days are built into the calendar.

If there were snow days built into second and third quarters, then we would be right on track if it were to snow and ahead of the game if it didn't. If we had an unexpectedly mild winter, the school board would be announc-

ing news pleasing to everyone: we're getting out early this year. Instead, the wintry weather has caught them off guard; thus, they are telling us the bad news: we'll have to stay later in the afternoons, we'll have less time to study, and less time for after-school activities.

Another way that we could ease the bur-

"If there were snow days built into second and third quarters, then we would be right on track if it snowed and ahead of the game if it didn't."

den of snow days would be to change the way we continue our schedule after a snow day. The way it is now, where we skip over the days we miss, the same classes on different days get out of sync with each other. If instead we stuck to alternating "A-day" and "B-day" schedules, no class would get ahead of another class.

The details of these ideas could be worked out later, but first there needs to be a prevalent public opinion that the snow policy is in need of revision.

THE STUDENT'S VOICE

The First Amendment is not an absolute right

By Keri Farmer
Guest Writer

The gruesome and methodical killings of three innocent people in Silver Spring, Maryland three years ago has haunted the victims' Montgomery County community. The heinous crime took the lives of three individuals — Mildred Horn, a devoted mother and flight attendant, her disabled son Trevor who required 24-hour nursing care, and Trevor's nurse, Janice Saunders. Perhaps even more hideous than the actual crimes is a new twist to the case. A book titled *Hit Man: A Technical Manual for Independent Contractors*, was used in over 27 instances in the planning and execution of the crime. A civil suit filed by the relative of the victims against the publishers of the book will break new ground in first amendment rights cases.

The case will set a precedent in the US when it goes to trial and is decided by a jury. However, there seems to be only one plausible verdict in a suit like this: stop the publication of the book and hold the publisher accountable for these crimes. The material of this book is horrific, obscene, socially irredeemable, and therefore is not protected by the first amend-

ment. Just as we are prohibited from yelling "Fire!" in a crowded theater, publishers should be prohibited from publishing books that teach people how to kill. There is no place for a book like *Hit Man*. *Hit Man* debases the institution of reading and places the malicious intent to harm others in our communities. The *Hit Man* book is most simply a detailed instruction manual on how to commit a murder without getting caught.

In the end, once a jury has read the book and thought about using it to murder someone—a brother, a sister, a mother, a father—the job of finding redeeming social value will be a difficult one. Taking the book out of publication will not bring back the three innocent victims who were murdered in Silver Spring, but perhaps it will save the lives of others.

A note on "The Student's Voice" column:

The editorial editors welcome students' opinion articles such as this one. Talk to Mr. Wright, Josh Warner-Burke, or Jeremy Magruder if you're interested in voicing your opinion in our next issue. The editors ask only that you state your thoughts clearly and stay primarily in the third-person point of view.

Club updates

By Adam Lutz
Staff Writer

Many OM clubs are continuing their exciting school year with interesting activities. These activities range from the Prom Promise campaign to selling pictures from Valentine's day.

SHOP (Students Helping Other People) is sponsoring the Prom Promise, founded by Nationwide Bank, campaign for Oakland Mills. A small committee of about 15 members was formed, headed by senior Dan Fingerman. The objective of this campaign is to keep students from using drugs and alcohol prom night.

To aid the campaign, the committee will sponsor activities such as "drunk" basketball and volleyball, in which one team is handicapped by having one arm tied behind their backs, thus simulating the use of alcohol.

Other activities scheduled include a mock car crash, showing the devastating effects of drunk driving, a speaker, and a campaign during the three lunch periods to get students to sign the Prom Promise.

When students sign the Prom Promise, they pledge to be drug and alcohol free on Prom night so they can safely get to and from Prom.

SHOP also sponsored a Bowl-A-Thon in early February to raise money for cancer research. Members of SHOP went into the community to get pledges for bowling, then collected the money after the bowling was complete. Along the same lines, a midnight bowling activity is planned for March 15th, just for fun.

Literary Magazine is a club formed to create a magazine of students' creative short stories, poems, art work to illustrate the literary magazine, and other various works of literary art. A group of about 25 literary-conscious OM students are working on the literary magazine, which is planned to be available sometime in late April, though, all editing had to be finished by March 8th. Currently, Literary magazine is looking for graphics to complement the literary works.

Maria Suarez, who works with the literary magazine, commented, "I feel a little pressure from deadlines but I am working with very competent people."

Literary Magazine meets every Monday directly after school in Mrs. Arlene Kutz's room.

The Photography Club is making its debut at the Mill. This new club, which consists of about 10 students interested in photography, is headed by President Anna Leshner and sponsored by Ms. Jane Shepherd.

The Photography Club meets every Thursday after school in room 205. As an initial fund-raiser, members of the Photography Club took pictures of Valentine's Day couples. These pictures will be developed, placed in a special frame, and sold to couples.

Currently, members of the club are learning how to develop film in the dark room. The club also plans to visit an art museum and possibly tour Ellicott City to take pictures of the beautiful scenery.

Two teachers receive high honor

By A. Wright
Faculty Advisor

Robert Siskind and Penny Wolkow, both coincidentally of the Oakland Mills science department, recently received high honors by being nominated for Teacher Excellence Awards. Siskind, who teaches Physics, was nominated by Science Department Chairperson Barbara Jewett as part of the Howard County Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Teaching program; Wolkow, a Biology instructor, was nominated by Principal Marshall Peterson to receive the Howard County Teacher Excellence Award for the 1995-1996 academic year.

Wolkow has taught in Howard County for nine years, with a one-year chemistry sabbatical at the University of Maryland, College Park, and one year at Patapsco Middle School after the sabbatical.

She has taught the other seven years at Oakland Mills High School.

"Mrs. Wolkow is one of the best teachers in the school. She is the kind of teacher who makes learning fun," says Mark Zirkle, who is presently enrolled in Wolkow's Biology AP class. Accord-



ing to Vince Van Nostrand, another AP Biology student, "She involves the entire class in each activity. She takes the time to explain problems to students who need help. The best way for me to say it is this: she is definitely one of the better teachers in our school."

Wolkow, together with nominees from other Howard County academic high schools and outstanding Howard County seniors, will be honored March 19th at the Howard Community College's *An Evening of Excellence*.

On the other hand, Siskind is among the top five teachers in the Howard County Chamber of Commerce's Excellence in Teaching program.

Siskind is a veteran of the teaching profession, having taught for 25 years in Howard County: eight and one-half years at Patapsco Middle School, one and one-half years at Howard High School, and 15 years at Oakland Mills High School. He will move to Long Reach High School, one of two new Howard County high schools scheduled to open August 1996, as the AP Physics teacher.

"It doesn't surprise me," senior Jessica Matthews said naturally with a smile, "that he's been nominated. He's been one of the best teachers I've had in high school."



Aside from his daily teaching schedule, Siskind has been Student Government Association advisor and SHOP advisor. He presently sponsors an annual blood drive, supervises the Physics Help Club, and serves as one of the sponsors of Peer Leaders of Oakland Mills (PLOOM).

Erin Morrow, a 1994-1995 Physics student, penned what she called "The Best of Siskind," which is appropriate for this article.

o When you get into the park, run straight for the fountain. Then you have to make a decision: right for Batman or left for Scream Machine. Run, don't walk, and keep running.

o I'm just giving you the physics of the stuff you learned in the sandbox.

o My old man taught me this in the fourth grade.

o Good old similar triangles to the rescue

o I'm not worried about your cheating; it's the person next to you I'm worried about.

o Was he accelerating toward the door, or was the door accelerating toward him? It doesn't matter when he hits the door.

o If you don't show up, nothing's going to happen, but you've got to come.

o I'll give you a moment's time to believe that malarkey before I tear it to shreds.

