*(**Baby** - cont. from pg. 4)*

morning and your sleeping, if the baby starts to crying, you have to get up and put the key in its back. If you're in the front seat of your car and the baby's in the back and decides to cry, you have to jump over the seats to tend to it before the minute is up.

If you walk into health careers shop, you'd most likely see all the sophomores with bags under their eyes because of all the times the baby woke them up in the middle of the night. You'd also see all of us going crazy because of all the crying for the past 3 weeks that we've been putting up with. But one thing that you probably won't see is a sophomore who is thinking about having a baby anytime in the near future.

This project taught me a lot. Believe me, I've thought about how cool it would be to have a baby now, but that's before I realized how exhausting a baby can be. The one thing that was fun was giving the baby back after two night were up. In real life, though, you can't give a baby back.

So from my experience these couple of weeks, I only have on thing to say, Baby, I'm thinking it over.

America this is quite serious
America this is the impression I get
from looking in the television set
America is this correct?
from America 1956

Allen Ginsverg-American poet-
Voice of the Beat generation
June 3, 1926-April 7, 1997

*(**America** - cont. from pg. 3)*

pull us out of this Roman trap that we've fallen into or we're headed for the end. There will be fighting in our towns and cities. Our country will be paved no longer in sacrifice, freedom, and pride, but the blood of our own.

Blood is the reason for the wars we rage,

Blood is the reason for the tombs we pave,

And blood is the foundation for Americas Grave.



Yo, Peep Some Mad Flavor!!

Following is a sampler of new hip-hop slang, as heard in rap music, on television and on the street:

BOO: a term of endearment for a boyfriend or girlfriend. "She use to leave school early just to see her boo."

BUTTER: smooth, nice. "That's a butter leather jacket."

DIGITS: telephone number. "I have unlisted digits."

DOG, DOGG, DAWG: 1. feet. 2. buddy. "Michael Jordan, my dogg, uses his dogs and hands to earn big bucks."

DOWN LOW (ALSO D.L.): quiet "The couple kept their marriage plans on the d. l. for months."

FLAVOR: style. "He has mad flavor."

FOUR-ONE-ONE: information. "What's the four-one-one on him?"

FRONT: 1. to put up a front. 2. to embarrass someone. "He's unpopular because he's always frontin'."

HELLA: very (mostly a West Coast term). "New York City was hella cold last winter."

HOUSE: to defeat. "Evander Holyfeild housed Mike Tyson in their last fight."

KEEPIN' IT REAL: 1. to stay black. 2. to be yourself. 3. to stay cool. "He shaved his head because he wanted to keep it real."

MAD: 1. beautiful. 2. very. 3. a lot. "Michael Jordan has mad skills."

PEEP: to look at, to be aware of. "Ayo, did you peep the Knicks game last night?"

PEEPS: 1. friends, people. "My peeps always look out for me."

RECOGNIZE: take notice of. "You'd better recognize," the rapper said about his skills.

REPRESENT: to do something well. "Michael Jordan represents on the basketball court."

SCRILLA: money (mostly a West Coast word). "The film maker earns mad scrilla."

SHORTY: 1. girlfriend 2. youth. "He picked up his shorty in a bright red jeep."

TO GET (FILL IN THE BLANK) ON: to do something well, or just do something, You can "get your groove on" if you're dancing, "get your strut on" if you're walking, "get your grub on" if your eating.

Courtesy of New York Times March 1997

LIBRARY

THE TRADESMAN

DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

-- A NEWSPAPER by and for DIMAN STUDENTS --

Volume 4 No. 4 April 1997



Shelly saying "I didn't foul", Natasha holding up the ball & Sara in the background.

Lady Bengals end with a SLAM!

by J.F. '98

Hard work, dedication, and ability to play the game all paid off for the Diman Girl's basketball team. Mr. Blanchette coaches the varsity Lady Bengals and Mr. Aubin coaches junior varsity. Both teams practiced and traveled together. Being a second year team, Lady Bengals had no expectation of making it all the way. However, they proved themselves wrong. The varsity squad won the title of being the Division 3 champs!

