Diman Colors Shine Through During Spirit Week

by Mike Rogers

The week of February 14-18, Diman held its first annual spirit week. Spirit week is an event that let's students show off their school spirit by participating in various activities. The activities range from a Bizarre Tie Day to King and Queen of the Faculty contest. Two of the most unusual activities were Dress Up Day (students dress up like teachers while the faculty goes casual), and Dress as your Favorite Singer. One of the most popular days of spirit week was Diman's School Spirit day. Students wore Diman colors, jackets, jerseys, etc. Most of the student body participated in spirit week, which proved that they were proud of their school. All in all, spirit week was a hit proving Diman's colors shine through.





The Painting & Decorating Shop got wound up during spirit week as "gangsta rappers". Clockwise from the center: Melissa Sousa, Rhonda Roderick, Lisa Pimentel, Michelle Landry, Karen Whitener, and Lisa Mello.



Even the administrative seceretaries participated in Spirit Week. Mrs. O'Halloran, Mrs. Avilla, and Mrs. Pappas as the three Blues Brothers during dress up as your Favorite Singer Day.

An Invitation From Mrs. Martin, Health Coordinator

The Comprehensive Health Committee and I would like to invite all of you to be part of a new group here at Diman tentatively called the "Health Leadership Group".

You would be instrumental in helping us start various support groups here at Diman such as a drug education and support group. We also want the Charlton Mobile Van, which will be coming to Diman on a regular basis, to be utilized by our students to its fullest capacity. Mini health fairs centered around themes like smoking cessation and smokeless tobacco could be taught to operate to display the effects of smoking for students. Training programs for students who would like to become peer smoking cessation faciliators are an option. There are all kinds of possibilities!

All interested Diman students are invited to become part of this new leadership group. Thank You.

OUTSIDE PROJECTS

by Shannon Charron

I recently received information on the house being built in Swansea at 2 Musket Road for Mr. and Mrs. Finglas. The shops that participate in this project are Carpentry, Electricity, Metal Fab, HVAC, Plumbing and Painting and Decorating. The supplies that are used for this project are purchased from AC Lumber, Fall River Plumbing and Almeida Electric. The homeowners pay for all the supplies. There is only one house built a year. There are always supervisors on the job site and all school rules still apply to all students at the house. The reason for doing this project is so the students can get more experience at their specific job skill.

Another smaller project Diman students have undertaken is the installation of cables in the Fall River City Hall. These cables were installed for emergency response and for television communication. Also, the Metal Fab students manufactured fences for the Fall River Reservation.

Diman saves the city thousands of dollars a year by volunteering students who are skilled in their trade.

THE TRADESMAN

DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

-- A NEWSPAPER by and for DIMAN STUDENTS --

Volume 1 No. 3 April 1994



Chris Abdow *Mike Rogers*
Scott Souza *Luis Rebelo*

Science Fair Day

by Sarah Mullen

Wednesday, March 6th, was a very interesting and educational day at Diman. It was science fair day! There were 45 people in the science fair this year with some really fantastic projects on all different topics. Here is a sampling of those excellent projects: Effects by Luis Rebelo, Earthquakes by Melissa Garcia, In Style or Just a Geek by Unee Bailey and Sandy DeSilva, Shop Safety by Rhonda Rodriques, Heartworm Disease by Jason Heywood, Metering Devices by Mike Rogers, and many more. The science fair took place all day in the gym. Judging took place in the morning and then projects were on display for teachers and classes in the afternoon .

For best experimental projects, Eddie Sullivan (95S) won first place, Scott Sousa (97A) won second place, and Luis Rebelo (97A) took third. For best descriptive projects, Chris Abdow won first place, Jason Heywood won second place, and Michael Rogers (95E) won third.

I talked to some visitors who witnessed the fair and they said it was very well organized and very educational.

A Milestone In Plumbing

by Jenn Lopes

My name is Jenn Lopes. I'm in the Plumbing shop. I am the first girl ever to get accepted into the plumbing shop. I picked plumbing because I liked it and it was the only shop that interested me. I didn't pick plumbing because of the guys. I picked it because I would rather work hard to make something of myself later on in life.

The shop is very challenging because we have to be good at math, measurements and remembering things. We need to believe in ourselves because when we're on a job site we can not look to others for help all the time. There will not be someone at our sides for the rest of our lives.

People ask me if I get treated differently because I am a girl, and I answer it by saying no. It is a fair shop and everyone treats me as if I was one of the guys. I think that sometimes I can be slower at some of the work that we do in the shop because I talk alot, but other than that I do an equal job, just like any other guy in my shop. I hope that when I'm done with school that I will have a good chance to find a job in the field of my choice.