Siskind will be honored April 18th, at which time the Chamber of Commerce will narrow the five semifinalists to one.

Snow days alter school calendar

By Jennie Nagle
Staff Writer

The Blizzard of '96 brought about many inconveniences, one of which is making up the school days that were cancelled due to the fierce weather.

After building three snow days into the school calendar last year and only using one, resulting in the school year exceeding the planned 180 day schedule by two days, the Howard County Board of Education, together with HCEA, elected not to build any snow days into the schedule for the 1995-1996 school year.

As the public is fully aware, the Howard

County Board of Education closed schools in the county December 14th, December 20th, January 8th through 13th and February 2nd and 16th and March 8th.

The Board of Education has found several different ways through which these missed school days can be made-up. These ways include adding additional days on to the end of the school year as well as eliminating certain holidays and teacher work days.

Two of the school days that were missed because of the snow have already been made-up on January 19th, a teacher work day, and February 18th (President's Day).

February 27th the Maryland Board of Education reluctantly made the decision to remove

two days from the school calendar to reduce the school year from 180 days to 178. According to an article by Mary Maushard in the February 28th issue of *The Baltimore Sun*, the Board made the decision reluctantly because they are afraid that school systems will expect them to give the same type of leniency in the future if a similar situation arises.

The Howard County Board is unsure of what it will do with the days that have been "forgiven" by the Maryland Board, but it has been decided that the school year will end June 19th instead of June 11th.

This winter Howard County Public Schools have been closed a total of ten days because of inclement weather.

OM acquires additional faculty members

By Jean Beaman
Staff Writer

In addition to the various staff changes that have occurred at Oakland Mills, which were reported on the last issue, there are five new staff members: Mr. Jonathan Browne, Ms. Susan Rosner, Ms. Stephanie Felderstein, Ms. Jennifer Atkins, and Ms. Bonnie Treiber.

Mr. Jonathan Browne recently joined the math department as a part-time teacher. He is a former Oakland Mills student and who in fact had Ms. Arlene Kutz for English. He then majored in math at college, after which he became a substitute teacher for three years. When math teacher Mrs. Jennifer McBeth went on maternity leave, Mr. Browne became her long

term substitute. He then heard about a math teaching position here at the Mill, interviewed for it and now eagerly teaches here. Mr. Browne is already favorite among faculty and students. When asked about his feelings towards his new profession, he replies, "I love it."

Ms. Bonnie Treiber also recently joined Oakland Mills as the new guidance secretary with 10 years of experience. She has previously worked as a guidance secretary in both Washington, DC and Baltimore. Then she decided she wanted to work closer to where she lives and where her children attend school. Ms. Treiber fills the position formerly held by Ms. Ann Trout who left the Mill to become Long Reach's Principal David Bruzga's sec-

retary. "Although I have just started, I really enjoy it," comments Ms. Treiber.

Ms. Susan Rosner and Ms. Stephanie Felderstein are new additions to the special education department. They teach Level 5 students and other students with special needs. They find the experience to be both rewarding and enlightening.

Ms. Jennifer Atkins is a new teacher joining the science department. She teaches Earth Science period 3 and 4, A-days and Biology periods 3 and 4, B-days. She helps to lessen the load on other Biology and Earth Science teachers. All of the new staff members joined the Oakland Mills faculty within the last two months and have already proved to be a sigh of relief.

From Judy Pasquantonio and Kathy Avery

As a part of Oakland Mills' program to support students, we will begin a "Changing Attitudes" group. This support group is for students with concerns about substance use by self or others. It is designed to provide information, encourage the expression of feelings, identify alternative methods of having needs met, building self-confidence, and increase a student's awareness of community resources. This group, which will meet during the lunch period on a weekly basis, will commence the week of March 18th. Parents may refer, but students cannot be mandated, only invited, to attend. If you wish to refer students, please contact Judy Pasquantonio or Kathy Avery at Oakland Mills: 313-6945.

Seniors choose college early

By Lori Harvey
Staff Writer

Due to high class ranks, high cumulative GPAs and SAT scores, and/or exceptional ability, a good portion of the Class of '96 have been able to receive early acceptances to the university of their choice and/or "package deals" as incentives to attend a particular school. Therefore, many students have already decided which school they will attend.

A few seniors are Ivy League bound this fall. Brian Howard, thanks to a 3.83 cumulative GPA, a 1360 on the SAT, a position as treasurer of NHS, in addition to several varsity letters, will attend Harvard University on a partial scholarship.

"My football recruiting visit there was the longest and I felt I fit in there the best. Also, I have the best chance to play as a freshman and it's a great education," explained Howard. Matt Lee, who holds a 3.82 cumulative GPA, a 1540 on the SAT, and numerous awards in computer science, will head off to MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). Angela Hill will join some of our nation's top ranked military officers at the United States Naval Academy, with a 3.84 cumulative GPA, a 1200 on the SAT, and numerous varsity letters.

Several students have been accepted at top universities and have already decided to attend. Cross country runner and scholar Elizabeth Ball will attend Valparaiso University. Rachel Eisenstein will attend Towson State.

Talia Kowitt has decided to go to the University of Maryland at College Park. Acting and singing sensation as well as top student Amanda Lamb has narrowed her choices down to James Madison University. Fellow OM star of the stage, indoor track runner, and NHS parliamentarian Mike Herdson will attend Salisbury State. Allison Rachford is going to the University of Kentucky. Co-sports editor of *The Scroll* and three-sport athlete Sabrina Warner will attend Mulhensberg College, where she will be joined by yearbook editor and stage manager Eric Hildenbrand.

Also, thanks to their wise decision-making skills and strong academic background, these students received first crack at all scholarships, grants, and stipends their school offers. They are also notified of scholarship information and may receive better deals than others because of this. "On February 5, I got my financial package and it was great!" shared Brian Howard. These students also have a better chance of getting the classes and housing assignments they would like. More importantly, these seniors have less stress than their classmates, being able to go into the second half of the school year already knowing where they will be next year. Guidance counselor Mrs. Donna Cook says, "Yeah, I definitely feel that seniors who make early decisions have more peace of mind, and that allows them to focus more on their senior year and keeping their grades up."

Guidance News

- The Guidance Department has just completed a series of junior interviews to fulfill the Maryland State World of Work Requirements. Sgt. Terry W. Serago of the US Army presented a 45-minute session to all juniors on interview techniques after guidance counselors reviewed calculation of GPA's, graduation requirements, and important dates for juniors.
- The Guidance Department parent volunteers are presently conducting 20-minute college searches with juniors to ensure that juniors get an early start on college selections and visitations. The Guidance Department has a computer program which allows students to key in certain information such as college location, cost, SAT score, and major to receive a list of colleges best suited for their qualifications and needs. The student can then do further research on any college of interest. The Guidance Department also has available a 42-page college search guide. Further, students who were scheduled for college searches March 8th will be rescheduled.
- The SAT will be given May 4th here at Oakland Mills and not at Hammond High School as the registration material indicates. Registration deadline is March 29th. The late deadline is March 30th until April 10th.
- An alternative to the SAT is the ACT (*American College Test*), given every other month. This test consists of four subjects: reading, social studies, math, and science. The next testing dates are April and June. Check with the college of your choice to determine which test is required for admission.
- The *Advanced Placement (AP) Test* in most subject areas will be given in May. The cost is \$72.00 for each subject area test. The registration deadline is March 21st. This test, depending on which college or university students choose and whether students score high enough (the rating scale is 1 to 5), grants students three-to-six college credits.
- Suggested Activity for Spring Break:** Guidance counselors suggest that juniors spend their spring break visiting college campus to get a better perspective on college choices. Seniors who took this advice also highly recommend that juniors visit colleges during spring break.
- Seniors should check with the Guidance Department for scholarship deadlines. Also, students who want additional information on any of the other announcements in this bulletin should contact the Guidance Department.

