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“ My mother pushed me to do my best in school. She would never accept anything lower than an 80 percent.”

—Jon Harris, Eagles rookie

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the falcon

Volume 37, Issue 2

Pottsgrove High School
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Phone: (610) 326-5105

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newsbriefs

Academy offers scholarships to seniors

New York--Two \$20,000 scholarships are offered by The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences to high school seniors who intend to major in television, telecommunications or a related communication field at a four-year university or college.

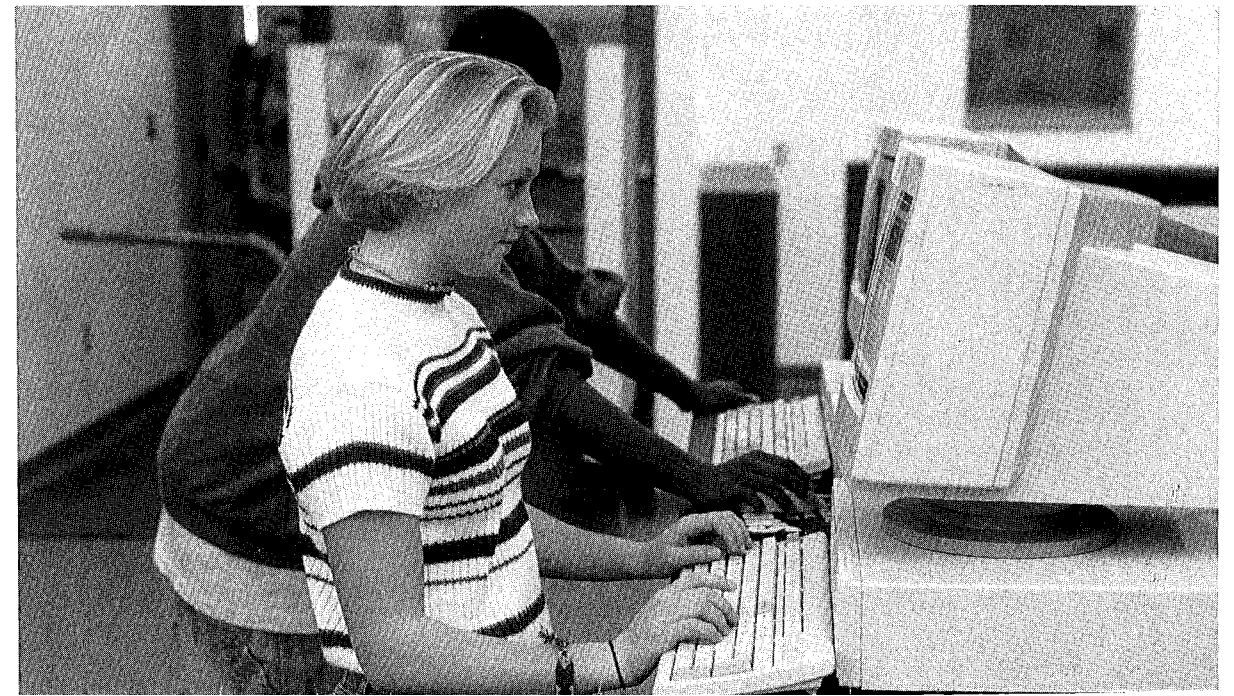
Write the Academy for details at NATAS, 111 West 57th Street, NYC, 10019 or download the application from the Academy's webpage at [HTTP: \www. emmyonline.org](http://www.emmyonline.org).

High schools eliminate Indian mascots

Los Angeles--Los Angeles high school students will no longer be cheering on the Warriors or the Braves.

That's because after 17 years of debate, American Indians have persuaded the Los Angeles Board of Education to eliminate school mascots that they say promote offensive stereotypes of their community.

"The school board agreed with the contention that these kinds of images were demeaning to a certain extent and not the



The 6-0 vote by the Los Angeles school board means goodbye to the Braves at Birmingham High School in Van Nuys, the Mohicans of Gardena High School and the Warriors of University High in West Los Angeles and Wilmington Middle School. Each school must replace the mascots this academic year.

Restricting teen drivers: how far is too far?

Chicago—Having good grades has long benefited teen-agers interested in getting cheaper car insurance.

State Farm Insurance, Inc., for example, cuts the insurance premiums of teens anywhere from 5 percent to 25 percent if they have an A or B average. Allstate Insurance has a similar program.

But now politicians in states across the nation want to use grades and other non-driving-related behavior to determine whether a teenager should have the privilege of sitting behind the wheel.

And while teens have generally known that drinking or smoking pot while driving could cost them their driver's license or that failing to have the car insurance or not having a seat belt could get them into trouble with the law, many of them are finding out that non-driving offenses can hurt their chances of hitting the highway, too.

Idaho, for example, suspends the driver's license of high school dropouts. In Michigan, minors can lose their driver's license if they are caught walking—not driving—with a blood-alcohol content of 0.02 percent.

California, with its miles and miles of freeways, has some of the most stringent laws affecting drivers. Convicted graffiti vandals, for example, can have their driver's licenses suspended for one year. Since 1994, motorists in the state could lose their licenses for six months for possessing illegal drugs, even if the circumstances did not involve an automobile.

More recently, California lawmakers tried, unsuccessfully, to pass a law that would've yanked the licenses of high school students for truancy.