STUDENT VOICES

The Herald News is offering a new section that will appear each Monday, called **STUDENT VOICES.** The section will feature commentary, what's hot and what's not in books, movies and TV, good food that's cheap, and news of our area high schools. Any area high school journalism program or student who wants to contribute should call *The Herald News* at 676-2538.

BUCKLE UP!

by Darren Medeiros

Massachusetts has taken a step toward auto safety for its drivers. Starting February 1st, Massachusetts legislators have joined 45 other states in imposing a fine for any unregistered occupants in a vehicle. This law applies to everyone except those who drive authorized emergency vehicles, tractors, taxi cabs, buses, and trucks with a gross weight of 18,000 pounds or more. Drivers cannot be randomly pulled over and citied for not wearing a seatbelt, but for routine traffic violations you can be fined an extra $25 for not wearing one.

Since this law has been passed, expectations on traffic fatalities are expected to be lowered, according to the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau which contends that the seat belt law reduces highway deaths by 50-70%. Also expected to be lowered are insurance company payouts for injured accident victims.

However, reactions towards this new law are mixed. Some argue against it as an invasion of privacy, while others think this new law is finally a step in the right direction towards lowering traffic fatalities.

In any case, the bottom line is that seat belts do save lives, and no one knows the importance of wearing a seat belt better than the person wearing one in an accident.

Memorial

Mr. Thomas Maiato, who taught at Diman for 30 years, died of cancer on March 11, 1994. We at *The Tradesman* wish to express our sorrow to the family and friends of Mr. Maiato.

. . . EDITORIALS . . .

" Don't you have the sense to sense sense from nonsense? Hence, if we all made sense, then the sense of nonsense would have no sense at all. "

DOUG MACHADO

RESPONSIBILITY

One thing has become legend about teenagers. They're irresponsible! I disagree with this generalization. Sure, some teens are not responsible, but what does this stereotype do to the ones who are? A boss looks at a teen who's applying for a job, and automatically thinks "irresponsible".

Some people even go as far as to call the cops if they see a group of youths walking together, thinking they're a street gang. People who think like this should find out what a real street gang does. And trust me, they don't just hang around on a corner.

I recently met a 13 year old girl who just moved into this area from Los Angelos. By age 12, she had run away at least a dozen times, sometimes staying out for weeks at a time. When asked where she went, she says she usually went to a friend's house, with the friend's parent knowing! Obviously, kids can't be blamed totally for being irresponsible. As a parent, the friend's mother should have told the girl that it would be best if she went home, or at least called the girl's mother. This shows that the irresponsibility isn't always on the kids part, but on the parents as well.

I also think that Americans today should get to know some teens before they say that they are irresponsible. They should talk to the kids before they pass judgement on them. The majority of todays teens are responsible, whether the American public want's to admit it or not.

N.T.

CURRICULUM CHANGE

Do you find yourself with not enough time to accomplish what you want to do? Do you crame information into your head until yoiur brain is ready to explode, and still only barely manage to pass an exam? I think the solution to these problems should be taught in the classroom. Time management and study skills are two things that you will need for the rest of your life.

I feel these subjects are more important than some of our other classes. Take Technical Drawing, for example. Most students who take this class repeat the same information in their Shop Tech classes.

How about having a free period at least once a week? Just about every other high school has one every day. We can use this free period to meet with our different clubs and activities instead of missing out on our classes. This will separate the people who really want to be in an acivity and not just get out of class.

And while we're on the subject of cirriculum changes, do we really need to repeat the same information year after year in our English classes? Do we not know how to speak English? How about implementing writing skills? We can write about certain topics and we'll become more skilled in grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and so on. By doing this, we can get many different English lessons rolled together into one package. (I think this way we will always learn something new and wouldn't be as tempted to sleep in class.)

The Japanese "kick our butt" educationally. Maybe it's because in the fifth grade, they stop teaching Japanese grammar and a second language is mandatory. Can we get the message? Hopefully, now that Mr. Martins is Superintendent and an education reform bill has been passed, we can start to really iearn.

D.R.



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Creative Writing (Cont.)

GREATFUL LOVE

by Glen Brook

For only the Gods can hear my pain!
That statement was at one time a favorite of mine,
But something erased it.
Something as beautiful as the birth of my child.
That something was you!

Because of you my life was reborn!
Only to live as I once lived.
Thoughts erased for every man,
To live as they live now.
You are my life and forever will be!