Led by senior captain Natasha Sliwa and junior captain Amanda Santos, they were able to make the season productive and complete. According to Santos, "This year's team was totally different from last year's team. There was a total turn around, it was unbelievable. We actually played as a TEAM."

The overall record was 12 wins and 6 losses, and in the division 11 wins and 1 loss, all accomplished by an all around team effort, solid offense and defense. Mr. Blanchette stated that, "everyone contributed," and was, "pleased to see many individuals especially freshman involved in the program."

Records were set and awards were earned by several players. Senior Natasha Sliwa received the Dave Collins award. She and Shelly Almedia were on the All Star team. Also recognized were Nicole Rego who scored the 1st basket ever in Diman girl's basketball history. Shelly Almeida scored the most points in one game (23 points), the most points in one season (231 points), and the highest game average (16 games) 14.4 season average. Good job girls!

Congratulations to the 1st Diman Girl's Basketball champions with much respect and thanks to Mr. Blanchette and Mr. Aubin.

As for the junior varsity squad, "There are no individual stars, the whole team is the star," according to Coach Aubin. The focus on the junior varsity team is not winning or losing, but developing into a better basketball player and a descent human being.

The overall record for junior varsity was 13 wins and 3 losses.

Trades Fair '97

by Michael Gaudencio '99

On March 8, Students from all the shops competed against each other in the Trades Fair. Students from their respective shops competed against each other to win ribbons and trophies. The superb projects ranged from a speech processor in electronics to wrought iron railings in Metal Fabrication.

The first place kitchen cabinets made by House & Mill Carpentry. Painting & Decorating finished them and they are going to use them in the project house being built by Diman students in Somerset.

As I walked around the school I got a chance to see some of the excellent winning projects built by our skillful Diman students. In Auto Body, a refinished '90 Dodge Daytonna received a best overall. A model X-Wing fighter with blinking lights and sounds was a first place project was built by the Machine Shop. In Carpentry 911 consoles also won a best overall. In Culinary Arts beautifully appetizing wedding cakes and fruit carvings won awards. Drafting got a best overall for a drawing of a garage. A project on the urinary tract system won best overall in Health Careers. A lamp from General Shop won, also. From P&D a project called JR. Booths likewise took a best overall.



Victor Rodrigues, Nelson Pavao, & Brian Cabral, display their award winning project "Engine Overhaul Demonstration"

A best overall trophy winner from Auto Mechanic was featured in the Herald News. The engine overhaul demonstration built by Brian Cabral and Victor Rodrigues was another fine project completed in that shop.

There are many, many more wonderful projects, but because of space limitations, we can't mention them all. To all the winners, Congratulations!!! We now eagerly look forward to the '98 Trades Fair and project it will turn out. See you all next year!!

Commentary . . .

Support vs Criticism

by Matt Teixeira '98

I started writing articles for *The Tradesman* when I was a freshman. I enjoyed doing it very much. *The Tradesman* staff puts a lot of work and effort into the paper, so we enjoy when we hear students and teachers making positive statements.

Although we hear good things, we also hear some criticism. It is very discouraging when I hear fellow students making rude remarks about the paper. What is worse is when I hear teachers making rude remarks and complaining about articles. It seems to me that some of the teachers in this school criticize the paper more than they support it.

Our paper is an open forum, and as such allows for commentary and opinion articles. Because some of the columns are not always positive, the paper is criticized. However, the articles we print strive for accuracy and truth. There are people in this school who either take the article the wrong way or don't read it in its entiety.

Instead of complaining and criticizing articles in the hallway, in the teachers room, in the cafeteria, or in the classroom, why not write a response? Whenever I hear people complaining I tell them to write a response to the article. Usually they tell me that they don't have time or that they don't feel like it. I believe that if you don't have time to write a response, then you shouldn't have time to complain or criticize. The newspaper staff welcomes letters to the editor and would consider printing any well-intentioned commentary.