Brick Patio Order Form

For those of you who missed it the first time, we're doing it again! This past summer the Student Government Association constructed a brick patio by the gym entrance of the school (if you haven't seen it yet, go check it out!). Due to an enormous interest since its completion, SGA is planning an addition to the brick patio to be completed in the fall of 1996. If you would like to have your name, group of friends, or team forever immortalized, you can order an engraved brick for \$15. The message is limited to two lines of 16 characters. Simply fill out the form below and turn it in with your money to Mr. O'Brien's room (room 100) or Betsy Renner by March 22.

Name: _____ Cash: _____ Check: _____

Mentor Program provided

Mentor Program an asset to OM

By **Jeremy Magruder**
Assistant Editorials Editor

The Mentor Program is a program that allows students to get real-life job experience while they are in high school. This is accomplished by pairing students with professionals who work in the students' areas of interest. Students' interests range from archaeology to education to TV production. On the program, G/T Mentor Program coordinator Thomas Payne says, "Primarily what we're trying to do is give students in high school a chance to get out into the community and work with professionals."

The Mentor Program is no new addition to Howard County; indeed, it has been in use since 1977. Currently, there are about 200 students, countywide, enrolled in the program, but the number will probably increase over the next few years due to the technology magnet program. According to science department chair Barbara Jewett, "With the tech magnet program coming next year, I think it [participation] will double."

Unlike many other programs that a student may take in high school, the Mentor Program is very different and diverse for nearly every student who participates. As Ms. Jewett no-

ticed, "The kids who have participated in the mentor program and the jobs they have chosen are as different as kids are."

The process of gaining a mentor takes several steps. To start out with, a student must fill out an application and turn it in by the end of May (unless they are new to the school system, in which case the cut-off date is the first week in July). In order for an application to be accepted, the student must have met a few prerequisites. First, the student must have been enrolled or currently be enrolled in courses or programs in the area they wish to study. Furthermore, they must achieve at least a B.

Students must have an "above average" recommendation from a professional who instructed them. Students also must show appropriate study skills and enthusiasm. Further, students must provide their own transportation. If a student meets these requirements and applies, then Thomas Payne sets out to find a mentor. Indeed, as Senior Eric Hildenbrand put it, "The only reason you probably wouldn't be able to get in is if Mr. Payne couldn't find a mentor, and he's been really good at that so far." However, some students come to the program with a mentor. This makes the mentor process much easier.

Once a student is in the Mentor Program,

he/she arranges to meet with the mentor at least five hours a week for the one credit program, or 10 hours a week for the two credit program. Then, while learning about their occupational interest (from the mentor) the student decides on a project to work on. This project represents how much the student has learned, and therefore is what the students spend much of their time on.

Most students who have participated in the mentor program are convinced that it was worthwhile and enjoyable, and nearly all recommend it to fellow students. In fact, many students who start out as juniors also participate as seniors. As first-year participant Lori Harvey said, "I think I'm going to try and do it again next year. It's a really great experience."

Jared Rothman

Senior Jared Rothman thought law would be interesting, so he decided to enter the Mentor Program upon the recommendation of his sister and mentor at the Howard County District Court Building.

During periods three and four B days, he works with a public defender in Ellicott City.



During that time, Jared takes notes and researches information on various court cases. Periodically, he goes to the Law Library and reviews opinions and notes on many cases.

Occasionally Jared also views court cases, which he finds gratifying. His special project is a survey on the causes of crime, which he will give to various lawyers, police officers, and public defenders in the county.

Shomo Sinha

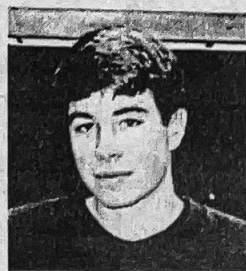
Shomo Sinha did not like the four period day so he decided to enter the Mentor Program as a way to get out of school and work in a field that he was interested in.

Shomo currently mentors at the Aqua Springs Water Company with Tom Taro. He acts as a marketing engineer and makes a mailing list, sends out fliers, and does a telemarketing campaign.

Shomo mentors every day first period and once a week at 5:00 pm. He is the only one who works there from 7:30- 8:15. Although it may be hard to discipline himself in the morning, he works better then and gets his work done. "I like it because I'm free from all distractions," he says.



Eric Hildenbrand



Senior Eric Hildenbrand has a mentorship that is based at Oakland Mills. That is because his mentor is Spanish and Italian teacher Mrs. Adelia Schneider.

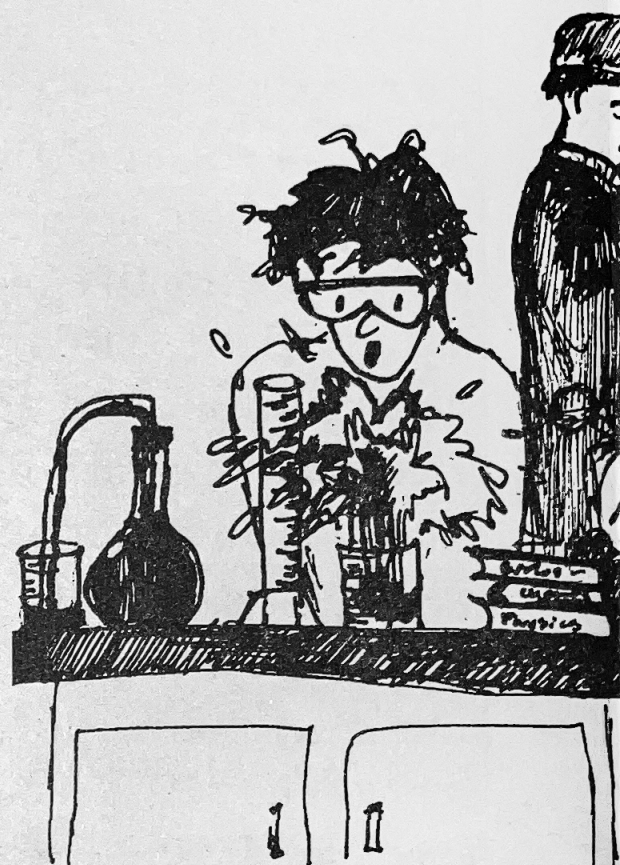
Eric wants to be a teacher, and the Mentor Program reinforces that goal. Once a week Eric goes to Stevens Forest Elementary School to teach Spanish. He commented that 50% of the students understand really well what he teaches, 25% know basically what Eric teaches, and 25% have no clue at all and don't want to learn a different language.

However, Eric, as well as the students, have learned much about the cultures of Mexico and Spain, in addition to the language itself.



Chris Miller

Senior Chris Miller is a first-year participant in the Mentor Program. He is being trained with hands-on experience in the field of auto mechanics at Steven's Forest Exxon station.

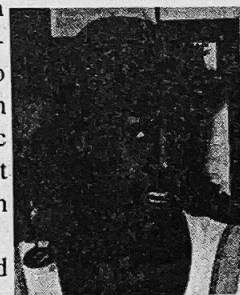


Lori Harvey

Junior Lori Harvey became involved with the Mentor Program upon recommendation of OM's principal Marshal Peterson after she interviewed him for a journalism assignment. Peterson, who was impressed with Lori's journalistic skills, requested that Lori be allowed to join the program.

Thus Lori joined the team at *Inside Look*, a student-run, half-hour news and feature show airing at 9 am on cable channel 8.

Regarding her mentorship, Lori said, "My experience has been invaluable. Actually getting to do what I want to do in life is an experience you can't get anywhere else."



