School Daze

Snap! the teacher's ruler smacks against the chalkboard.

Another day at school begins.

A day filled with rushing, headaches, pain, and hate.

Almost the whole school should be on the track team the way we run from one classroom to another, just to beat the bell.

Pop Quizzes. Why? Just another way for the teachers to show their dislike for us? Maybe the laughing faces of friends there when you screw up. Can it get any better?

The resounding noise of the bell confining you to your classrooms until it decides to let you out.

The fire drill alarm. Have you ever heard a sweeter sound? It has mercy on us for just a few brief moments, but we're all grateful.

Then the lunch bell rings, and for some odd reason, we rush to the cafeteria to eat some yucky, mushy stuff.

After we're done eating, we can return to our electric chairs and carry out sentences.

Finally, the bell rings for us to be set free for the day, realizing we have lasted another day of school.

Erica M. Followwill '98

Androgynous Minds

In a biosphere of 4
you're the one that I love more.
In a biosphere of 3
you're the only one for me
In a biosphere of 2
you know there's only room for you.
But in a biosphere of 1
invite them all so we can have some fun.

Christine Ferreira

Expectations

Expect me to know how to do that?
Show me how!
Expect me to read your mind?
Explain yourself now!
Directions spoken in French?
Do not understand how!
Understand another language?
Too hard to read and pronounce!
Speak different languages?
A solution to understand all mankind.

Anthony Mailloux '97

People

Some are happy,
some are sad
Some are nice,
some are mean
Some are tall,
some are short
Some are big,
some are small
Some are rich,
some are poor

but most of all
we all need love
we all need care
we all need someone
who'll always be there!

Lisa

A Prose Poem

I would rather have one little rose from the garden of a friend, than to have the choicest flowers then my stay on Earth must end.

I would rather have a pleasant word in kindness said to me, than flattery when my heart is still and this life has ceased to be.

I would rather have a loving smile from friends I know are true, than tears shed around my casket when this world I bid adieu.

Bring me all the flowers now whether pink or white or red, I'd rather have one in blossom now than a truckload when I'm dead.

Anonymous

Fantasy Land

Show me your little trinkets, your dolls, your toys, those weird objects you brought to show and tell when you were in kindergarten. show me the things your parents forbid you from showing anyone else, and if you show me yours' i just might show you mine.

Tell me those silly kid stories they told you when you were young, tell me how you played, how you played in your backyard in the fall with the leaves. tell me how you were and what you wanted to be. tell me all the secrets they told you and said not to tell anyone tell me. i promise i won't tell a soul.

Tell me how you parted your hair on picture day, what you wore on your field trips to the museum, what your mother packed for your lunch, and how you threw away the bologna and told her it was delicious.

Show me your brown corduroys, your little blue polo shirt, your snowflake sweaters. i want to see them.

Show me your room filled with transformers and posters of madonna and banana rama. show me your star wars lunch box and all of your action figures. let's sit down and watch the smurfs, the care bears, scooby doo and inspector gadget, let's watch penny solve another case. or would you rather play atari 2600?

Tell me everything you felt and feel for everything or nothing. tell me and i promise i won't tell a soul.

Christine Ferreira



Stone ducklings at Boston Common

Library

THE TRADESMAN

DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

-- A NEWSPAPER by and for DIMAN STUDENTS --

Volume 3 No. 2 February 1996

WEATHER ANYONE?

Chapin Borges '96

Like it or not the weather is here.

After experiencing the strong winds, heavy surf, and extremely high tides of hurricane Felix last summer, were expecting the worst this winter.

Felix created much coastal erosion from its giant swells which bombarded our beaches for about a week. Closed beaches frustrated swimmers and surfers, but if you did make it into the water, like myself and other surfers, this was an unforgettable experience. Other low pressure systems continued to give us heavy surf throughout the fall. With all this weather, we started to wonder what the winter could bring us.

It was the very beginning of winter, and already a snowstorm left just under a foot of the white stuff in some areas of Southern New England just before Christmas. This was said to be one of, if not the largest storm ever. Schools and businesses were canceled all over New England. Accidents terrorized our area. Just when we thought Christmas vacation was over, guess again.

They called it the blizzard of "96". Instead of getting ready for work or school, people everywhere were shoveling and plowing - around two feet of snow in most areas. Skiers and snow boarders were extremely pleased and went out to play while others took the TV's advice and didn't. Cars were buried on the side of the road like hibernating bears waiting for the spring thaw.

Since winter is still here for a while longer, we may be in for more of Mother Nature's surprises. Perhaps it's best here in New England to just expect the unexpected.

MCANDREW WINS NOMINATION

Kerrie McAndrew of the Graphic Arts shop is Diman Regional's 1995-96 nominee for Massachusetts Outstanding Vocational Student Award. The winner will be chosen among competitors from all the vocational high schools in Massachusetts at a banquet held on March 7 in Worcester, Massachusetts.

This is a great honor for the friendly Diman senior who is very "surprised and excited about the whole thing". While she feels there were other students worthy of this honor, Kerrie is looking forward to representing herself and Diman in March.

Kerrie plans to attend the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth in September where she will major in Graphic Design/Letterform.



Kerrie McAndrew



Chapin Borges wipes out at Horseneck in the after-math of Hurricane Felix last summer.



Cars burried by the "Blizzard of 96"

Commentary . . .