Evan Nossoff, spokesperson for the California Department of Motor Vehicles in Sacramento, said he's not surprised the bill didn't pass. "When you consider the difficulty of administering that, it became clear [the bill would not pass]," he said. "We knew the problems with implementing that."

Some say such laws unfairly single out teens. "It's certainly not unusual to target teenagers," said Nick Samuels, head of the High School Project for the Chicago chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. "People are generally afraid of teenagers, calling them 'Superpredators' and such."

Students do research with computers: Pottsgrove High School students now use computers in the library to find information on topics for classes like English, social studies and science. "I was doing research for a report on Hawaiian volcanoes for science," said Ongela Djerf, a sophomore, talking about the day she was photographed.

Students wait for Internet access

■ Problems exist like blocking sites to PHS surfers

by Michelle Swanson

The immense quantity of information that is available on the Internet is overwhelming.

Pottsgrove has been scheduled to have access to the Internet sometime in 1999. The school librarian, Lois Jacob, is in charge of the computers in the high school library which will provide the Internet access.

"There is a wealth of current information for students to

access over the Internet," Mrs. Jacob said, talking about the good points of "the net."

Students would be allowed to use the Internet to research projects requiring updated information, research prospective colleges and experience new technologies.

Many problems also arise when the Internet is presented to a school district. It would be a costly project to keep the Internet going, especially considering the fact that in order to use the Internet may take many hours to get to where you want to go. After a while these hours can add up in on-line costs.

Other problems exist like

breaking into web sites that students shouldn't be permitted to access in school. Students, however, find ways to break through the barriers that help block out these unwanted sites. Because of the potential for trouble here, students would have limited access to the Internet and would also be under supervision.

"It's like anything else in this school," Mrs. Jacob said. "It will have to be monitored by me or any other teacher in this school."

For those students who aren't as computer friendly as others, there might be a class on how to use the Internet during an activity period.

Four cheerleaders raise money for trip to England

by Bert Ingram

Four varsity cheerleaders will be traveling to England from Dec. 26 through Jan. 2, and they have been trying to raise money to pay for the trip which costs each girl \$2,000.

Chosen by UCA instructors at a summer cheerleading camp in Bryn Mawr, the four are Christy Lion, Megan LaRosse, Stephanie Hill and Sara Flowers. (Natalie Scherer was also eligible to go but opted not to.)

"The cheerleaders have been having fund raisers and other activities to raise money for their flight to England," Lion, a senior, said. "Those activities include cash raffles at the football games and turkey raffles for Thanksgiving. There also have been cans spread throughout the community with a picture of the cheerleaders on them, asking area residents for donations."

Pottsgrove's cheerleaders have won first place in just about

every cheerleading contest in the area.

"I can't wait to go to England," Hill, a senior, said. "I think it is going to be a great experience; after all, it's not anytime you can go to England."

"I'm very grateful that I get the chance to go to England and cheer in the New Year's Day Parade and stay with my friends," LaRosse, a senior, said. "We are going to be staying in a hotel with the rest of the other U.C.A. all-stars."



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Students deserve praise

From writing to community service, Pottsgrove High School excels. Pottsgrove has a number of things that its students and faculty can be proud of, besides its sports teams. The three publications at Pottsgrove collect awards like a ten-year-old collects baseball cards, and other organizations like Science Club and Key Club are also noteworthy.

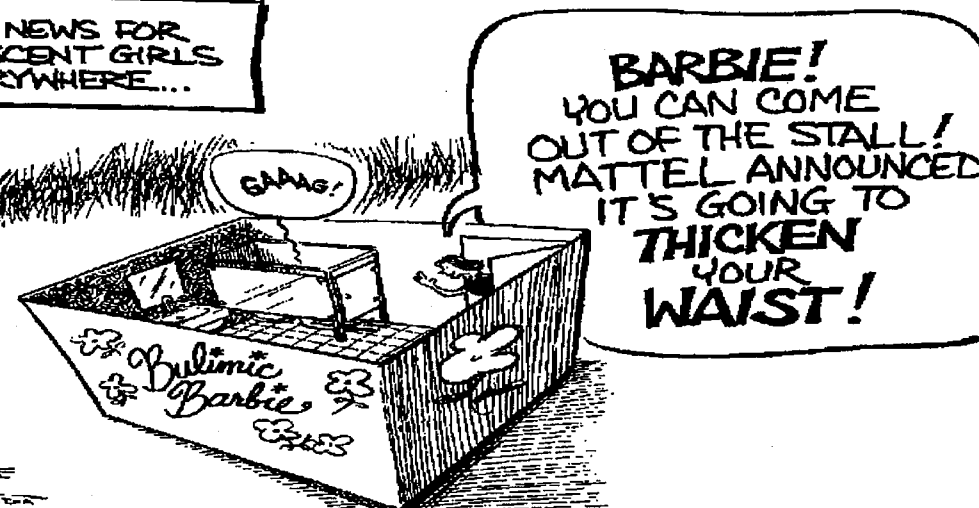
For the past seven years, *Pottsgrovian*, Pottsgrove's yearbook, has won the Keystone award from the Pennsylvania School Press Association (PSPA). This award is given annually to only about 20 yearbooks in the whole state.