Megan McDonald

Last year when Meghan McDonald took science research, Ms. Jewett informed her about the Mentor Program as a way for students to work with professionals in the area of interest. Meghan followed through on the suggestion and now mentors at the Applied Physics Laboratory in the graphic design department two-to-three times a week, three hours a day. She works in technical advertising with 30 mentors, even though she is assigned to one.



es hands-on experience



Her project is a booklet on all 15 mentor students at APL, as a way to put her designing and technical skills to use. She also is designing a cover for the booklet.

Matt Lee

Senior Matt Lee, who chose the field of computer programming, is a first-year student in the Mentor Program and works at the Applied Physics Lab in Baltimore.



Matt chose that field because he plans to major in computer science. At APL, he writes computer programs in a language called labview. So far, Matt has developed

about half of the functions for the program.

Matt became interested in the Mentor Program during college tours last spring. "People on the tours said that doing the program would help your chances of getting in," explained Matt. His mentor is thinking of starting a business, and Matt hopes to receive royalties from the patented program.

Erissa Reeves

Among the ranks of enlisted mentor students is Senior Erissa Reeves. Every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday she mentors with Dr. Michael Bershank, a physical therapist in the medical center next to Howard County General Hospital.

She says that she enjoys the program at least partially due to the flexibility of her mentor. She goes on to explain that when she has

a conflict her mentor is understanding and ok with the situation.



She goes to the center on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. She says that even after doing work in the field she still wishes to pursue a career in sports medicine.

Paul Sanin

Senior Paul Sanin spends period 4 on B-days at Capitol College in Laurel as a participant in the Mentor Program.

At Capitol Paul learns about electrical engineering by building a car stereo amplifier, which he plans to use in his car.

Currently Paul is in the beginning stages of building the amplifier, with the assistance of his mentor Daniel Rogambe. He considers his relationship with Rogambe to be a good one. "We get along really well," Paul said.



Paul learned about the program last year when guidance counselor Donna Cook came to his English class to talk about opportunities for hands on experience through the Mentor Program.

Ebony Silver

Senior Ebony Silver is working with animals and having fun at the same time. She mentors as a student veterinarian every B day.

Most of the time she watches routine animal surgeries and neutering. Ebony's final project is a pamphlet titled, *Health Benefits of Neutering*, which will be distributed throughout the County to animal hospitals and other places that deal with animals.

Ebony loves the experience, and thinks that her mentors are very helpful. Ebony's mentorship is telling her that she really wants to be a veterinarian. Incidentally, Ebony was also given a part-time job at her mentoring site.



Jayna Bell

Senior Jayna Bell is currently mentoring at the Department of Diagnostic Imaging, Howard County General Hospital.

At the hospital every B day during 4th period, Jayna assists doctors in performing their procedures, which include CAT Scans and Mammograms. She has to know the names of all the equipment in her department.



For her project, Jayna is making a pamphlet on patient information. Her book will describe what the procedures are like to hopefully reduce patient fears.

"I think the Mentor program is very good for you if you are interested in fields like medicine, law, or any other field not taught in school," Jayna said.

Mary Cooley

Senior Mary Cooley is mentoring as a nurse at Bon Secour Hospital in Ellicott City, MD

with Ruth Johnson, mother of a friend. Mary works in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) where all of the patients are in a coma. Mary enjoys working at the hospital and wants to be a nurse.



Mary's mentorship primarily involves watching monitors of comatose patients. The monitors are used to tell the patients vital signs. She sees a different patient everyday, and also writes a newsletter about what is happening in the ICU and sends it to various hospitals. Mary does not become depressed seeing the patients and still wants to be a nurse.

Derin Walters

Senior Derin Walters, who intends on being an electrical engineer, has his father as a mentor at the Instrument Research Company.

There Derin works on a circuit design. He has already built one that was shipped to California and is actually used for brain tumors. The first semester Derin was on the computer making the circuit design. Now, with input from his father, Derin is designing a computer program that controls the circuit board.



Derin wanted to participate in the Mentor Program to get a head start and to do something different, something that was not offered at any high school or college.

Rebekah Bowser

Senior Rebekah Bowser, speaks fluent Italian. So it was quite distressing when she could not fit Italian 4 in her schedule. So she decided to enter the Mentor Program and teach Italian.

During period two A days, she teaches Italian 2, 3, and 4 to Oakland Mills students. She writes lesson plans for teaching sessions during period four A days with her mentor OM's Spanish teacher Ms. Adelia Schedier. She teaches a portion of the class period such as reviewing with the class what they have learned the previous period.



Her special project is an art unit the Italian Renaissance, which she will teach to the Italian classes.

Adam Pino

Senior Adam Pino, a first-year Mentor Program student, is very interested in writing computer games. Pino is working on 3-D based games on Windows 95 for government use. Because of government confidentiality, Adam could not comment further on the project, except to say that three other Howard County students are working with him. Adam feels that the Mentor Program is a great opportunity to get ahead in a specific topic of interest. Pino's mentorship is in Annapolis with a company called Microcosm. Adam says that he has a good relationship with his mentor and students he works with.



This Spread was composed by J. Kolsky, R. Poob, T. Dunsmore, M. McCready, J. Bennett, J. McGrader, D. Elstein, A. Lutz, L. Straton, M. Klawnsbach, E. Wisinger, J. Nagle, C. Sadler.

100 students and faculty take the stage in *Mime, Mood, and Music*

By Rebecca Doob and Liam Straton
Staff Writers

The nights of February 23 and 24 brought the smashing performances of this year's *Mime, Mood, and Music*, produced and directed by Ms. Holly Pasciullo and Ms. Cynthia Stephens.

The production featured the Oakland Mills Music and Dance departments as well as the Drama department. "The Dance and Drama departments came together beautifully. This year's show was one of the best Oakland Mills has ever had. The show had great technical aspects, such as the great lighting and the innovative fog," commented Senior Stage Manager Eric Hildenbrand.

This year's program was creative and experimental, combining vocal music and theater with a record number of dance acts. Act I began with a showy number called "Take Off With Us," featuring Mandy Lamb and the intermediate dancers. The first act proceeded with an all-female version of "The Odd Couple," and a reprise of last year's hit "Nothing Like a Dame." The number featured many OM staff members; Mr. Kevin Shea and Principle Marshall Peterson as navy personnel and Mrs. Paula Micka, Mrs. Adelia Schneider, Mrs.

Janet Doherty and Mrs. Arlene Kutz as navy nurses jogging on the beach. There also were two dance numbers, and a solo by Shante Adams. Other special treats were two big bang performances: one by Andrew Bartlett and Advanced dance, and a closing performance of "Rhythm of Life."



Rhythm of life is one of the many skits done this year for "Mime, Mood, and Music."

Act II also was also full of surprises and talented performances. Included were three dance performances, a Monty Python skit, and a scene from "Biloxi Blues." Sarah Greenauer, who works backstage on many of Oakland Mills' shows, comments on the content of *Mime, Mood, and Music*. "I like the variety that the show presents. There's something for everybody in it. My personal favorites are the songs- Hard Candy Christmas was fantastic!"

The '96 show was especially unique and important for seniors for whom it was the last *Mime, Mood, and Music* they would take part

in. For these seniors, the show was a time to savor the excitement and energy that accompanies a show of its nature. Spencer Adamson, who was part of the show this year and featured in the "Dead Parrot" scene, said, "Being a part of such a big performance really gives you a sense of self-worth, and makes you feel like part of a team. Ms. Pasciullo and Ms. Stephens really put their hearts and souls into this show."

Two seniors, Mandy Lamb and Mike Herdson, had the special status as hosts of the show, creating levity and humor between scenes. This marked their second year as hosts, giving strong performances to rival last year's success.