From the Editor

The Newspaper Staff Goes To Boston

Christine Ferreira - editor '96

On December 8 at six a.m. while most of you were getting ready for school, or even perhaps, still sleeping, eight people from the Diman newspaper staff, along with Mrs. Sayre, were on the road to Boston to attend the East Coast Regional High School Journalism Convention for three days. This is the first time Diman has ever been represented at such a high profile conference.

We stayed at the Park Plaza (Howard Johnson) Hotel, attending seminars and meetings, listening to key note speakers, such as the world renown linguist and writer Dr. Richard Lederer. Another key note speaker we were fortunate enough to hear was Matt Storin, the Editor of the Boston Globe.

We attended seminars on diverse subjects as : "How to Write the News," which taught students different ways of writing articles, and "Sensitive Issues," which taught students how to handle writing about controversial and sensitive subjects. We also attended what was called "Break with a pro," which gave students the opportunity to meet with local media professionals to talk about careers in journalism.

Later, on our own we saw a plethora of wondrous things Boston had to offer. We went to music stores like Tower Records and Newberry Comics, and a very large Mall I can't even recall the name of. Oh, and did I mention the Hard Rock Cafe?

The opportunity to meet with kids from other schools and make new friends was fun yet educational. We are hoping that this will become an annual trip for the newspaper staff. I'm sure everyone benefited from this experience.

I wish to thank Mrs.Sayre for making this possible, the administration for funding the trip, and also those few but loyal members of the newspaper staff who continue to work hard.



Hurry up and get all the goods in the van before they catch us.



Don't forget party at 8:00 O.K.?



All packed and ready to head back home.

Another Tony Camponelli Mystery

The X File

Louie Rebelo *Part II of IV*

One of the strange creatures slowly walked toward us and started speaking in perfect English. We stood there confused, listening to the creature. "Hey, Mr. Kotter! Mom always said, 'Don't play ball in the house'. Hey, Mr. Wilson! Ow, my nose. Homerun and the 'Sox' win the series! Who's on first and what's on second? There's no place like home. There's no place like home."

"What?" I asked.

The creature responded, "Isn't this what you like? We have scanned many human brains looking for what your kind enjoys doing and these lines came up often. I think they came from what you call television shows. Enough of that. We want you and your two friends to know that we don't mean to harm you or your kind. We just want to understand how you work. We'll conduct a few tests on different parts of your bodies, but you won't feel any pain nor will anything be implanted in you. So, don't worry." One of my prisoners curled up against the other one as one of the creatures signaled for me to go towards it. Outnumbered, I walked over slowly. It led me down a long, dark hallway with a dim light at the end. As we neared the light, I noticed that the walls were lifting up off their bases. Behind the walls were some machines that looked like hospital stretchers with large computers attached to them. Very high-tech, whatever they were.

There were two more creatures awaiting out arrival in that room. Except for a distinct, blue line on their forehead, these two looked almost identical to the others we had seen earlier; naked, tall, skinny with broad shoulders and black eyes. One of them came over and told me to lay down on one of the stretcher-type machines. Unsure of what would happen next, I lay down on the bed. That same creature walked over to a control panel and started pressing some buttons. A large, rectangular box slowly descended over me from the abnormally tall ceiling. It stopped once it was about six inches away from me. One of the marked creatures placed a small cap over each of my eyes, and I suddenly began to feel intense heat. I could see bright light through the caps, so I knew I was the subject of a test. As quickly at the heat came, it left.

I jumped off the bed and looked in amazement at a holographic screen showing episodes of my life. I asked, "What are you going to do with this?" I guess they didn't like me asking because before I was finished speaking, I was violently pushed by one of the creatures into a large, humming, glass cylinder. The creature that pushed me closed the cylinder, and the hum became deafening. I was blinded by a blue light, and I found myself falling through the roof of a building and landing on top of someone. Immediately, men dressed in old - fashioned police uniforms picked me up off the person I had landed on and wiped the dirt, dust and wood splinters off me. When they saw I was clean, they picked up the man I had fallen on and brought him out into a horse drawn carriage, being driven by a man with a "ten gallon hat" and a star badge on his lapel.

Quickly turning around, I noticed I was in a bank. The man with the star badge on his lapel came up to me. "For this here is a day of celebration. We've been tryin' to catch that varmint for 'bout a year now and you've made it seem so simple by just, if you would pardon the expression, fallin' in on the number one most wanted bank robber in the west, Billy's kid. You just ask for anythin' you'll be wantin', exceptin' for my wife, of course, huh huh, an I'll see fit that you get it. Oh yeah, can't be forgettin' 'bout that reward. Come by the station later with your wishlist and I'll get you your $500."

Trying to absorb what had just happened, I thanked the sheriff, shook his hand and promised to stop by later. Confused, I walked out into the street and looked around. Maybe if I knew where and when I was, I'd be able to keep the promise.

to be continued. . . . .
part 2 of 4



ALICE UNCHAINED

Joshua Novo '96

Layne Staley (vocals, guitar), Jerry Cantrell (vocals, guitar), Mike Inez (bass), and Sean Kinney (drums) make up the band known as Alice in Chains. This band formed in Seattle in 1987 and was known in the local area as glam rock rip-offs, but soon enough they found their own style.