I'm not trying to criticize people or bring anyone down. I realize that there are students who will still criticize our paper, but I really do believe that all teachers should be more supportive. I just want everyone to remember that this is your school and this is your paper, so why not try to be a little more supportive?

In Memory of Douglas Marsden

A couple of weeks ago Douglas Marsden, a carpentry instructor at Diman for many years, passed away after a long illness.

Mr. Marsden graduated from Somerset High School in 1969 and attended Fitchburg State College. His employment record included Wm. Bloom & Son in East Providence, Adult Evening School in Cabinet making at Attleboro Vocational High School, L. Vaughn in Warwick in Architectural woodwork and millwork, and finally a carpentry instructor for Diman Regional in Fall River in September of 1990.

Mr. Marsden enjoyed skiing, camping and other outdoor activities.

He was not married and has no children.

The Tradesman Staff 96-97

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Understanding *"Reality Check"*

by Cheryl Pimentel '97

In the February issue of The Tradesman there was one article that caught my eye. The article was "Reality Check" by Stacy Pacheco. Stacy wrote about the reality of being a teen mother. My view has always been if you are irresponsible enough to get pregnant that it was your problem.

After reading Stacy's article I now understand how hard it must be for a teen mother to raise a child, and in most cases without the child's father. When we see a girl who is pregnant at Diman most of us stare and ask questions. I feel Stacy's article will make us more sensitive to their situation and help us to understand what it is going on in their lives. *The Tradesman* should continue to print more articles like Stacy's to bring light to subjects we wonder about.



ATTENTION
anyone with an opinion or an idea! !

Do you have a good question or comment for *The Tradesman* staff? Would you like to respond to an article?
Simply write up the comment or question. You can then give it to either Mrs. Sayre in room C-204 or a member of *The Tradesman* staff. We will then print it in the following issue.

****The Tradesman* reserves the right to edit any comments for spelling, grammatical correctness, and incorrect information. Any personal attacks or comments in poor taste will be omitted.

*(**Hendrix** - cont. from pg. 8)*

be completely switched around. Getting this much stereo information on a vinyl disc was just about impossible in the Sixties. So, whoever mastered the record had to narrow the stereo field. They'd also have to lose some bass and certainly lose a lot of level in order for the disc to play.

According to John McDermott, a noted Hendrix historian, the Jimi Hendrix CD reissues that have come out are "sonic rejects." The original reissues were made from the equalized tape masters that were originally engineered for the sonic limitations of Sixties vinyl. That is something which is guaranteed to change.



*(**I see you** - cont. from pg. 4)*

Those video-cameras are actually called silent monitors. They were developed in California to stop vandalism on the bus as well as smoking, fights, irresponsible and deliberate misbehavior.

The biggest drawback of these units is the cost, $500 per unit, and with 11 buses that's pretty costly for tremblay buses. Each unit contains a camera encased in a indestructible shell. Even in the event of a bus wreck, the camera will still remain operable.

At the moment, only one bus has a silent monitor, but eventually all Tremblay Buses will be equipped with one.

Remember, just because the sign says "...May Be..." Don't let it catch you in the act.



Pictured from left to right, seated are: Suzanne Raposo - Vice-President, and Kristine Rodrigues -President. Standing left to right: Nicole White - Sectretary, and Ryan Andrade - Treasurer.

Freshman Elections!

Students who were nominated for the offices of the Freshmen Class were as follows: President: Robert Bergeron, Kristine Roderigues, Elizabeth Ferreira, and Cherish Walsh, Vice President: Tiffany Albernaz, Justin Taylor, Suzanne Raposa, and Melissa Lacroix; Secretary: Brooke Guimar, David Polak, Nicole White and Amanda Minville; Treasurer: Ryan Andrade, Amanda Lariviere, Chad Costa and Jennifer Partridge.