On top of this, *Pottsgrovian* has also been named an All-State publication, a title given to the best books in the state, for six of the past seven years—it earned its sixth last month for the '97 *Pottsgrovian*. Only five or six yearbooks in Pennsylvania each year are given the All-State Award.

Falcon, Pottsgrove's newspaper, has won the Keystone award for the past seven years in a row also. The Keystone is given to the top newspapers in the state.

Pottsgrove's literary magazine, *Maximi*, does as well as the

GOOD NEWS FOR
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Juniors miss the boat for class trips

■ Class can't get enough members to participate

by Mark Holloway

Opportunity knocked, but no one heard it. Ask most juniors about missing their class trip this year, and you'll get to hear a tirade.

"I'm angry that we didn't get to go," said an irate Jen McCormick. "There were no announcements, and half the class had no idea about it."

Whether or not half the class didn't know about the trip, they certainly didn't sign up for it. Less than half the class, about 45

current seniors went on their trip to Washington. This prevented them from seeing several of the sights. "[The trip] could have been better if it hadn't rained all day," said senior Michelle Swanson. "We didn't get to go to the White House, the Washington Monument or Arlington National Cemetery."

This may have influenced

"I have faith in this class. If we try hard enough to get people, we should be able to go."

the juniors in not signing up.

because reservations were needed in advance for many of the stops on the tour.

The juniors missed out on a trip that was, "fun and educational," senior Chiffon Jackson said.

The trip includes a visit to the Arlington National Cemetery, the White House, the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the Smithsonian Institute, Ford's Theater and the house where Abraham Lincoln died, along with other locations of interest.

The juniors also missed their Freshman Class trip to Dorney Park due to a lack of participation.

The question now is, will enough people sign up for the Senior class trip to Florida? The

years in a row. This award is given to publications which "consistently demonstrate mastery of the basic concepts of journalism."

The Key Club was recognized at the state convention last year for their service to Pottsgrove's community. They tied for second place out of all the Key Clubs in the state for the service award. This award is given for a single outstanding, creative and beneficial service by a club. The Key Club earned the award for holding a senior citizens prom. This occasion gave the senior citizens who missed their prom the chance to experience the magic of a prom.

The Science Club also helps the community. Four times a year members of the Science Club, for instance, pick up trash from a two-mile stretch of Charlotte Street.

PRIDE, another Pottsgrove club, held a mini-conference for intermediate school students with topics which dealt with anti-violence and a drug-free lifestyle. Some members of PRIDE also went to the Montgomery Intermediate Unit for drug training. The PRIDE members used this drug training to educate children at elementary schools.

Pottsgrove has many programs which show the extraordinary talents and dedication of its students. For this reason, if for no other, the students of Pottsgrove High School have something to be proud of and deserve recognition.

On the music scene:

Reggae is not getting much of a lift from Diana King

by Devin L. Mercer

Is reggae music making a comeback? Well, by the way newcomer Diana King's debut album *Think Like a Girl* sounds, the comeback is not going to be helped by King. Some songs on the album sound a bit like pop songs, but King's vocal talent overshadows the type of music being played, reggae or not.

The first song released on this record actually came out long before the album did. "I Say a Little Prayer" was featured on the soundtrack to the summer hit *My Best Friend's Wedding* and is a good showcase of how King can sing any type of song

and keep it real. The song was written by Burt Bachrach and Hal David in 1966.

Another good tune is "Love Yourself," which has a slight similarity to the late Bob Marley's style. The guitar playing really adds atmosphere to the song's vocals, which sound a bit like a Toni Braxton-type song.

There is also plenty of dance music on *Think Like a Girl*, like the song "L-L-Lies," which has King sounding "reggae" in her vocals but backed up by more "pop-sounding" vocals. The song has that ugly feeling which comes from finding someone you love with someone else.

percent, made the payment for the trip. According to Addison Davidson, who sponsors the trip, the school district usually requires about 80 percent of a class to participate in a class trip. It rained last year when the

amount factor was which the payment for the trip was collected, which was at the end of the school year, a time when students are looking forward to summer vacation. The money was collected at this time

this class," said Jen McCormick. "If we try hard enough to get people, we should be able to go." Only time will tell if the juniors can work together to go to Florida.

Booster Club works behind the scenes to support athletics

by Mai Hoang

Everyone in the Pottsgrove community has heard of the Booster Club; after all, they do many different things to help the athletic teams.

The Booster Club is a voluntary organization that financially supports the sports programs at Pottsgrove. One of the main

things they fund is the sports banquets at the end of each season. The Boosters also give support for the athletic teams and their coaches.

The Booster Club supports the teams in many ways, such as holding events to raise money. One undertaking to raise money was to sell bricks to pave the area near the flagpole at the football stadium. A more recent event was the art auction, which was held on Nov. 8. It featured the paintings from the Heismann Art Gallery in King of Prussia.

"[The Art Auction] wasn't as big a turnout as we expected, but it was a big success financially," Jennie Donovan, co-president of the Booster Club, said.

A Christmas tree sale was held on Dec. 3, and their second annual "Community Day" is going to be held on May 9. The Booster Club also does events that have more people coming out to help, even if it doesn't make much money, such as the PAC-10 Doubles Tennis Tournament.