In 1990 their debut album Facelift hit it big. Their hit song from that album was and still is "Man in the box." In 1991 Alice in Chains made their movie debut playing the part of a sleazy bar band in Singles. They performed "Would?" Which won best movie soundtrack single. In 1992 they released an EP called SAP and later would release their second full length album called Dirt. In Sept. of 1992 Alice in Chains released two songs for the Arnold Schwartzenegger, Last Action Hero.

While enjoying success, Alice in Chains was having its tough times, too. Layne Staley, the lead vocalist, was having his troubles with drugs. He collapsed on stage several times due to overdoses during a tour. He was admitted into rehab.

On Jan. 25, 1994 their much praised acoustic EP Jar of Files made its debut as #1 on the popular music chart. But, after this point it was all down hill for A. L. C. Layne Staley was admitted into rehab for the second time which caused them to cancel the tour with Metallica and their spot at Woodstock. Lots of rumors arose around the band about their breaking up. Layne Staley was released from rehab and went straight into the recording studio with members from Pearl Jam and Screaming Trees to form Mad Season in 1995. The bassist Mike Inez went his own way and teamed up with Slash of Guns and Roses to form Slash's Snakepit. Both projects were successful, but it was time to get back to Alice in Chains.

They went into the recording studio once again. On Nov. 7, 1995, their full length album was released called Alice in Chains. This album is much darker than the rest. Songs like "Grind" and "Heaven Beside you" ring with tones of pain and deceit. Most of the songs on the other albums were Staley's drug addiction. This album is different. It's all about Staley kicking his drug habit and all the speculation surrounding his ordeal.

Alice in Chains is finally getting its act together and the new album out now is getting its playing time and climbing the charts. The up-coming year should be an interesting one for Alice in Chains and their fans.

The Tradesmen

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A Look at . . . . *WHAT'S HOT*

Mike Pavao

1995 was one of the biggest years ever in the world of music, but according to the new 1996 issue of Billboard Magazine this year is predicted to be even better. Big hits are already making their way to the top of the charts.

These are the 5 most listened to and hottest songs on the Top 40:

5) La Bouche - Be My Lover

(This song is most listened to because itprovides a dance beat and is widely played in clubs allacross the country. This is the groups first hit single from their debut album Sweet Dreams, now available in record stores.)

4) Coolio - Too Hot

(This song is more of a kick-off from the 80's hit "Too Hot" from Kool & The Gang except it has a rap beat to it. This is the second Top 40 hit from his second platinum album Gangster's Paradise, now available in record stores.)

3) R. Kelly - You Remind Me Of Something

(This is the first smash hit from his second top selling album which is self - titled and now available in record stores. This song is morestrung out on the R&B tip for people who like slow jams.)

2) L.L. Cool J - Hey Lover

(This song is burning up the airwaves with its combination of R&B and rap beat. Not only is he a star on television shows but he is a musician. This song can be found on his 5th Top 40 album Mr. Smith now available in record stores.)

1) Mariah Carey / Boyz II Men - One Sweet Day

(This song is by far the most hottest song being played on radio and sold in record stores all across the world. This song can be found on her 5th hottest selling album Daydream. This song combines the sweet sound of Mariah Carey and the background vocals of Boyz II Men.)

Diman's *"Security"*

L.R. '97

Last time I checked, there was one security guard here at Diman. Now, having only one security guard is not a problem if he (or she) is well equipped. By "well equipped" I mean a car that runs well and at least two means of self defense (just in case, a gun and a bully bat). I understand a gun and bully bat may be a little far-fetched, but you don't know what can happen from today to tomorrow. Let's get back to that car that runs well. Just in case you haven't noticed, our security guard here at Diman, drives around in his little, mint green mobile home which probably dates back to the early 70 's.

A hypothetical situation: One morning, "Manny Joe" decides to show off that he can completely ruin his tires, brakes and possibly his drive train in his Mustang , by giving a smoke-show (stepping on the brakes and the accelerator at the same time). Now, Mr. Security Guard notices this and calls to Mr. Bentley, "Security mobile home to Mr. Bentley," and then tries to apprehend "Manny Joe". In just the time it took to inform Mr. Bentley, "Manny Joe" is long gone and down the road. Now, in order for the security mobile home to reach speeds over 20 MPH he would have to have a rocket booster in the back somewhere, and I haven't seen it, so "Manny Joe" is in the clear. A hypothetical situation, of course.

Up until recently, I've always noticed that the maroon GMC truck (that the school uses to plow, maintain the property with, and salt or sand the roads) had something along the line of the following written on the sides of it: "Donated to the future technicians at Diman Voc. by Barbosa GMC." With some simple translation, I would think, that means that the GMC was donated to the school for the students to learn on, particularly in the auto shops. Now, if you look at the truck, you'll see that the part about "to the future technicians" isn't there any more. Is the school trying to hide this information from us because they know how we would re act if we knew? If you've been through auto mechanics during your freshman exploratory program, you'll quickly learn that a silver Monte Carlo was also donated to the school. It's being used for what it was intended for: students learn how to do some of the basics on that car.

I don't know, but don't you think that one or both of the aforementioned vehicles could be used for security purposes? With some work, the Monte Carlo could be road worthy again and the GMC truck has always been road worthy. With the addition of some graphics on the sides and some flashing lights, these vehicles would make some damned good security vehicles.