THE LABYRINTH OF TIME

by Danielle L. Proulx

Love is the essence of all beauty.
Spirit is the keeper of time.
Hope is the reminder of life;
And to live is not a journey, yet a chore.
For some not others,
Maybe a destination.
But there is one thing for sure;
It's a labyrinth.
Make the right move and it'll take you to places you've
Never dreamt about.
The wrong turn and you'll be at a dead end.
The key to unleash the gate is within your very soul.
The labyrinth of all everlasting eternity.

FEEL THE SUN

by Jason Pacheco

" I like to feel the sun," Bert said looking at the reporter like a young child would look at Santa Claus in the mall.

" How do you mean?" asked the reporter.

" Let me ask you something," Bert paused then took a deep breath. " I love flowers and so should everyone else. Now if I took a pretty blue flower and colored it an ugly shade of brown, would you still like it?"

" No, I guess I wouldn't," answered the reporter giving Bert a confused look.

" And if I would put aflame that beautiful flower would you still applaud it's beauty or would you woe at it with a horrible stare?"

" I just don't see the point of this rambling. It has nothing to do with your first statement!" shouted the reporter.

" Oh, but you are so wrong. It has everything to do with what I first stated," Bert looked at the reporter. " When the human race is gone and all that is left is the sun, will you not like this world?"

" Because of your insane rambling on I am forced to end this interview."

" Stop!" Bert interrupted. " I'm going to heaven now and on the way I'll feel the sun and think of you."

" Help! Somebody call a doctor!"

ONE WAY OUT

by John Jordan

An angel lies chained in a cell of her own emotion, unaware of her own existence. Her tired wings become invisible to her whenever a wind of fortune blows above her. So she remains trapped by the pessimistic keepers of fear. She recalls the days of happiness which she cherished so much, but mistakingly feels she has lost them forever. On the floor she sees her hopes and dreams stare up at her from a puddle of her own tears. She reaches down hoping to grasp on to them once again, only to find dryness beneath her fingertips. The disappearance of her tears only brings more, along with a cloud of sorrow which covers all she has touched. All the while she holds the key to her happiness and the powers of heaven in the palm of her hand.

MIKE CUMMINGS

by Cheryl Paul 94M

We thought of you today, but that was nothing new.
We thought of yesterday and will tomorrow, too.
We think of you in silence and make no outward show,
For what it meant to loose you no one will ever show.
You wished no one a last farewell nor ever said goodbye.
You were gone before we knew it and only God knows why.
Your golden heart stopped beating and your tender heart is at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us he only takes the best.
You're the wind beneath our wings at "Diman".
We love you Mikey.

Creative Writing

HTC

yearning for morning on easter
baring this flaccid soul
holding the skull of a martyr
tarrying for rest by the bower,
and all shall forgo,
this insipid repose
and respire by the unusual bower

try not to trip, and fall into place
try not to die, or lie in my space
the world is a moment
retrospection important
never to remember
the love we have severed
the ties to forever

lovers eyes of luxury
labored by countenence
perpetually endearing
to a love that admirers resent
the season of all to relive,
are the days of the harrowed to give
and your tears showed the way to a cavernous place
and I see now the pangs are of me!

Blind With Sight

by Jason Pacheco

If it leaves shall it return,
I'm talking about reality.
The difference between two is difficult to find.
But I will accomplish this clever task
and defeat all enemies,
except my own.

SPRING

by Kathy Pereira

Winter is gone
Spring is here
Birds are coming
from far and near.
The bluebirds chirping
on a sunny day;
The sound of them
chases the clouds away.

MUSIC BOX

by Greg Sardina

Todd listened to the music box and his mind started drifting away. He thought about what the old man at the antique store had said "The music box doesn't play music, it plays life". More and more he listened to the beautiful music and could feel his brain swaying inside his head. He listened for what he thought was five minutes but was really an hour and a half. The music was strange but beautiful, he thought so he listened on. He could feel a headache coming on but convinced himself it was nothing. "Must go on ", Todd thought, "Must finish this song".

The pain in his head was now migraine level. For the first time in a while Todd thought about time. This is a very long song, he thought and then lost track again. The pain in his head was now worse than any hangover he had ever had. Lost in eternity he started to have memories that no one ever remembers. He saw himself being born, his first trip home and every detail from then to purchasing the music box for a dollar this morning. Todd saw his whole life like he was watching a movie in fast forward. The music played on and he listened. Strangely, the music sounded like a human voice. Todd's head felt like it was going to explode so he folded his arms at the desk he was at and buried his head in them. The music got so clear that Todd could hear the old man, "This music box doesn't play music, it plays life, it plays life, it plays life, it plays life". The voice got louder "it plays life". All life left Todd's body. The box closed itself.