Besides giving funds for the athletics, they also give support and assistance. They run the concession stands at all major athletic events except varsity football. They also organized the pictures for this year's football programs and sold teamware, such as hats,

at athletic events.

Holding these events takes a lot of planning, some of which is done at their meetings, which are held the third Thursday of every month except in December and July. At these meetings, they discuss future plans for the group. They have guest speakers to talk to them. Parents also make requests, such as more information about the Boosters.

As the Pottsgrove community can see, the Booster Club has helped athletics. Gary DeRenzo, director of student activities, agrees.

"They're a big support group for the school, especially the athletics," DeRenzo said. "They put in a lot of volunteer time."

Although the Booster Club has reached some of its goals, which are to be behind the athletes and coaches, to make sure all sports are treated equally, and to promote a family atmosphere, there are still more plans for the Booster Club. One of the plans is a web page, an on-line sports network. Just last year, they started a "Falcon Award," which is a money award of \$250 to one senior boy and girl athlete, which they plan to continue. Of course, they want to continue doing all the things they are doing right now.

PHS students donate their time to help

■ In volunteering, picking up litter, students help out

by Shannon Shulby

Help is one of the most precious gifts anyone could ever give (or receive).

Many students here at Pottsgrove take that maxim to heart. They donate their time to help others, without any compensation whatsoever.

Several school-run clubs have community service as one of their main activities. Two of these are Key Club and Science Club.

Key Club's whole purpose is to help people. Its members dedicate much time to helping various causes in the Pottstown area

and beyond.

"Key Club is a great way to get involved with the community and help people in need," said Kristy Rhoads, a senior and Key Club member.

Science Club--even though the name may not lend itself to it--also is involved in a lot of community service. To be eligible to go on any of the club's trips, members must pick up litter on a highway which the club has adopted.

On Earth Day, Science Club members visit the Pottsgrove elementary schools and teach science lessons to the children.

Students' community service does not just include school projects. Students also volunteer their time to other community organizations outside of school.

The hospital is one popular place that several Pottsgrove stu-

dents work. Here they put in many hours helping out patients and the nurses.

"I've been volunteering at the hospital now for three years," said junior Anne Toth, "and I enjoy every minute of it."

"At the hospital I volunteer in the pharmacy," said Toth. "I want to be a pharmacist, so this is giving me a lot of insight into the field."

One student, senior Amy Golembeski, volunteers her time at her church in Reading. "I teach Sunday school to the little kids at my church because I like working with children," she said.

These volunteers have fun while learning at the same time.

"I would like to be a teacher, so working with the Sunday school helps me prepare for the future," Golembeski said.

Holiday shoppers have two days left to buy gifts

by Caitlyn Hallman

Attention shoppers: there are only two more shopping days left until Christmas and anyone who has not begun his holiday shopping yet should start immediately.

"People are shopping earlier this year," senior Dave Drager, who works at the Kmart service desk, said in early December.

because she never has the time to shop early. Senior Jen Donovan said that most of the early shoppers are parents.

"When you're a parent, there are more people that you have to shop for, so it's more likely that you will start your

"Gift certificates, CD's

stated that the few early shoppers that he has seen at Sears were looking at treadmills.

For everyone who has been delaying his Christmas shopping this year because they had no idea what to get anyone, the store employees have a few suggestions. Holler thinks that exercise equipment is a good gift because it shows that you care for that person and you want

'Falcon' asks...

How do you go about meeting a member of the opposite sex?

John Dybach, science teacher: "[I think students] go through their friends."



Micky Bleyer, sophomore: "I would see if I was friends with any of her friends first, then talk to them and take it from there."

Jennifer Snow, junior: "I'd try to go up and talk to him."



Mary Dietrich, freshman: "I'd get my friends to introduce me to them."

Colleen Brown, junior: "I'd wait for him to come up and talk to me first."



Megan Whalen, junior: "I'd wait for him to come up and talk to me first."

shoppers are looking earlier for are toys and electronics.

However, people who started late to think about what they are going to give people on their shopping list for Christmas were not alone. Senior Matt Holler, who is employed in the sporting goods department at Sears, also said in early December that at Sears "people aren't really shopping yet."

Kathleen Greco, a senior and a confirmed last-minute shopper, said that she shops late

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and videos are always great gifts to give."

shopping earlier," Donovan said. In her opinion most teenagers tend to be late shoppers.

Some people start to shop earlier because they are looking for a specific item. Drager said that Kmart sold out of hot items such as the Magna Doodle School Bus, Sing n' Snore Ernie and LCD games like the Wheel of Fortune.

"Bikes and roller blades will probably sell out for Christmas this year," Holler said. He also

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them to stay healthy. For those who are looking for less expensive gift ideas, Drager has a suggestion. "Gift certificates, CD's and videos are always great gifts to give," Drager said.

Odd scholarships exist out there, if you search for them

by Caitlyn Hallman

Attention, all left-handers: you may be eligible for a scholarship. Others eligible for scholarships are helicopter pilots, people with the last name of Gatling and golf caddies.

There are plenty of other off-beat scholarships available to students, but finding out about them is like trying to find Waldo in a crowd of students at a football game.

"Once we got a scholarship for students who want to fly planes," said Mrs. Judy Panacio, guidance counselor, "but most of our scholarships are based on [a student's] major or [a student's] race."