I honestly think that Diman Security is not doing its job. If you have ever seen Durfee (that other high school) Security, you would quickly notice that they aren't fooling around with their security force. I know that a school that can spend hundreds of dollars to send eight students on a field trip, about eighty thousand dollars on a new spray booth for the Collision Repair Shop, and somewhere in the vicinity of three hundred thousand dollars on rebuilding the lower half of the school's outside walls, can dish out about fifteen thousand dollars to buy a vehicle for the sole purpose of being the school's security vehicle and not as the guard's daily driver.

I know that nothing will be done to improve Diman's security, solely because of this article, but if those who do care would state their opinions to the administrators (through editorials in the school paper or face to face) maybe something can be done to improve Diman's Security.



Diman Security "Shack"

DEAR EDITOR,

I believe DIMAN's dress code is somewhat unfair to its students. I think the dress code is too strict and denies us students a basic right. I understand that in a vocational school there must be certain guidelines to follow. I realize that in shop people must take precautions; I can understand the need to dress for safety. That's fine.

But, there is such a thing that allows every U.S. citizen (even teenagers) freedom of the press, religion, and speech. It's called the First Amendment. DIMAN students clearly aren't being granted all the rights granted in this amendment if we aren't free to express ourselves in every way, which includes the way we dress.

When people dress a particular way, it's only to express their own individuality, their own sense of self. Showing an inch or two of stomach is not indecent exposure; it's style, or just a certain way you want to dress.

If we have something to say, I don't see why it can't be said on our shirts. I don't see how words on a shirt can be disruptive and distracting to the classroom. A fluorescent orange sweatshirt (which we are allowed to wear) can be very distracting, but it isn't like the whole classroom will just sit, mesmerized by the shirt, not paying attention to the teacher.

If we are not free to express ourselves anyway we want, as long as we don't infringe upon the rights of others, and if we have restrictions on the way we dress, we are not free to demonstrate our thoughts and feelings. We are denied our First Amendment right of freedom of expression.

We can create an appropriate environment and still express ourselves. Each person should be responsible for upholding dignity and decency. Every person in their own mind understands what is decent, and what's not if they don't, then they don't really belong in DIMAN, do they?

Erica M. Followwill '98

How Do I Look?

Christine Ferreira '97

"Each term together with subject and shop grades every student will be evaluated by the shop teacher for Attitude, Cooperation, Industry, Leadership, and Personal Appearance. A student will be graded on a scale of 1 (high) to 5(low) in each of these traits."

What you just read is an excerpt from the Diman Student Handbook. A student will be graded on a scale from 1 to 5 of Personal Appearance? I can't believe what I am reading. But there it is alright - in the handbook! This is unfair. As if it's not bad enough that kids care more about what they are wearing than what they are learning, now they have a reason to. We are being graded on it.

Picture this if you will. You are driving onto school grounds when you suddenly notice that the sign has been changed. You are no longer a student of vocational and technical study, but a pupil of the Diman School of Vogue. Why, instead of hallways we have runways. Don't bother to run to your locker to get your books. Just take your turn on the runway making sure to strut your stuff in front of the shop instructors. You want to get a good grade, don't you?

Sarcastic as this last paragraph might seem, this is a serious matter which we need to change. If, indeed, the personal appearance trait grade is only to reflect on how well a student abides by the safety rules of his her shop, then maybe it should not be called "Personal Appearance." And if, indeed, it is designed to judge the quality of our attire, then is this not a violation of our First Amendment rights?

"Dogg Food"

The controversial Dogg Pound CD entitled Dogg Food will be a feast for rap fans. While fans are eating it up, however, politicians such as Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole will be playing with their food as they continue to "Dogg" the rap music industry.

Seniors and Homework

Miguel Andrade '96

I think that teachers are taking homework too far! Teachers seem to be giving us a lot of homework just to keep us busy and I don't think that's what homework is supposed to be used for.

Homework should be given to students to make sure that everyone understands what they're supposed to be learning. It's also a great way to find out who needs help in a given subject and who doesn't. If we know what's going on in class and are able to pass our tests, then why should we have to do homework while working 35-40 hours per week?

I have enough trouble trying to find time to keep up with my chores, study for tests and get enough rest, never mind trying to make the time to do homework for all 8 of my classes, most of which I'm passing. A lot of seniors say, "Why should we have to do homework if we already stay in school 6 1/2 hours?" I agree. Isn't 6 1/2 hours of school enough? Why do we have to take the work home?

I think that homework should be optional, like getting tutored. If you have the time and need the help, it's a good idea, but if you already know what you're doing in class, then to me, the extra work becomes a total waste of time.

Cafeteria Food Review

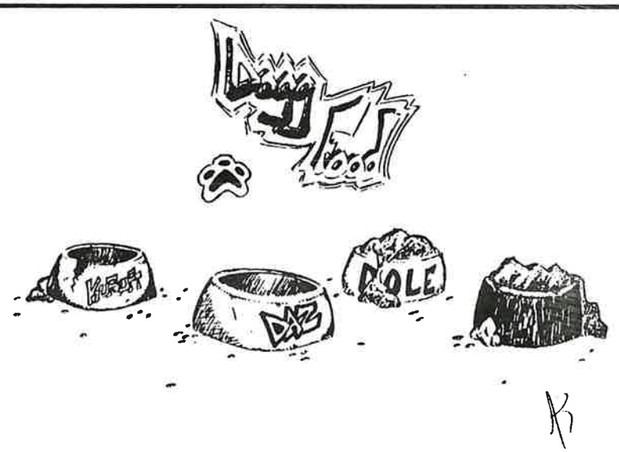
Lisa Pausek '96

The lunches here are horrible, according to many of Dimans' students. Although some may object to the word "horrible", most of us think the lunches which are supposed to be well-balanced and nutritious aren't at all.