Each candidate had to be endorsed by two faculty members, the administration, a guidance counselor and be in good academic standing.

After a busy week of campaigning the following students won the election on Friday, January 31, 1997. Mr. Bently announced the winners at the end of the end of the day.
Freshmen Class Officers are as follows:

President - Kristine Roderigues
Vice President - Suzanne Raposo
Treasurer - Ryan Andrade
Secretary - Nicole White

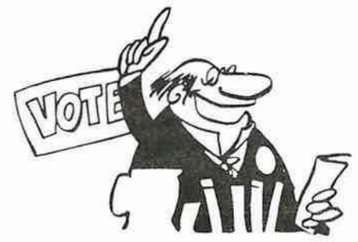
Responsibilities will be to represent the Freshmen Class run the April candy sale and help with ticket sales for the Picnic to Pleasure Island with the Sophomores.

Voting Distribution:

	VOTES
President: *Kristine Rogerigues*	98
Robert Bergeron	76
Elizabeth Ferreira	63
Cherish Walsh	36
	VOTES
Vice President: *Suzanne Raposa*	91
Tiffany Albernaz	87
Justin Raylor	61
Melissa Lacroix	24
	VOTES
Secretary: *Nicole White*	113
Amanda Minville	61
Brooke Guimar	59
David Polak	39
	VOTES
Treasurer: *Ryan Andreade*	100
Chad Costa	64
Amanda Lariviere	57
Jennifer Partridge	43

As you can see, it was neck and neck with some of the nominees.

Congratulations to all who participated and many thank to the freshman Christine Barreira, Joanne Wright and Sam Mendes who helped Mrs. Jonsson.



Not Just Another Sad Love Song

by Daniel DeMello '97

While driving down 195 one evening a few weeks ago, I realized that it was only a matter of moments before I was in the same room with the most beautiful woman on the face of the planet. Toni Braxton.

We took the downtown Providence exit, and made our way to the Civic Center. As we walked inside, I tried to imagine what she was doing at that very moment. Maybe she was reading a book, or practicing for her performance, or preparing to meet me.

We arrived in Providence at around 7:40 p.m. and bought a program and some food before going to our seats. It was very crowded, in fact I stood in one place for at least 4 minutes, because of all the people. As soon as we got the opportunity, we rushed up to our seats. For people in the back, two large video screens were being prepared for easier viewing.

People filled the Center quickly, like ants gathering at a picnic. While the stage crew were testing the mics, I swore I heard her voice. It is important to note that I don't normally hear voices; it must have been all the excitement.

After they announced that she was coming out, I rose to my feet faster than you could say "Braxton." Besides spilling a box of cheese and nachos on the floor due to the excitement, everything was perfect.

Her entrance was enthralling. The opening song, "Seven Whole Days" the smash hit single from her first self titled album, threw the audience into a frenzy. People hollered, stood up and clapped, whistled, while others acted completely obsessed, but I wouldn't know anything about that.

My eyes were transfixed upon her as she confidently walked out. She is even more beautiful in life as she is in the videos. Her voice was soft yet powerful, and I noticed she was in great shape.

Toni, who made her musical debut in 1992 on the boomerang soundtrack,



joked with the crowd, teased them by almost doing a striptease, and called for audience participation. The audience really got to see her on stage personality. Some of the songs performed were, "Another Sad Love Song" the hauntingly soulful single written by Babyface, Un-Break My Heart, and Breathe Again.

She wore a wide variety of clothing during the night, mostly dresses, and her signature white outfit, from the video "Your Makin Me High." It wasn't the type of outfit you'd have seen her wear during her teenage years. In fact, her strict reverend father did not even allow her to wear makeup or tight pants until the age of 17. She wasn't even allowed to watch Soultrain.

Toni, who got her first big break at a gas station, also played the piano and talked to the audience for a while.

Toni was joined by Mint Condition, (who briefly sang two of their chart climbing songs, "Pretty Brown Eyes" and "What Kind of Man Would I Be?") The concert also starred Kenny G who like Toni, amazed the crowd with his musical talent.