The guidance office currently has information about several scholarships including one for students who would like to study for the priesthood. Most of the

scholarships that the guidance office has information on are offered by particular colleges.

There is plenty of scholarship money available to students; the only problem is that most students do not know where to look for the money or they do not realize that they are eligible for a certain scholarship.

For example, Juniata College offers a \$700 scholarship for a left-handed freshman enrolled there, and the John Gatling Scholarship Program offers scholarships up to \$8,000

at North Carolina State University for students with the last name of Gatlin or Gatling. Although not all scholarships are as unusual as those, there are many scholarships that go unawarded because people do not know that they are out there.

According to Mrs. Panacio, the best places to look for scholarship information are the Internet, the guidance office library and books on scholarships. The books are available at any bookstore or in the reference section of any library.

Shoppers search for season's hot toys

by Kelly Krause

'Tis the season for screams of "Mommy, Mommy, I want that for Christmas!"

Along with the cold weather and hot chocolate comes a bunch of new toys seen in TV commercials, marketed cleverly enough to catch a child's attention between segments of his favorite shows.

"Toys are usually the first thing a customer looks for when coming into the store [at Christmas time]," said Kelly Eadline, an associate in toys at the Pottstown Wal-Mart. "Parents focus on their children's

happiness, which pretty much gets summed up with toys."

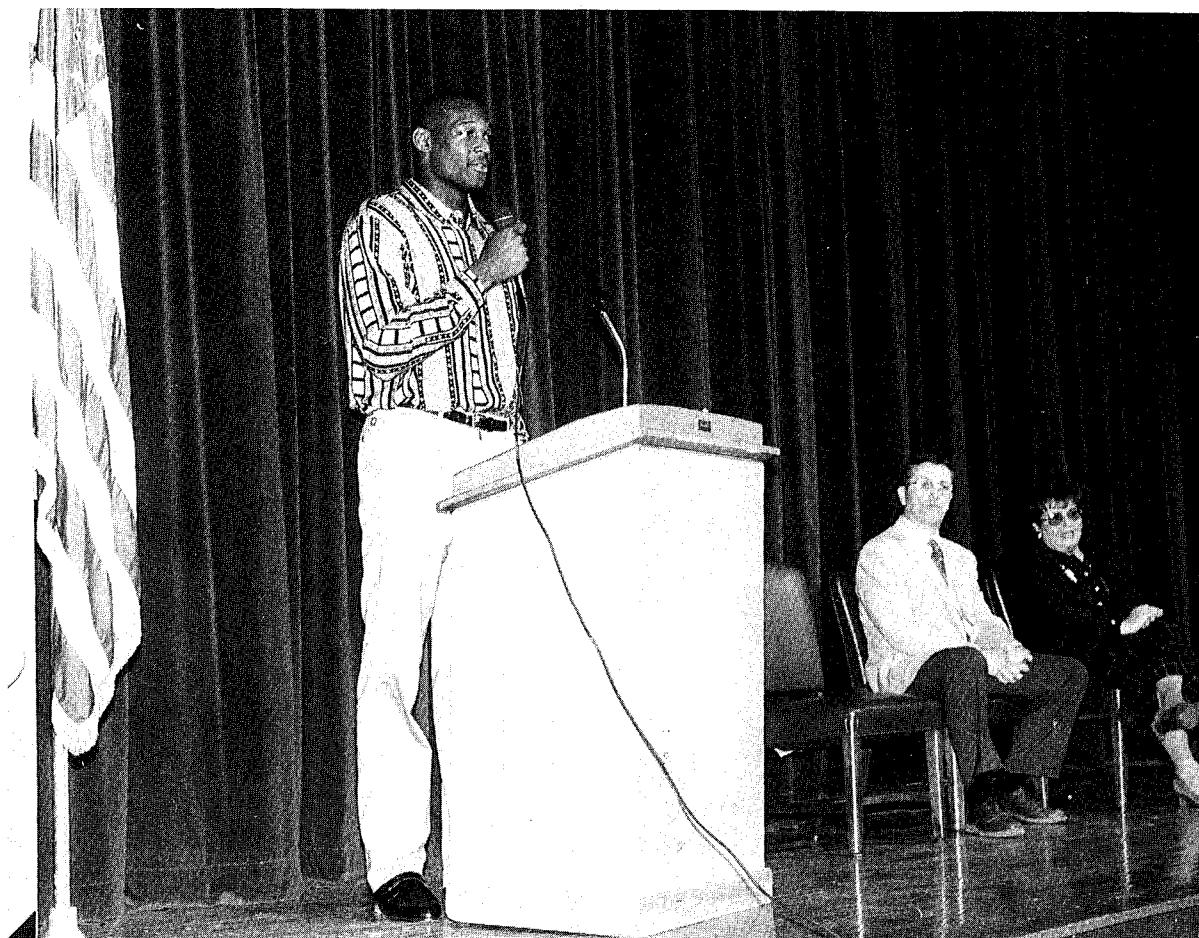
Every Christmas, there are select toys that sweep the nation, compelling everyone to run to a store and purchase the media-hyped items.

"Advertisements are usually how kids hear about popular toys," said senior Matt Holler, an employee at Sears in Pottstown. "They remember what the toy does and the songs that go with it."