I've seen the boxes of frozen foods which come into school, like veal patties, for example, which contain not even 10 % meat and the rest just fillers and preservatives. The only thing we could consider healthy is the fruit, salad and milk we can have with our lunch, but one or two good things don't necessarily make the whole meal healthy.

One good idea is to have school lunch catered. We could have a wide variety of foods to chose from and we won't have to worry about the government shipping us meats with over 80 % of something else other than meat in it.

I propose the government reform school lunches. Maybe if the President ate what we ate for a couple of weeks or two, he'd pass any bill having to do with reforming lunches.



THEY'RE BACK

Bill Carro '96

Last month the final touches were made on the new Nelson album, Because They Can. The long awaited album was supposed to be released in the late summer of 1994. It includes the lyrics to 13 songs and also a remix. Matt Nelson writes on the inside cover that the songs are a translation of life experience and mixed emotions. He thinks the band's best songs are "Won't Walk Away", "Be Still", and "Nobody Wins In The End", and that they will be their big hits.

Using a rating from one to ten, I would give Because They Can an eight. The first side wasn't as good as the second side, and if they're not equally as good you get bored when listening. Even though the album was released much later than expected, it is well worth the wait.





Matt & Gunnar Nelson

"NOTHING" IS FUNNY

Rob Raposa

Seinfeld, a comedy that airs Thursday nights on NBC, is an extremely funny show. The show revolves around Jerry Seinfeld, a comedian, and his three friends: Elaine, Kramer and George. The characters are all funny and well acted, but the character George makes the show. He is self-centered, negative and sometimes whiney, but you can't help like the guy. The character is played by Jason Alexander who is a very talented actor and well deserving of the Emmy he won for supporting actor in that role.

The show has often been called the show about "nothing" by many critics because it often deals with menial topics. For example, the characters spend a whole episode lost in a parking garage trying to locate their car.

Also, the show often deals with the characters' inability to maintain relationships due to their self-centeredness and pettiness. In one episode, Jerry breaks up with a very nice girl because her laugh annoys him. But it's precisely this "nothingness" that's so funny. We are really laughing at ourselves and the silly predicaments of our own lives.

Throughout the years, Seinfeld has remained fresh and is still one of the best comedians on television. If you are one of the few who have yet to watch his show, I suggest you do. You won't be disappointed.

To our Readers

We welcome letters to the editor. Each should be signed with the person's class ('98,'97 etc.) included next to the name. Please type and double-space your letter. If that's not possible, write in ink, clearly, on every other line.

SPORTS *continued*

A Disappointing Season

Justin DeSouto '96

The Diman Bengals Soccer season was not as successful as we hoped it would be. We came into the season with high hopes to finish the season with a playoff birth, but, unfortunately, it did not work out as we had planned.

We prepared for our season by coming to practice two weeks before the school year started. The team ran everyday trying their hardest to get themselves back into shape after the long summer. A week into the school year we encountered our first challenge of the season as we entered the Westport High School Soccer Field to participate in the annual jamboree.

In our first game, we played the Dartmouth Soccer team, coming into the game with high anticipation hoping that our hard work would eventually end up in a victory. Even though we did work hard and hustled for sixty minutes, unfortunately we ended up on the short end of the stick with a 2-1 loss. We still had another game to play and the team had to concentrate on playing that game. As we challenged the Somerset High Soccer team, we had a better showing ending up in a 1-1 stalemate. We all agreed that there was much work to be done if we were to be ready for the first game of the season.

We worked hard to better ourselves everyday after school with each person dedicating himself and sacrificing his time to make this team the best it could possibly be. Each person strove to push himself to the limit to get physically and, most importantly, mentally prepared for the upcoming challenges that the season was to bring to the team. But all the hard work and determination for a championship season did not work out as we had wished. The Diman Bengals Soccer team ended the season with a record of 5-10-1 and did not make the playoffs.

Being a senior and playing my last year of soccer, I was also hoping, as the rest of the team, to win a championship and end my high school soccer career on a good note, but it did not work out as I hoped it would. I still have another chance to enjoy victory however, as I prepare to try again this spring for a championship year with the Diman baseball team.



Diman Bengals Soccer Team



1995-1996 Diman Varsity Hockey Team at the beginning of the season.



Captain Steve Couto dumps the puck in against South Shore as they try to pick up their first win of the year.

"And Justice For All"?

Jenn Carvalho '96
Nicky Parent '96

As students, we hear a lot about this "new" smoking law. What exactly is it? After doing research, we found out that in 1993, the Educational Reform Law was enacted in Chapter 37, sec. H. The law states that certain products such as narcotics and other chemicals are considered to be illegal on school property. This law also bans the use of tobacco products on school grounds. The intent is to have a smoke - free graduating class by the year 2000. This would mean that from kindergarten on, schools will be smoke free. Basically, Diman administrators are looking at it this way: if you're carrying cigarettes, you're going to smoke them. This is why we cannot carry cigarettes onto school grounds.

What exactly is the punishment for smoking? That's simple; carrying them on school grounds starts off with a detention and moves up the line to a day of in - school suspension. Smoking them in the bathrooms or on buses results in two days of in - school suspension. We all know how that works. It has probably happened to most of us or some of our friends.