Danielle Reed, poking fun at the large number of students who participated comments, "It's upsetting that I won't be working with these people again; this many people, that is!" Ms. Pasciullo also commented, "It was a wonderful opportunity and experience to see almost one hundred students onstage."



Brian Howard, Keri Farmer, and Stephanie Bryant are among an elite group of only 2000 finalists. Stephanie Bryant not pictured.

Three Students named finalists in merit program

By the Scroll Staff

African American seniors Brian Howard, Stephanie Bryant, and Keri Farmer are the three Oakland Mills students who have been named merit finalists in the National Achievement Scholarship Program, based on their scores on the PSAT and SAT.

Brian scored a 1310 on the PSAT and a 1330 on the SAT, while Keri scored a 1320 on the PSAT and a 1370 on the SAT. Stephanie's scores were also high.

The students are eligible for \$2000 scholarship to the institution of their choice. Also, their names are automatically forwarded to major companies for additional scholarships.

There are 2000 finalists; 400 of the 2000 will receive the \$2000 scholarship. Scholarships will be awarded based on SAT score, GPA, an essay on their goals and aspirations, and a recommendation from the principal or a counselor.

Keri Farmer expects to receive a \$2000 scholarship; Brian and Stephanie are uncertain. The Merit Board will make the announcements March 27th.

Ann Trout Moves to Long Reach

By Tim Pumplin and David Elstein
Staff Writer

The 95-96 school year has brought an end to the Oakland Mills career of one of its most loved staff members, Ms. Ann Trout, who served Oakland Mills for fifteen years as guidance secretary and then registrar.

Mrs. Trout worked several years as a secretary; then temporarily left to rear her children, returning to secretarial work with a position as Oakland Mills guidance secretary. She soon became well acquainted with and well liked by the staff and students. "She was definitely a people person, and always made you feel like you were her best friend; she will be sorely missed," says science teacher Bridget Buel. Mrs. Pearson, who worked alongside Ms. Trout in the guidance office, adds, "She was always with a smile and always willing to help." English teacher A. Wright said "Ann Trout was one of the most



congenial persons in the school to work with." Ms. Trout now leaves OM to take the role of OM's former principal David Bruzga's personal secretary. Bruzga, who left OM at the end of the 94-95 school year, will become the first principal at Howard County's new Long Reach High School.

The school will offer special courses and curriculum dealing with tech subjects as well as standard courses. Ms. Trout believes that this innovative program is "a very exciting" one.

The school is scheduled to open the fall of 1996, and preparation for its opening is well under way. Teachers are being interviewed and students are enrolling. These are taking place at Mayfield Woods Middle School, where MS. Trout and the administrative staff are temporarily located due to the continued construction of the tech-school building.

Ms. Trout felt very close to the students and faculty at OM. She knows that she will miss them all very much, saying that it was like "leaving my family," but she also sees the many opportunities and positive experiences that await her in her new position.

Students of the Quarter

By Steve Wissing
Staff Writer

Each quarter, teachers at Oakland Mills High School choose a student in each of their classes that they feel is deserving of the title "student of the quarter." Each teacher has different criteria for the selection, but all teachers try to choose the most qualified person.

French teacher, Mrs. Betty Simon, selects her students of the quarter based on a number of qualities. Mainly, though, her decision is based on participation. "Good grades will help you in my decision, but I look for enthusiasm, participation and passion in wanting to learn French," explained Mme. Simon. She also chooses the students based on the improvement they show in class.

U.S. History and Psychology teacher Mrs. Lorna Klingner bases her decision more on

the students' performance in class discussions rather than entirely on work. She looks to see if students display good behavior, are responsible, cooperative, and works above and beyond expectations. "I always have trouble picking my students of the month. So many students qualify," Mrs. Klingner said. She likes the program because "too few times, students are recognized for success."

For a student's perspective, freshman Tram Pham, who was one of Mr. Annikis' student of the second quarter, was happy to be selected. When asked why he thought he was chosen, Tram said, "I guess it is because I help people in class and do my work." He also has highest grade in his Earth Science class. Tram likes the program because it recognizes achievements of students. "Students who don't behave and don't do their work tend to get a lot of attention from teachers, but now those who do their work can be recognized," said Tram.

It's Academic makes the playoffs

By Tim Pumplin
Business Manager

February 10, 1996, The Oakland Mills It's Academic team traveled to WJZ-13 TV studios for the taping of the Baltimore Area It's Academic Semi-Finals.

The team was up against Pikesville High School and Queen Anne's High School. "With this last win, we feel pretty confident about the finals matches, and I think we have a good chance of winning," said junior and team member Matt Gealy. With this confidence and determination, the team was ready to meet the challenge.

"Oakland Mills was ahead most of the game," said sophomore Adam Lutz, who attended the match as a spectator. This was partly due to the fact that the first round contained the easier questions. At the halfway point, Pikesville High School had almost caught up with Oakland Mills, and a deadlock tie ensued through the half. Eventually, Oakland Mills broke free and scored major points.

OM won the match with a score of 590, with Pikesville scoring 450 points, and Queen Anne's High School with a dismal 340. "Most of all, we were worried about Pikesville. They have been good in the past, and could have beaten us," again commented Gealy. The team

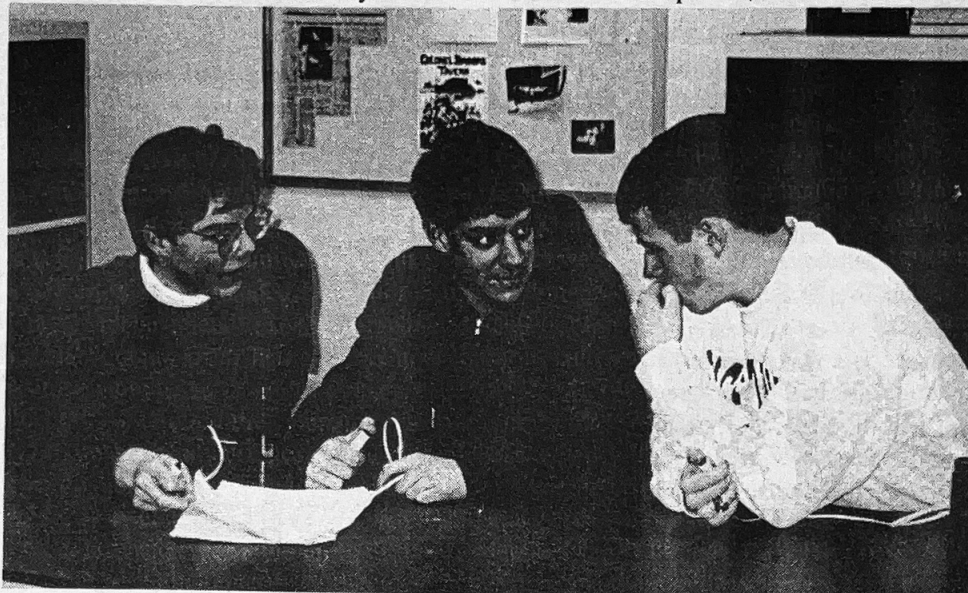
had no thoughts on Queen Anne's prior performance.

After the semi-finals, Oakland Mills became one of the top nine highest-ranking It's Academic Teams in the Baltimore area. The next match is April 13, at the finals. The top

nine teams will be grouped into three's, and each will have a match. The three winners of that match will then go on to the final round, for the championship. When asked, Ms. Barbara Jewett was confident about the team's past and future performance. She knows the team will do its best in the finals. The entire team expressed confidence about the upcoming finals and championship.

Oakland Mills' strategy has always been to get ahead as early as possible. The team will start by taking random, or at least informed guesses early in the game, in an effort to take an early lead. Early in the game, the teams are not penalized for wrong answers. But the one piece of advice Junior Matt Gealy gives is to "stay calm."