Braxton finally made some audience members "high" after inviting between 8 and 11 single males on stage to dance with her. After dancing with them as close as she legally could, she hollered "I gotta go," then ran back stage.

Toni's self titled album, has won three grammy awards, three American music awards, and ironically two Soultrain awards. Her debut album also contained 2 #1 gold singles. Her sophomore album, Secrets, is quickly rising to those standards.

The concert was spectacuiar.

The *Second* Coming of JIMI HENDRIX

by Sean Grady '99

George Marino, a veteran of numerous historical remastering projects such as the Zeppelin box set, has been at work remastering four albums which Jimi Hendrix released in his lifetime: 1967's Are you Experienced, 1968's Axis: Bold as Love and Electric Ladyland, 1970's Band of Gypsys , and the one which he was working on at the time of his death.

These newly remastered albums will be the first product released since the Hendrix family regained the legal rights to the guitarists legacy in 1995. The material which Jimi was working on when he died was originally released in three posthumous records: The Cry of Love, Rainbow Bridge (both reprise 1971), and War Heroes (reprise 1972). Assembled into a 17 song album that includes all of The Cry of Love plus seven tracks from Rainbow Bridge and War Heroes, the new album will be called First Rays of the New Rising Sun.

Purists who argue that Sixties rock should be heard on vinyl, the medium for which it was originally created, will appreciate that the first four albums will all be released on ultra high grade 180 gram vinyl discs as well as CD's.

Over the years the record buying public has gotten an increasingly garbled version of Jimi Hendrix. The reason is that there were all sorts of phasing going on. Sometimes drums were recorded on one channel while the vocals and bass were on another. Then for the next song, the mix would

(cont. on pg. 9)

Commentary . . .

An Issue of *TRUST*

by Tara Duclos '99

Trust is something we deal with every day. It's a natural thing. You trust your best friend to keep all your secrets, you trust your shop instructors to teach you the basics of your trade. So why should it seem so wrong that I should trust my peers not to steal from me while I am having gym?

Many of the girls leave their purses on top of a counter in the locker room during their gym period, and this is mainly because the girls really do not have a place to lock them up. Sure, there are long lockers, but those are for the cheerleaders and the girls who participate in sports. So, if you have sneakers or gym clothes locked up in the little baskets we call gym lockers, there's not much of a chance that a large purse will fit inside.

Now that everyone has the background information (that was mainly for the guys) I can tell my tale. A few weeks ago, I left my purse on the counter of the locker room along with the other girls in my gym class, and I entered the gymnasium. I left my purse alone as I had done many times before, ever since freshman year. I did this because I trust the girls in my gym class, and I trusted that no one else in this good little school we call Diman would ever take from me.

Well, I guess I was wrong. Whoever took my money hit me on a really good day. They made off with fifty of my hard earned dollars. I usually do not carry that much money with me, but on that particular day I had an important appointment to go to right after school, and while I was there, I was supposed to pay a bill. Gee, wasn't I embarrassed when I pulled out my wallet and nothing was in it.

Yes, I am aware that I could have gone down to Mr. Bently's office and asked to have my money locked in the school safe, but why? I thought it would just be a waste of time. It was a one time thing bringing that money to school, and I know it was fifty dollars, but I always figured that really wasn't all that much to have locked up. I wasn't carrying thousands of dollars or anything. I did talk to Mr. Bently about this, but he said there really isn't anything he can do unless I give him the name of someone I thought may be the thief.

The problem is, I don't know, and I'm not going to falsely accuse anyone. It could have been anyone, a girl in my gym class, or a girl just going to the bathroom. Whoever it was, I just want to make her aware that what she did was wrong.

I know what it's like to need money, and that's why I got a job. I work on weekends, and that's time out of my life. I'd much rather be going to dances and partying like most teenagers, but instead I work to pay my bills. Now, I'm fifty bucks short, but I'm the fool. Why? Because I trusted.