There's also been a lot of confusion concerning the searching of personal property, such as lockers, pocketbooks, and jackets. When doing our research, we learned that the administration does have the right to search students' belongings if they have reason to believe that the students are carrying something illegal.

It must be understood that this law applies to everyone on school grounds - including teachers! ! Why, then, are the jackets or cars of teachers who smoke not being searched for "illegal substances"? This was a major question of ours when we began our research for this article. Mr. Ramos handles the teachers disciplinary actions. Though he did not refuse comment, he was, unfortunately, unavailable for an interview.

Doing our research and speaking to students, we found considerable disagreement with the way this law is being enforced. Most of the students we talked to are unhappy considering that teachers who violate the law don't even take a slap on the wrist, yet students get maximum punishment! !

We're all a part of the school community. Therefore, the searching and punishments should be fairly applied, or not at all. Then, there would be "Justice For All"! !

What Is Considered Bad Taste Around Here?

Nancy Ann Marie Charrette '96

I saw it and was angered. A student in this school was wearing a t-shirt which I consider to be in bad taste. The shirt said on the front, "Beware of God", and on the back, "The Lord is a Shepherd." Another shirt which can be included in the "bad taste" category is a "Sin on Skin" t-shirt with Satan's star on the back. I would like to know how people get away with insulting the Lord.

It's true that the First Amendment in the Constitution protects our right to wear any t-shirt we want. It's called Freedom of Speech. However, the student handbook defines what is and what is not supposed to be worn in this school. Look on page 32: "Shirts or shorts with written slogans on them that disrupt the educational process of school are not to be worn." The slogans on these t-shirts may not "disrupt the educational process", but we should have better taste. The answer lies in fashion; some of these people should get tapped on the head so they can develop a better sense of fashion.

Slogans with references to sex and illegal drugs are not the only things that are in bad taste. "Co-Ed Naked" t-shirts are a big NO with the administration. But what about t-shirts that offend me? Blasphemy is okay with the school? Words that go against religious beliefs of people are okay?

T-shirts with sayings like that are in bad taste and should not be worn in school.

Date Rape - Is it Happening Here? *J. R. '96*

Date Rape is when two people agree to go on a date, and one party starts to get sexually aggressive and succeeds in having sex with the other party. The problem is, the "other party" has been an unwilling participant and has been forced into it.

Date rape happens more often than it is talked about. No one likes to talk about this "hot" subject. Most people don't even believe date rape is happening to Diman students. But it is.

The reason people don't bring it up is because of possible legal consequences. Nobody wants to get anybody else in trouble, regardless of what that person may have done. As a result, only a few people who have been victims of date rape have spoken to the counselors.

I have spoken to some of our students about this issue. They all said, without exception, that they would not talk to any guidance counselors if date rape happened to them. One student even stated, "The guidance office is a gossip column."

To be fair, I then talked to Mrs. Bernard, one of the counselors. Even she responded hesitantly, but her message is clear. "Any student who has been a victim of date/acquaintance rape should feel safe speaking to his or her guidance counselor about that experience. All issues taken up in guidance are kept in strict confidence."

I hope Diman students will consider trusting our guidance counselors. If you have been a victim, there are telephone numbers you can call to get help. Victims everywhere need to speak up! Date rape is not the VICTIMS' fault, and they have to speak up for themselves if we want to it to stop!

Good Deeds

Jessica Lincoln '96

Who says today's teens don't understand the value of helping others even when they don't get paid for their efforts? Thanks to the Key Club and the Honor Society here at Diman, many families in the Fall River area had a happier Christmas.

The Honor Society sponsored a charity drive called "Clothe a Child". Faculty and students who wished to donate to the activity were issued red tags which gave information about a child in need, like age, sex, size, and desired article of clothing. Then, the contributor could either make a money donation to the H.S. and a member would shop for that particular child, or go shopping and buy the article or outfit directly from the store. Some stores even offered discounts to the donator. The gifts were then distributed to the families. The Honor Society only had one week to hand out the tags and collect the money or item.

This was the first year the Honor Society sponsored "Clothe a Child". With all the donations, they managed to help 25 needy families!

The Key Club also helped 25 families this past Christmas, but not by clothing them. Instead, the club members helped the families make sure Christmas dinner was on the table by donating food baskets. The Key Club has done this annually for the past 25 years.

The Key Club raised money by selling candy in the cafeteria and by sponsoring a Bowl-A-Thon at the Somerset Holiday Lanes. They also received a generous donation from Attorney Jerry Gunner who is a former English teacher at Diman. Students and teachers also donated to the Basket Drive. Auto Mechanics shop raised the most money and, for the first time, beat Auto Body. Also, the Health Careers shop made history by collecting the most canned goods and beating out the Graphic Arts shop.

All the baskets went out just before Christmas on time with the assistance of the Kiwanis Club of Fall River. President Betty Ann Mullens and Lt. Governor Jim Boulay drove 4 Key Club members through the snowy, ice-covered streets of Fall River to deliver the baskets.

Co-op Success

Dave Simoch '96

Recently I visited True Machine located on Rt. 6 in Swansea. True Machine is a small, but neat and organized machine shop that does lots of work. This year the owner, Louis Pastana, has decided to join the Co-op program with the Diman machine shop. James Carreiro has been chosen and accepted to work there.