Excerpt from the town newspaper Obituary: Todd Chambers found dead in his apartment by a concerned neighbor. After calling, the police reported a break in. Rachel Rogers age 22 entered the deceased's apartment and found him slumped at his desk. Todd was 25. Nothing was reported missing. Autopsy reveals that Todd died of severe brain hemorrhage. Todd was the last surviving member of his family. . . .

" This music box looks nice," Mark said to the old store owner.

"This music box doesn't play music, it plays life."

This I Love

I'm lost
in a daze that's not real
but in it's essence
it's truth.
I love black in all her shades
midnight,
black roses,
that always welcome
the presence of death.
I am ignorant,
yet wise,
swimming in the deepest levels
of the subconscious.
This I Love.
In silence and sorrow
I've drifted through
the lie of meager existence
greeted by
screaming silence.
Where nowhere
is everywhere
and somewhere
is nowhere
society is the ultimate
extension of conformity.
No one wishes to communicate
with the truth,
no one hears it's cry.
This I Love.

Doug Machado

Road of Existence

by Jason Pacheco

As I walk this extreme walk, many
times I fall and stumble,
but still I pick myself up with my
bloody hands,
and I smile.

Arts & Entertainment

Schindler's List: A Must See

by Crystal Giguere (with S. Sayre)

Several weeks ago, I went to see the movie Schindler's List. I've watched many "tear jerkers" in my time and never shed a tear, but during this 3 hour 20 minute movie, I cried three times.

During the first part, I thought I had the main character, Oscar Schindler, all figured out. He was a cold German who was just out to be successful in German-occupied Poland during World War II, not aware or concerned about the number of Jews he was actually saving from the gas chambers. Later, however, he became dedicated to saving as many of them as he could, at great financial and physical risk to himself.

Schindler made deals with Amon Goethe, an SS officer in charge of the Crakow ghetto and later a labor camp, to hire Jews to work in his factory making pots. He hired a member of the Jewish Council as his accountant. Together, they helped many Jews avoid the gas chamber of Auschwitz, by securing their places on "Schindler's List" and thus guaranteeing them jobs in his factory, where their slave labor was needed for the war effort. Here, in Schindler's factory, they were "safe" from their Nazi oppressors.

An important part of the movie showed how Schindler changed from just using the Jews to make his fortune, to helping them. One day, while riding horseback near the ghetto, he witnessed the horrible uprooting and killing of the Jews living there, some of whom were his workers. All who weren't killed that day were sent either to Auschwitz or a work camp in Crakow, near Schindler's factory. Schindler managed to save his accountant from the death camp, and keep his surviving workers as well.

Eventually, the work camp was to be closed and all of the Jews were to be sent to Auschwitz for extermination. After months of trying to buy off the German authorities, Schindler managed to buy back his workers from Auschwitz and move them to a new factory he had set up in Czechoslovakia where they were to make gun shells for the war effort. The Jews actually never succeeded at making a shell work, but Schindler didn't care if they ever did. At the end, when the Germans were defeated, he only wished he could have saved more lives, but the ones he did save will always be grateful.

I found this movie frightening in that one man, Hitler, could nearly destroy an entire race. It was also awesome that one man, Oscar Schindler, could help save them. I've never been so effected by a movie. If you haven't seen it, go!



by Sarah Mullen

Music Reviews

Guns 'N' Roses "The Spagetti Incident?"

The supposed Guns 'N' Roses "punk" album has been rumored to exist since the time the "Use Your Illusion" discs were released. And in fact, much of the material on the "Incident?" album does date from those sessions. But this album is more than just a collection of cover tunes and homages to the band's punk roots. With tunes raging from the Stooges' "Raw Power" to the Dead Boys' "Ain't It Fun", "The Spagetti Incident?" proves, as if there were still any doubts, that G 'N' R is a masterful rock and roll band, a group capable of taking any tune by any band and instantly making it their own.

Doug Machado

Metallica "Binge 'N' Purge"

This massive, all -encompassing, live collection is the ultimate Metallica "survival kit" for any true-blue Metalliholic, featuring three C.D.'s worth of music and three additional complete concert videos. "Binge 'N' Purge" is a package only a band like Metallica would have the guts and the nerve to pull off. But they're all here, live renditions of the groups classic songs, plus a variety of hard-to-find B-sides, cover tunes, and rarities. Despite the packages hefty price tag, (hey, look at what you're getting), this is the MUST HAVE COLLECTION of the year. Do anything short of stealing in order to get it.

Doug Machado