The "must-have" toys this holiday season range from electronic Giga Pets to *Star Wars* figures to Sing and Snore Ernie dolls, from the makers of last year's Tickle Me Elmo dolls.



'grapevine' method--get your friends to talk to him."



Eagles rookie addresses student body: Though he talked about what he didn't enjoy about school, "going to school, studying and keeping my grades up paid off in the long run," Jon Harris added.

Eagles' rookie talks about the payoffs of work

by Kelly Krause

To achieve goals, a person must do things "he or she doesn't

high school years, first getting C's, then progressing to higher B's and even A's.

"My mother pushed me to

about the culture shock he experienced with the switch. "I'll never forget the first practice--being knocked down flat on my

Students search for trends in clothes so they fit in

by Chiffon Jackson

Fashion: it's a word that comes to mind whenever a student thinks of school shopping, especially at the beginning of the school year. Everyone knows that to be cool he or she must keep up with this year's latest trends.

However, because styles change faster than Madonna changes boy friends, students have to stay alert to stay up with what is in-- and at ever-increasing prices. This means parents and students are digging deeper and deeper into their pockets just to be able to dress like everyone else. Some students have to get jobs, while the lucky ones have their parents to pay for all their clothing.

How far is someone willing to go in order to keep up with everyone else when it comes to looking good? Like, does getting a second job or working extra hours sound worth the trouble?

"I would go as far as working extra hours," sophomore Javon Perez said, "but if I needed more I would borrow from friends and family."

"I would work," sophomore Rob Lance said, "and save if I couldn't afford at that time."

But what about those stu-

Sears, J.C. Penney's, Gap, Fashion Bug, and Boscov's. But the #1 rated store out of those named is The Deb.

All of this talk about fashion makes you think about where it comes from. There are many fashion icons out there, but where do Pottsgrove students get their ideas about fashion?

"I get my ideas from myself, TV and magazines like *Teen*, *Seventeen* and *Victoria Secret*," Perez said.

"I like whatever I feel and look good in," sophomore Katie Fagan said.

Another influence on what you choose to wear can and will

"I say don't judge people by the way they look or dress."

be your friends, but some Pottsgrovians think otherwise. For instance, sophomore Ava Bender said, "Friends aren't major influences, but if I like something that they have on, I may ask them where they got it and go out and get something similar or exactly like it."

When someone wears something that would represent a certain group or clique, does that

want to do," according to Philadelphia Eagles' defensive end Jon Harris.

Addressing the student body on Tuesday, Nov. 18, in a

"My mother pushed me to do my best in school."

mid-afternoon assembly, Harris talked about his education and his budding athletic career.

"I know school isn't fun sometimes," Harris said to the students, "so I'm not going to stand here and lecture you on how you should view school."

Though he talked about what he didn't enjoy about school, "going to school, studying and keeping my grades up paid off in the long run," Harris added.

Harris also explained that he worked hard throughout his

back." As a rookie, Harris has not been able to play much because of an injured foot. "I played on some bad turf," Harris said with a smile.

Elaborating on the things he does not like to do to reach his short-term athletic goals, Harris said, "I don't like getting up at 7 a.m. every morning to practice, but it's just something you have to do."

After completing an education on the collegiate level at the University of Virginia, he was the 25th pick overall and first pick for the Eagles in the draft. "Playing for a professional team is so much different than college," Harris said, talking

School again holds a winter formal for a sold-out attendance

by Michelle Swanson

Guys putting on suits and ties, girls getting their hair and nails done and teachers dancing to the latest tunes with the students. Some sort of idealistic TV show from the 60's? No, a typical Winter Ball.

Actually, the Winter Ball, which was held on Dec. 6, is a pretty cool night out, and it's been going on since the mid-80s.

Kim Sheeler, who's in charge of planning the Winter Ball, said that Pottsgrove has been having this formal dance since before she started working here six years ago.

There has always been demand for tickets to the Winter Ball, but if it seemed there were fewer tickets this year, it's true. There were fewer tickets sold this year for two reasons: there was a need for more space to

dance and to set up two picture stations.

"I think only ten people bought tickets on Wednesday. Everyone waited till the last minute on Friday to buy them," Mrs. Sheeler said, explaining how she answered questions asked by parents about why their sons or daughters couldn't get tickets. "I had parents saying that their kids told them Friday was the only day to buy tickets."

There were 300 tickets sold for the Winter Ball, and of those tickets, 25 were for people who don't attend Pottsgrove.

Team teaching slated for environmental science course

by Janet Marquardt

If the course is offered at Pottsgrove next year, it will be the only college level course at Pottsgrove dealing with environmental issues. The course deals with the connection between the environment and four areas of science: geology, meteorology, ecology and biology.

The class will be taught differently from all the other classes at Pottsgrove. Team-teaching is one of the new approaches to learning that this class offers. Having team-teaching will create more of a seminar approach.

Glen Adams and Eileen Forsyth will be teaching the class. Guest speakers will be brought in to speak to the class about their jobs and how they relate to the environment. Field trips will also be a part of the learning experience.