I asked Mr. Pastana how he liked the Co-op plan and he replied, "It 's a good plan. It lets the students see what is actually out there for work. It is also more educational in that the students learn different techniques as to how things can be done."

The students are able to earn a paycheck at the end of the week and can be offered a job at the end of the school year. The Co-op agreement is a success in Mr. Pastana's view. He says that, "James is a very nice and intelligent boy," and he enjoys having James work for him.

Experiencing Co-op

Jason Dextraze '96

One of the reasons I came to Diman is I heard about this program called Co-op. For some who don't know what Co-op is, it is a job the school finds for seniors that enables them to get work in their trade for an hourly wage. I think Co-op is the best program for seniors. It is a very good experience. It not only gets you out of school for your shop weeks, but you also learn more about your trade and it helps you get used to the job world.

As a senior, I'm experiencing Co-op this year. I work at Monroe Electrical Supply House. I'm learning to work with people who are in the trade and I'm learning how to use the computer. My job is giving me a better knowledge of different materials that electricians use which will be useful in my future. I am gaining more knowledge in my trade and learning what work is going to be like when I finish high school. The money is good, too.

It feels different to go to work instead of going to school. This is something I have to get used to since this year will be over soon. I now have a job I might be interested in staying with because of good hours and benefits. But, if I decide to leave, my experience will help me with future jobs.

Thanks to Co-op, I'm getting knowledge in my trade, money, and experience. For me, everything about Co-op has been good. I feel lucky to experience Co-op in my senior year.



Kevin Ouellette & Holly Santos



Jennifer Chase helping out.

SPORTS

LOSING SPIRIT

Chris Hankins '96

There is, without doubt, a problem with participation here at Diman Regional in the sports program. Participation and commitment are two keys to success in sports, and that is what Diman students are lacking. Out of the roughly 1200 students who attend Diman, only a small percentage come and sign up or try out for one of the various teams.

The big question is why this is so. Well, there isn't a real answer to that question except that apathy seems to be a Diman phenomenon. Other schools, like Durfee and Southeastern, seem to have no trouble getting participation. For example, this year's girls track team at Durfee has about 80 participants. Here at Diman, we can't even get 10 girls to join up!

Tradition does play a large role; there is an understanding that Durfee is an older school and, therefore, has a lot more tradition than Diman. But we have to start somewhere.

There are some things we can do to foster sports here at Diman, and cooperation of the coaches among each other is an example. If an athlete's main sport is basketball, for instance, the coach should encourage him or her to run cross-country to stay in shape off-season. This sharing of talent could occur among all of the sports we offer.

Another idea to help the sports program is for Guidance to push participation - perhaps by explaining what participation will mean to the student and all the ways involvement in sports can be fun and beneficial.

But, what students need most is a sense of commitment to something. Instead of sitting home or driving up and down the avenue wasting time and gas, get on a team and represent your school. Everybody wants to be thehero and play in the games and meets, but nobody wants to do the hard work to get there.

If we don't get more student participation in sports, we will not only lose what little school spirit we have, we will also lose the sports program.



Although one varsity has had a great year, the j.v.'s have had some shining moments.

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."

Wayne Gretzky

THE BASKETBALL TEAM TIPS OFF A NEW SEASON

C.O. '96

The basketball season is in full swing, but the varsity boys team, unfortunately, is not. Mr. Ramos, in his third year as the varsity basketball coach, contributes moral support as well as his knowledge of the game, but even with good caoching and loads of support from friends and family, the Bengals still haven't done well. The Bengal's present record is 1 win and 11 loses.

For the past few games, unfortunately, the Bengals have fallen short due to turnovers, sometimes not running the plays, settling for the first shot, and not slowing down the ball. But, they haven't given up. "To win games, we must play as a team. It's not an individual thing, it's a team thing," said co-captain Kevin Andrade.

During last year's season, their goal was to win enough games to be eligible to compete in the tournament, which they succeeded in doing. "This season, our goal is to enter the tournament and win at least one game," said Ramos. That goal wasn't reached. We didn't even make the tournament.

This season's schedule is a tougher schedule than what they have ever played. As consistent scorers for the Bengals, starting point guard Carl Soares and starting center Mike Pesoa, using their offensive and defensive skills, play hard and keep the team alive, but so far this effort hasn't been enough. Three of the baby Bengals, those playing half j.v. and half varsity, are getting a taste of varsity excitement.

Although the senior players will not see the tournament, their goal is to leave Diman with memories of not giving up and providing leadership for the school and the team.

TWENTY SIX YEARS and AT HIS BEST

N.C. '96

Mr. Mullaly began teaching here at Diman 26 years ago on January 6, 1970, as a substitute teacher. He became a permanent teacher on September 2, 1970. Mr. Mullaly now teaches Economics, Global Studies, and History. I asked him what he liked best about teaching at Diman and he replied, "Everything, the students, my fellow teachers, the atmosphere."

Over the years the most important changes that have occured at Diman in his opinion are: the addition of female students, the new wing, the new shops, many additional sports, educational reform, and new schedule changes. Because of the recent schedule change, he has gone from teaching just seniors to teaching freshman, sophomores and seniors. He's teaching two new subjects - History and Global Studies (mostly Geography). He says the change is challenging and enjoyable.

At Diman he has also been involved with coaching basketball, tennis, hockey, and currently runs the ski trips.