When the team plays on April 13th, whoever wins the match on will then become the Baltimore Area Champions. As to the outcome of these finals matches, Matt Gealy believes that the team has as "good a chance as every-one else." The airing of the February 10th taping will be April 20th.



Ploom workshops held for Freshmen

By Lori Harvey
Staff Writer

P.L.O.O.M., a group of 50 students ran a series of workshops to teach freshmen how to avoid negative pressure and stay drug and alcohol free on Dec. 8, Feb. 20 and 21.

The day began with an introduction to the program, during which a senior P.L.O.O.M. leader got up and took about five minutes or so to explain what the group is all about and

what their main goal is. Then, the students were asked to find their name tags and sit in chairs in a large circle so that everyone can play a game called "People who..."

After the game, the students were asked to look at the top right hand corner of their name tags where there is a colored dot; they found the group leader whose color corresponded to the color on their dot. Then the leaders guided their group to their room. They spent a few minutes going over ground rules again, then the "boundary breaking" begun.

During boundary breaking, one of the leaders went around the group with a series of questions in a circle fashion. Everyone had to respond, but every answer given was considered absolutely correct. No one was allowed to question it. This session helped bring out

the good qualities in each person and get members of the group better acquainted

Next, everyone arranged their chairs so that everyone was facing the front board of the classroom. The group then brainstorms the consequences of those actions.

Alumni teaching at OM

By D. Freiland and E. Green
Staff Writers

Several students have left Oakland Mills as graduates and have returned as teachers and coaches.

In addition to the ten coaches, there are four alumni who teach at Oakland Mills. They are Jonathan Brown in the math department, Mrs. Stephanie Felderstien working in special Ed., science teacher Mike Anikis, and social studies teacher Ken Hovett. Hovett believes it's to go back here at says he is iar with and the nity. "I



Ken Hovett be- lots of fun and teach O.M. He also famil- the school comu- like the at-

mosphere here, I like the kids who go here, and I think to have a common experience with the other kids."

Earth Science teacher Mike Anikis, who graduated in '83, liked teaching better than research and was teaching part-time at Howard

Community College when he was offered a job at O.M. Anikis likes the school and says that one of the personal benefits of returning was that he knew the faculty.

Football seems to be the popular sport to c o a c h . assistant B r y a n who also Girls' Out-Track, and join the head coach H o v e t t , coaches Boys' Varsity Lacrosse, on leading the Varsity football team to a state championship. Alumni Marcus Lewis will join the ranks as an assistant coach next year.

Boys' Varsity Lacrosse coach Ken Hovett is assisted by another alumni, Charlie Miller. Alumni Jon Wray coaches J.V. Lacrosse.

Other Oakland Mills alumni coaches are Boys' Varsity Basketball assistant coach Joe Lewis, Girls' J.V. Basketball coach Kristen Coughlan, Varsity Wrestling coach Brian Chadwick, and Girls' Varsity Softball coach Mike Anikis.



A l u m n i coaches Winfield, coaches d o o r Bruce Lee, ranks of K e n who also

Four OM seniors are Coca Cola semifinalists

By Megan Rickard
Staff Writer

In mid-December 1995, seniors Lauren Knott, Angela Hill, Dan Fingerman, and Michael Ralph were named semifinalist for the national Coca-Cola Scholarships, a group of scholarships that award outstanding seniors for their leadership in academics and extracurricular activities. Of the 120,000 students who applied this year, 18,000 were chosen as semifinalists; in the beginning of March 150 finalists were chosen, including Dan.

Applications for the scholarship were com-

pleted by November 3rd. "The first round of the application was a large bubble sheet — the same kind you have to fill out to register for the SAT's," explained Dan Fingerman. Once the group found out that they were semifinalists, they went on to the next phase, which included six separate essays. Now that Dan is a finalist, he must write another essay.

Finalists will take an all-expense-paid trip to Atlanta for an awards presentation. The top 50 finalists will receive scholarships of \$5,000 a year for four years. The other hundred will be awarded \$1,000 a year for four years. Two socialized \$5000 scholarships will also be awarded



From left to right : M. Ralph, A. Hill, and D. Fingerman. Not pictured : L. Knott

Boys' Basketball ends season with loss to Surrattsville

By Spencer Adamson
Sports Editor

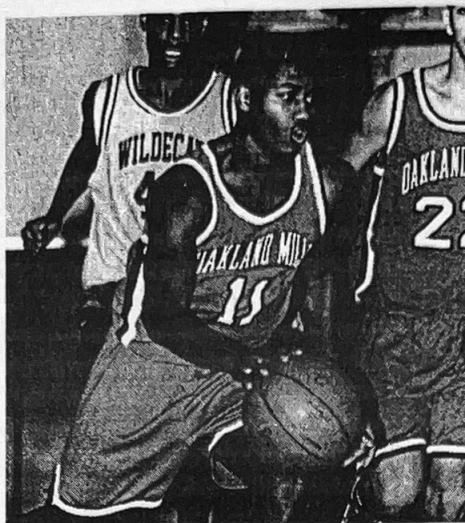
The 1996 Boys' Varsity Basketball Team completed a rather successful season in the second round of the regional playoffs on February 25. They capped off a roller coaster season which included plateaus such as the late win over Howard County Champions Centennial, as well as lows, including an unexpected loss to Mt. Hebron. Overall, the team finished adequately, with a record of 12-8, 9-5 in county, and a regional semifinal birth.

The final loss of the year came to Surrattsville in Southern Maryland on February 28. Reportedly, the large distance between Oakland Mills and the Montgomery County School diminished the attendance of Oakland Mills supporters to a level unprecedented for a regional playoff game. Only four Scorpions tallied in the scoring column, including senior guard/forward Irving Conwell, who had 28 points, junior guard/forward Fardan

Carter, senior forward K.C. Canada, and senior reserve Mike Brown.

Although this year's relatively early exit from championship contention was disappointing when compared to last year's state final appearance, some regular season conquests were particularly sweet. Two wins, both home and away, against favored 6'9" Carl Jackson and Wilde Lake; a clutch win at Centennial that delayed Matt Laycock, Scott Bross, and company from clinching the County Championship; and two wins over Tim Spruill and Hammond, a continuation of the feud won by Oakland Mills on the football field in the fall.

The loss at Surrattsville marks the last game of *Street & Smith's* Preseason All-American Irving Conwell, who hopes to continue his basketball career in Division I at a local college. His teammates Quan Davis, Fardan Carter, Brett Lanier, Joe Haymes, and Duane Harding have another year at Oakland Mills, and will be called upon next year to solidify the roster.



Junior Fardan Carter breaks the press.

March Madness!

By Spencer Adamson
Sports Editor

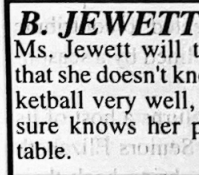
This March, like every other March, basketball fans across the globe will be glued to their televisions watching the eventual National Champion of college basketball emerge from a field of 64 teams. This kind of magic occurs only once a year: a long-haired no-name player from Southwest New Mexico State buries a last second three-pointer that does in the number two seed, a team rallies around its injured star to defy the odds and advance to the final four despite their loss, or the undeniable powerhouse from the East adds a cool six more to its win column and becomes the national Champion. Between March 3 and April 3, basketball aficionados across the nation indulge themselves in basketball, watching as many games as come between work and sleep.

Almost as popular as the tournament itself, the perennial gambling pools that accompany the basketball action obviously have no place in the strictly academic edifice of Oakland Mills High School. However, there are no rules that say you can't play without money. *The Scroll* has decided to make its own, legal, moneyless gambling pool. To add a twist, we've asked staff members to participate. As the committee selects the draw, the following staff members will be given the chart and asked to return it completed. We'll keep you updated...