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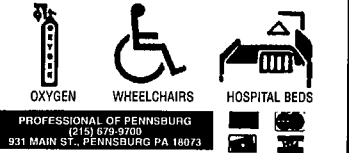
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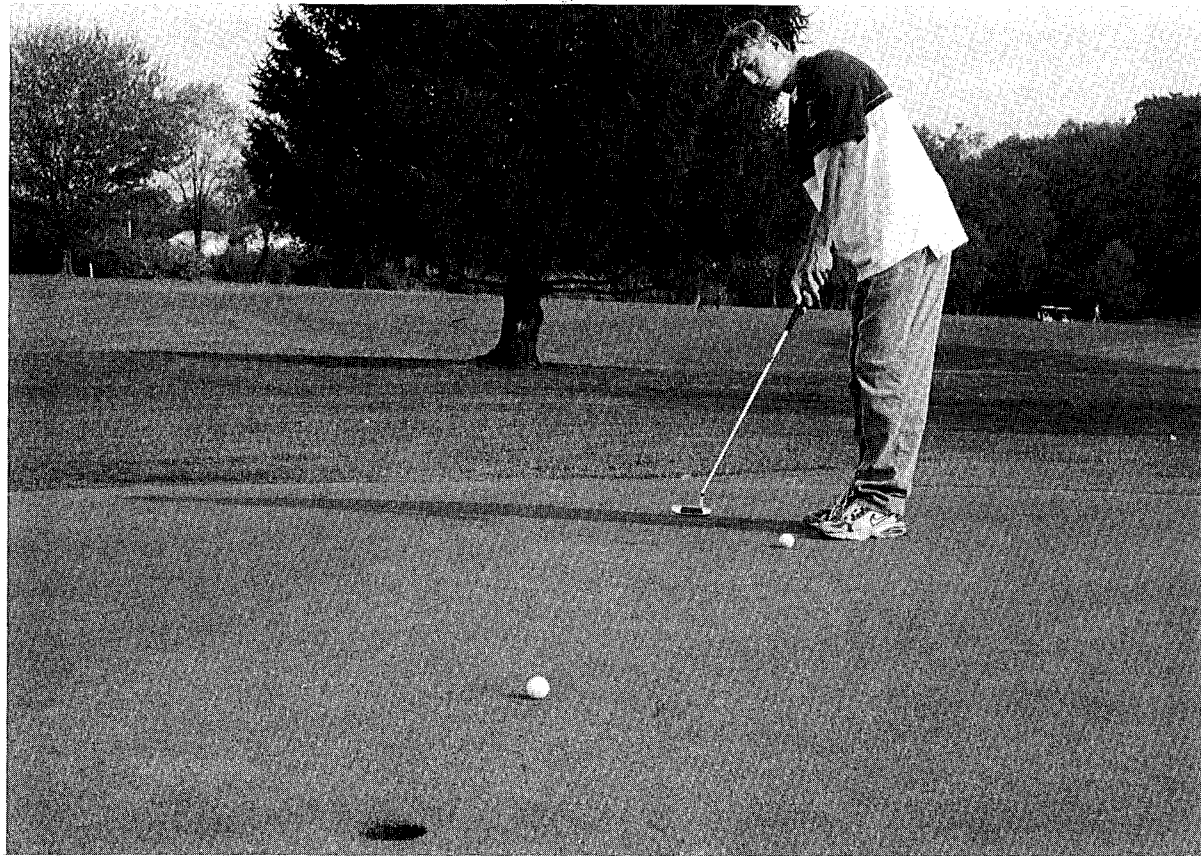
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Closing his high school golf season on a positive note: Senior Andy Maack practices at Twin Ponds during a season which saw him get a berth on the *Mercury* First Team. Maack placed second in the PAC-10 Championships, sixth at Districts and was a state qualifier.

Two golfers qualify for Districts, one for States

by Matt McDermott

Golfer Andy Maack made the *Mercury* First Team and had a second place finish in the PAC-10 Championships and finished

It was a fun year filled with many memorable moments. Senior Andy Maack recalled once during the course of the season when Coach Braunsberg threw his clinch into the bus

wine over my driver, christening it like a boat," Tom Boyd said.

"Overall, I felt a little disappointed for the players. I thought we could have won [the PAC-10 title]." Coach Brauns-

count⁺ them UP

Girls start season with wins

■ Team prepares itself for holiday tournament action

by Crystal Snow

The P.H.S. Lady Falcons basketball team had a great start. The girls won their first two games and picked up their third win against Pius on Dec. 3, but they were all close shaves.

The Lady Falcons played Spring-Ford on Dec. 20. "Spring-Ford had tall girls and ball-handlers," said Jan Fritz, the head coach of the Lady Falcons.

The team is playing over Christmas vacation in the Christmas tournament at Souderton. The Falcons play Pennridge while Upper Perk plays Souderton on Friday, Dec. 26. The two losers on Friday play Saturday afternoon, while the two winners play Saturday night.

The tournament is called the Dal Smoot Legion Tournament, and both boys and girls teams play in it.

Lady Falcons play eight or nine girls as other strengths of the squad.

Fritz said his philosophy for the season is "to get better every day." He also said that he wants his team "to be ready mentally and physically for every game."

The girls are going to have to work hard. "This is the most balanced PAC-10 Girls League in an 11-year history," said Fritz.

"(The Dec. 26 game) will be difficult because we don't practice on Christmas..."

Coach Fritz said Spring-Ford and Pennridge both have tall girls and skilled ballhandlers. "We will have to be at the top of our game against both teams or we are in trouble," he also said.