After he graduated from Durfee in 1962, he went to Merrimack College. Upon graduation in 1966, he worked for the National Security Agency. He was an intelligence analyst. Later, he served in the Army as an infantry office. Mr. Mullaly has a wife named Carol and a son Tom who is 21.

He has many unique hobbies and interests. He enjoys running, reading, computers, gardening, investing, skiing, and weight training. I have spoken to a number of his students, including former ones. All of them gave the same answer. They all agreed Mr. Mullaly was and still is a wonderful person, and a great teacher, and Economics is one of the best subjects ever taught at Diman.



Mr. John Mullaly

A Dream Come True

Jason Cordeiro '96

When I was in Henry Lord Middle School, I dreamed of playing tennis in high school. There was only one thing to solve: which high school to attend to play tennis. I chose Diman because I wanted a job skill just in case I wasn't successful playing tennis for college. I dreamed of playing tennis for high school and it happened. My dream came true.

When I was young, I lived in the South end of Fall River. I never dreamed of one day receiving Diman's Most Outstanding Tennis Award two years in a row. I was ten years old when I began to play tennis for fun. When I was thirteen, I took tennis lessons for two years. When I was fifteen, I started to play indoor tennis tournaments. I was the youngest in the league, but that didn't stop me from competing.

The same year playing indoor tennis, I was a freshman at Diman. When I tried out for the tennis team, I had a positive attitude to do my best. When I made the team, I was nervous playing against the seniors on the team. The seniors were surprised when the coach had me ranked for second singles. Derek Proux was ranked number one. He also received the 1992-1993 Most Outstanding player award.

When the 1993-1994 tennis season began, I was now ranked number one. I couldn't believe that I was a sophomore playing in the number one position. I had a successful season playing number one. I was really surprised at the award banquet when I was named the 1993-1994 Most Outstanding Player. This was the first trophy I had ever received for playing tennis. I was looking forward to next year's season.

Before I knew it, the year had gone by, and I was back on the tennis court. I was once again ranked number one. As top number one player, I helped the coach that season. If he was unable to attend a day's practice, I was able to keep drills organized in our practice that day. I had another great tennis season. I received the 1994-1995 Most Outstanding Award once again.

I am the fourth person in Diman history to receive the award. This year, I could be the first tennis player in Diman history to receive the award three years in a row. This upcoming season I'm really going to work hard for it. I hope this year will be the best season of my life. To continue my tennis skills through college is my next dream. With hard work, I just might be number one in college, too.

It doesn't hurt to dream, if you stick to it, and do your best for it to come true. Then you can accomplish anything in life.

THEY'VE GOT THE SKILLS!

On December 6, 1995 the 11th annual Local VICA Job Skills demonstration contests were held in the school's auditorium throughout the day. For the past 6 years, Culinary Arts had dominated the competition with the outstanding performance in each category, but that was not to be the case this year.

Demonstrations ranged from Auto Body to Health Careers. Categories were Traditional, Non-Traditional and even Action Skills. Class after class moved through the auditorium to watch quietly and attentively, silently rooting for each student from their own specific trade area.

In the traditional category, Michael DeMello and Stephanie Richards, both of the Health Careers shop, walked away from the competition with an outstanding 1st place finish with their demonstration on "Feeding a helpless patient." Soon to follow was Sandra Moreira of the notorious Culinary Arts shop with 2nd place for her demonstration on "Cocktails." And in 3rd place was Peter Ferriera of the Culinary Arts shop with a demonstration on "How to make Spicy Potatoes Au Gratin."

In the non-traditional category, Carmen Cabral of the Painting & Decorating shop took 1st place with a demonstration on "How to Varnish a Horizontal Surface."

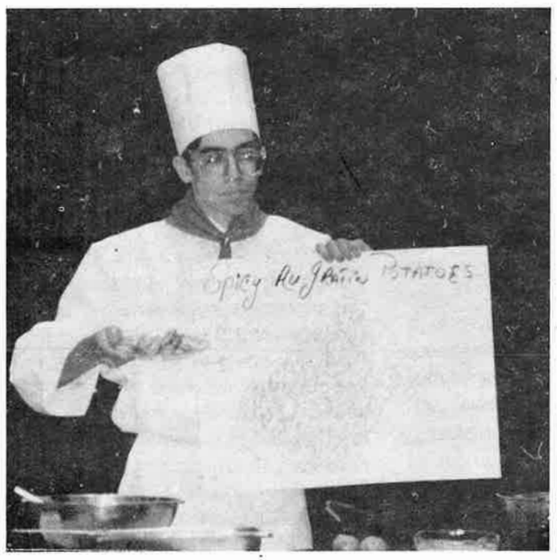
And in the action skills category, Matthew Gagne of the Culinary Arts shop also took 1st place with a demonstration on "How to Make Petit Fours."

Those who competed received certificates of participation. The judges had a difficult time judging the considerable skills and knowledge each competitor possessed. The top scores of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place were within one point of each other. The judges also received gifts of appreciation for their time and efforts throughout the competition.

The 1st place winners of each category will go on to represent Diman Regional at the State Level of the Skills USA Championships in April. Good Luck to those who will be competing. Congratulations to all!



Finalists of the 1995/96 Job Skills Demonstration



Peter Ferreira '96 performs his award-winning demonstration.



Matt Gagne receiving an award by Kerrie McAndrew.