B. BUEL

Although Mrs. Buel never professed to be Dick Vitale, she is ready to give some competition to the coaches.



B. JEWETT

Ms. Jewett will tell you that she doesn't know basketball very well, but she sure knows her periodic table.



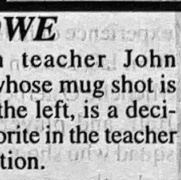
J. LOWE

English teacher John Lowe, whose mug shot is seen to the left, is a decisive favorite in the teacher competition.



M. PETERSON

Principal Marshall Peterson's extensive knowledge of basketball should serve him well in the month of March.



K. SHEA

"I'll be waiting for my gratuities in the mail," said the overconfident English teacher Kevin Shea about winning the contest.



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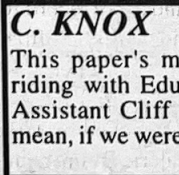
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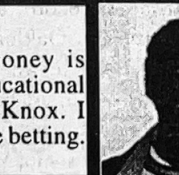
K. HOVET

Football Coach Kenny Hovet should know basketball. His football players largely compose the varsity basketball team.



C. KNOX

This paper's money is riding with Educational Assistant Cliff Knox. I mean, if we were betting.



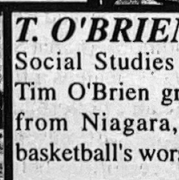
T. O'BRIEN

Social Studies teacher Tim O'Brien graduated from Niagara, one of basketball's worst teams.



D. RICHMOND

Band Director Dan Richmond, a graduate of West Virginia, will bet on his old school despite their ostracism from the field.



S. SINGLETON

Another one of the coaches in the pool, Sam Singleton has already committed to put his trust in Georgetown.



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Another one of the coaches in the pool, Sam Singleton has already committed to put his trust in Georgetown.

Ginny Dye gets her just due

By Megan Rickard
Staff Writer

In January, Channel 2 News contacted Coach Klock about interviewing senior Ginny Dye for its weekly Prep Profile because of her outstanding accomplishments on the soccer field, basketball court, and in the classroom. A few days later, sports reporter Keith Mills was at Oakland Mills to tape his interview with Ginny.

During the interview, Mills asked Ginny about her goals, how she felt about being a role model, and how she balances academics and sports. There were clips of her playing basketball, working in chemistry class, and walking down the hall. "I think they did a really nice job with it. It was a thoroughly finished product," said Ginny.

Indoor Track team disappointed at State Meet

By Eric Prange
Features and Layout Editor

The Indoor Track State Meet on February 22 left many OM runners wondering if anything more could possibly go wrong for the team as hopes for a third State title in four years were dashed by poor performances, dropped batons, and disqualifications.

However, this season was not all a disappointment as the team upset Atholton at the County meet and won the Regional meet over Surrattsville.

At the State Meet, the Scorpions received points from the 3200 relay (4th-Mike Dusenbery, Chris Oxford, Kevin Williams, Dean Menegay), the 55 dash (2nd-Kyle Walker and 4th-Brian Howard), the 1600m run (5th-Steve Petro), the 3200m run (2nd-Petro), the 1600m relay (3rd-T.J. Smith, Dusenbery, Brendon Kelly, Mike Herdson) and shot put (2nd-Kevin Rondon and 5th-Howard).

The Girls' Track Team finished the season with a third-place finish at the county meet, and finished fourth in the 800m relay (Day, Sams, Tong, Butler) at the State Meet.

Boys' Lacrosse team anticipates a fine season

By Spencer Adamson
Sports Editor

Weeks before the 1996 Boys' Lacrosse season began the sounds of lacrosse could be heard everyday after school. The clanks of lacrosse balls connecting with the post, the clinks of the shafts of two sticks banging together on a check, and the clunks of muddy cleats as they cut for a pass or perform a roll dodge, were all reminders that spring was rapidly approaching, and with it comes Boys' Lacrosse.

This year, Coaches Kenny Hovet, Charlie Miller, and the rest of the coaching staff are on a mission: to avenge last year's last second, state-semifinal loss to South River.

With returning prospective all-state attackers seniors Matt Rollman and Danny Brown, along with senior goaltender Jason Berlin, junior midfielder Bryan Cole, junior defender Bryan Frizzelle, and junior attacker Tim Wong, this would be the year for Coach Hovet to get his revenge.

Girls' Basketball falls short in playoffs

Sabrina Warner
Sports Editor

the season.

The biggest highlight of the season, however, occurred in the regional playoffs. The "open playoff" system allowed the team to advance into the playoffs. The team made it passed two rounds before being edged out 39-46 by county rival Hammond. Oakland Mills beat Sherwood in the first round of playoffs by a huge margin; Sherwood only scored two points in the first half. Hard work and determination prevailed in a win for the Scorpions. In second round action they beat Surrattsville by seven points, although it was a close game. Then they faced Hammond, and in a close game they were defeated, and thus their season was over.

This year's Oakland Mills women's basketball team had better overall potential than last year's team, but something went wrong. Whether it was the injury to top players such as point guard Jamie Beale or just plain bad luck, the season did not turn out the way that was expected by head coach Teresa Waters.

With a final record of 6-17 the season was obviously less than perfect. The team's out-of-county record was not a precursor to the rest of the season, as they started by crushing both North Hartford and Liberty. Beating a top ranked team in Glenelg was also a highlight of

Girls' Lacrosse teams practice for success

By Jennifer Nagle
Staff Writer

The Girls' Varsity and Junior Varsity Lacrosse teams, who began practice March 1st, are looking forward to the beginning of a 1996 season that they expect to be successful.

According to sophomore Carol Marquez, "This season is going to be one of our best seasons ever because we had a strong team last year and most of them will be returning this year." Teammate and fellow sophomore Rachel Whitmore agreed by saying, "I think that the team is going to do really well this year because we're going to have a lot of new players that are going to help contribute to the team's overall success."

Both new players and players from last year will look particularly to seniors Kathy Hurley, Ann Ryder, Brie Warner, and Elizabeth Koza, along with junior Amanda Downs, as key producers who will give the team the confidence to win.

It is anticipated that the Oakland Mills' team will have a lot of difficulty getting past Liberty and Mt. Hebron. Of the Mt. Hebron team, Marquez says, "We often seem to lose against Mt. Hebron."

Hopefully, the teams will be able to improve from last year's records of 8-6 (Varsity) and 4-8 (Junior Varsity). But, the Scorpions have a strong Varsity team with the seniors returning from last year and the juniors trying to add immensely to the team's overall success.

Wrestling team endures injuries

By Colin Meeks
Guest Writer

There were many downpoints this wrestling season, but everyone is looking forward to next season. The grapples ended their season with a disappointing in-county record of three wins and four losses, but made a surprising comeback in the County tournament, placing only second behind #2 ranked Hammond.

There were five seniors returning to the team this year. Tri-captains Colin Meeks, Justin Robbins, and Kurt Ricketts were joined by seniors Sean Harbaugh and Stacy Kirschbaum. The three captains all had great outlooks on their seasons, but none of them preformed as well as they hoped. After a

wonderful first half of the season, Meeks sustained three serious injuries: a concussion, a sprained ankle, and a sprained knee which hindered the second half of his season. He placed a disappointing fifth in County's and fifth in Region's. Justin had a strong season, but made upsetting showing in the State Tournament. Kurt was a strong leader but didn't do as well as he had hoped on the mat. Sean was back on the mat after a year-and-a-half break and did surprisingly well in his return. Stacy was back for her fourth year and is looking forward to wrestling in college.