The Falcons were not in the Christmas tournament last year. They played the Little Flower

New coach plots strategies for boy's basketball team

Girls' Catholic School of Philadelphia, in a non-league game and won, 73-56.

The Lady Falcons have just come off of a three-game week. "[The Dec. 26 game] will be difficult because we don't practice on Christmas and Pennridge is one of the top AAAA teams in District I," said Fritz, talking about the Christmas tournament.

Souderton is the host of the tournament.

The Lady Falcons play Pennridge at 2:00 p.m. in the opening game of the tournament. "The [team is] experienced," Coach Fritz said about the Lady Falcons, talking about strengths of the team. He also listed the skills of the six seniors on the team as well as the fact that the

explaining drills to his players so they know how the drills benefit them. He picks drills which "fit together with our overall scheme of pressure defense and patient offense."

The height of the team is average, in Mr. Berger's opinion. His players range from 5'11" to 6'7". However, Mr. Berger stated that height is not a big issue as long as the team does the "little things well."

Although the team will be weakened by having to adjust to a new coach and a new system, Mr. Berger describes his team as being very athletic. He feels that this is their greatest strength.

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berg said. "We had a tough loss against Great Valley at home. We could have been 8-1 instead of 7-2."

Coach Braunsberg also said that the team didn't play very well at the PAC-10 championship game, however, it was still, "We still had a great season, and I was proud of them," he said.

by Mark Holloway

According to the staff, things look good--the coaching staff for the boys' basketball team, that is.

Last night the boys played

Kennett Square High at home. This Friday the boys will play Antietam away at 6:00 p.m. Fans were and are being treated to the improvements that Mr. Berger has made to Pottsgrove basketball.

"My philosophy is...very simple," Mr. Berger said. "I am all the students with the same respect that I want to be treated with".

Mr. Berger believes in

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and broke one of the windows.

But the team will probably also remember that it was a year of accomplishments.

Two records were broken during the season. Maack set the school record for lowest 12-hole score (44) against Lansdale Catholic. In that same match, the team set the school record for lowest team score with a 248.

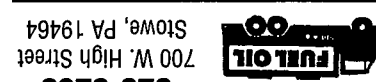
It's obvious that Coach Braunsberg helped a lot.

"He didn't get down on us if we played below his expectations," Maack said.

"Before the first match of the season, I broke a bottle of

reed's fuel oil

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Boyd earned an honorable mention, placed sixth in the PAC-10 Championships and was a district qualifier.

"Exciting," said senior Mark Stuta, talking about the golf team's season. "There was always something new that we did that ticked off Coach B. [Scott Braunsberg]."

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Athletes say fans can increase the tempo of play at sports events

by Bert Ingram

Some athletes will say that they like to see fans at sports events and may even admit that the fans can increase the intensity of the event.

"I think the crowd has a great deal to do with the games," junior Herb Beekley, who plays football, said. "It gets you pumped up and ready to play. I also think it can intimidate your opponents

by how many people and how up-tempo everything is."

"I think having the crowd at a game influences the play of athletes especially when you're at home," junior Jesse Glennon, also a football player, said. "When you're at home, you don't have the worry that the majority of support is for the other team."

Glennon also said that it makes athletes feel good to know that all of these people came out to cheer them on. "But, on the

other hand," he also said, "it is the opposite playing away from your home field, but that is what your team has [come prepared] to overcome."

"It doesn't really bother me that much if there is not a big turnout at the games because I am there to try to win and not make any mistakes and do the best I can," junior Derek Olock, who plays football, said. "But I do enjoy having people there because it would be pretty boring without the cheers and boos."

Fans go to the sporting events for reasons that vary as much as they go to watch the games or they go to get out of the house to be with their friends.

"When I'm not playing the

sport, I like to go out to some of the other sporting events and cheer my friends that are playing and try to distract the other team," Olock said.

"I enjoy going to the games to hang out with my friends and to cheer for our team, but I wish all the games were home," freshman Kyle Klaus said.

Hockey improves on previous year's record

by Karen Ward

Moths, like raptors looking for prey, circled the tall stadium lights. Down below, field hockey players ran through drills, warming up for their game with Great Valley on senior recognition night.

"Night games bring out more fans than the after-school games usually do," senior half-back Carina Weigner said.

Having more fans is just a little part of the whole environment of a night game. Emotions run higher at night games, and intensity is key to winning games.

"We played with so much enthusiasm," senior Stephanie Chrisman said about one night game.

earn a position on the PAC-10 second team, along with Kelli Strickler and Jen Sheller. Katie Greene, a sophomore, made honorable mention.

"Our night home game against Great Valley," said senior link Lorelei Hollenbach, "was our best game. We gave 110 percent the entire game."

However, even though the players gave everything they had, the scoreboard favored Great Valley in the end.

"Senior recognition night was a tough night, a tough loss," said senior wing Royer. "It was frustrating to work so hard and play your best game and still lose."

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The team's hard work at practices could be seen on the field throughout the game. Chrisman carried the ball towards the goal several times, attempting to squeeze it past the Great Valley goalie.

Chrisman would eventually

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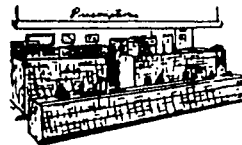


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