The rest of the team looks forward to next year, when the Scorpions could be extremely strong. There will be five juniors returning as seniors along with many other talented underclassmen. Chris Naylor had a good season, placing second both in County and Re-

"On paper, we have an unbelievable wrestling team. This year injuries just got to us and tore us apart."

-Sean Harbaugh

gional, and States and looks forward to next season. John Nguyn had an impressive season ending with a record of 22 and 9. John qualified for states, but was unable to wrestle because of an injured collar bone. Bryan Frizelle was back for his second year and did well with a record of 13 and 14.

This season was mainly spent as a rebuilding season and the wrestling team is looking forward to successful season next year.

Outdoor Track aims to set new records

By Eric Prange
Features and Layout Editor

The Boys' Outdoor Track team is hoping to repeat last season's results and to win an unprecedented four straight state titles. This year's team should be even stronger than last year's, however, the 2A division in which they compete should be especially strong with such teams as Surfside and Lufkin.

The key members of the track team who

are aiming to bring home a fourth state title include sprinters Kyle Walker, Fardan Carter, Brian Howard, Brendon Kelley, Mike Dusenberry, and T.J. Smith; distance runners Steve Petro, Chris Oxford, and Kevin Williams; and shot putters Kevin Rondon, Brian Howard, and Andrew Long.

The girls' team is also hoping to do well this season, and hopes to finish in at least the top three at the County Meet. Their strongest events should be in the distance, the relays, and the jumping events.

Key members for this year's Girls' Outdoor Track Team include distance runners Sarah Condon, Lauren Drake, Rachel Nelson, Kristen Sunderdick, and Lan Gardner; sprinters Amber Day, Danyelle Butler, Elise Sams, and Triadis Kumara; and jumpers Jenifer Johnson and Kena Hodges.

Softball team seeks improvement

By Erica Burr
Staff Writer

After a disappointing 1995 season, which ended with a 4-14 record, and a 7-9 record for Junior Varsity, the Oakland Mills Softball Team was looking forward to a better 1996 season as they began practice March 1st.

This year's Varsity team, coached by Mike Anikis, will include senior Valerie Bramer, juniors Cathy Linehan and Rebecca Levine, along with sophomore Andrea St. Clair, who played on the varsity team as a freshman.

Of the team's performance last year Andrea commented, "Last season wasn't great, but I think that we will do better this coming season."

Junior Varsity Coach Joe Staub expects improvement in his squad as well.

Centennial, Glenelg, and Mt. Hebron will all be the toughest opponents in-county for the O.M. squad this season. Out-of-county Thomas Johnson will provide tough competition. "T.J. is perennial a powerhouse," commented O'Brien. Hopefully with all the extra effort being put into the season this year, the O.M. Baseball Team will see marked improvement in its record this year.

Tennis team continues to steadily improve

By Shomo Sinha
Guest Writer

The 1995-1996 Varsity Tennis Team looks to improve its record over the previous years. Last year, the team went 4-11, however a number of meets came down to the wire. Coach Levan Hutchinson returns in his fourth year as coach along with Jerome Jefferson. Hutchinson has improved his team's mark over each of his previous seasons, and this year's squad should continue the trend with the combined talent of returning players and new starters.

The boys teams only lost two players of its varsity team. Returning as the top player is senior Shomo Sinha who held the number one spot last year. Other seniors looking to break into the top seven include Jared Rothman, Dean Menegay, and Teddy Wu. Juniors Andy Chang and Mike Compofolice are also looking to come back from their strong performances as varsity players last year. Compofolice may be the most improved with a summer's worth of tennis lessons under his belt. Senior Spencer Adamson, who was expected to contribute to the team, has been sidelined by a season-ending ankle injury.

The girls' team also returns a host of its starters from a year ago. Seniors Elizabeth Hancy and Jessica Reiley bring back their experience of holding down the top two spots from last season. Other possible starters are Michelle Osterberger, Sarah Nguyen, Jessica Bell, and players from the junior varsity squad who show sufficient improvements to make the next step. Coach Hutchinson is looking to Sarah Nguyen as the girl with "the most heart and intensity."

At the County tournament which follows the regular season, Oakland Mills will have some players in serious competition for a County Championship. Seniors Shomo Sinha and Dean Menegay could be dangerous to the competition in the boys' doubles bracket. This pairing is expected to bring the school more success at the tournament than they've had in years.

Baseball gets an early start

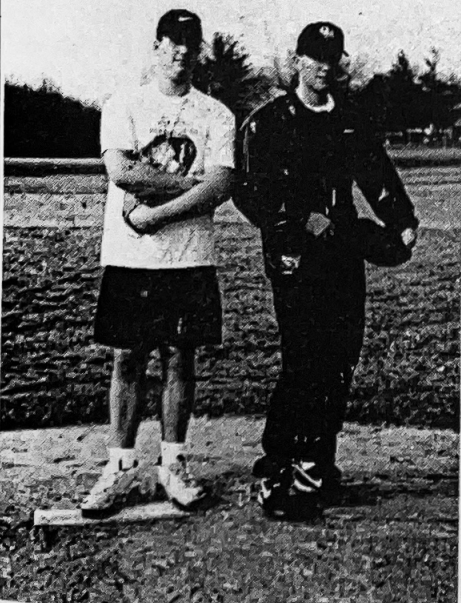
By Sabrina Warner
Sports Editor

When March first came around, Mr. Tim O'Brien, U.S. History and Sociology teacher and varsity boys' baseball coach, was a happy man. After months of snow and more snow, he was overjoyed to see his baseball team take

the field for its first practice of the 1996 spring season. Although many of the players were not excited about getting up at 5:30 a.m. for morning practice. The team understands that in order to succeed they must work hard, "We're not the most talented team but, we have the potential to work hard and good things will happen because of that," commented three year varsity player John Sunderdick. "We're trying to establish a winning attitude by succeeding in the preseason," Coach O'Brien commented.

After last year's disappointing season, that ended with a 4-14 record, this year's team is looking for an improvement over last season. Five starting seniors graduated from last year's team; however, there are four returning starters on this year's roster. With a team full of talented players such as seniors: pitcher and first basemen John Sunderdick, left fielder Mike Herdson, short stop and third basemen Gene McGill, and second basemen Luke Young, this year's team should definitely notice an improvement.

Sunderdick, who is a division I caliber player, hopes to attend Princeton on a partial scholarship and will be a main leader on the varsity squad this season. Many of the seniors this year have been playing on club teams since they could walk and play on various teams in the off season. This additional skill and practice should make the difference between this team and past O.M. teams.



Senior John Sunderdick poses on the mound with junior Glen LaForce.

Prom Tuxedos

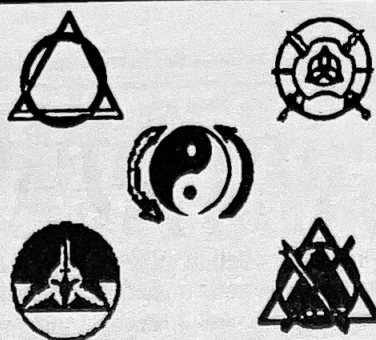
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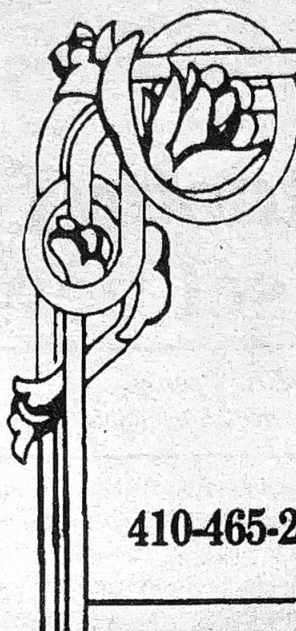


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