Anyway, please listen to my warning. Don't leave anything valuable lying around anymore. Have it locked up, or think twice about even bringing it to school, because some people out there don't seem to understand the meaning of TRUST.

Dear Editors:

I would like to commend The *Tradesman* staff for an informative 3rd edition of the newspaper. I look forward to every issue because I enjoy reading the writing of Diman students. I was impressed with the candor of Stacy Pacheco's article "Reality Check" about the dilemmas of Diman's teenage mothers. It was also interesting to read about Diman students and their involvement in the community.

Thanks for the pleasure and keep writing!

Mrs. Maureen E. Pacheco
English Instructor



ADAMSPEAK . . .

Is America Burning?

by Adam Huwyler '99

Do you remember ancient Rome and all of its historic and heroic stories? It was the most powerful country in the world about 2000 years ago! They had the most powerful army and some of the greatest military and political leaders in history. They conquered land all over Europe and northern Africa. They built great structures such as the coliseum and the aqueduct. But after a while they started getting lazy and bloodthirsty. They enjoyed watching people die. Their gladiators killed plebeians (commoners) and animals in front of audiences of thousands. Their army weakened and allowed a smaller army to move in and crush them.

Now, is America becoming like that once great empire? Is America burning? One can compare America's path with the path of the Roman's. America is seriously wounded. We are slipping in our own country's blood.

Like the ancient Romans we too are thirsty for blood. On our television all we see is sex, violence, and death. We have become slow and lazy. With the rise of violence in the U.S., it seems to me that we like to see individuals get beaten up in our hallways, raped on our streets, and killed by our own people. But America is not too far gone. We can still change, but do we have the will? U.S. citizens have to be determined to

(cont. on pg. 10)

Commentary . . .



To The Whining Skate Rat

by Mike Braga '97

Hey, skate rats! We are not jocks but we do get harassed.

I don't know where you get off by saying that you get kicked out of McDonald's, because if you do it's your own fault. You guys go inside all rowdy, looking like slobs with your hand me down pants and dog chains hanging down to your ankles.

The reason why you get kicked out of McDonald's is because you move the parking bumpers all over the lot and don't put them back. You also skate in front of moving cars.

You don't see us whining when we get kicked out of fast food restaurant lots with our cars. We just park with friends and talk. When we do, we get kicked out and $250 tickets. You guys bring your skate boards inside fast food places, ride them inside, and wonder why you can't bring them in. You don't see us bringing our motorcycles and cars in.

Why should the town create parks where you can ride your skateboards if it doesn't put up race tracks for us. It's not a cop's responsibility to find a place for you to skate. It's your skateboard, so find a place.

You may say we have the Ave., but that is getting scarce. If you think an hour away is far, try riding THREE AND HALF HOURS all the way to Epson, New Hampshire and paying $25 to race.

Why shouldn't the town have baseball fields and basketball courts? You can actually get somewhere with that "sport."

So, to my fellow racers, race hard, stay young, and GOSH DARN IT, have fun.



ALL STAR Student

by Erica Followwill '98

Recently, Joe Rogers broke a Diman school record. This record was for most points scored in a season.

Joey, a senior in the Electrical shop, has been playing basketball since freshman year. He says that it's his favorite sport.

Joe averages 26 points a game. He is third all time on the scoring list and is a two time Mayflower League all star. He was recently nominated for the A Dave Collins award.

It looks to me that (with the help of great teammates) Joey has really thrived.

He told me that he was really suprised that he broke this record. I have to say that I'm not suprised at all. Joey's done really well over the last four years. I'd like to wish him good luck in everyhting he does.

BABY . . . . I'm thinking it over!!

by Kristy Roussel



We'll, by now I'm sure that most of you already have seen or heard about the new project Health Careers Sophomores are doing. But for those of you who don't know about it, I'll explain.

It's called the "Baby Think It Over" project. The project was developed to make teens aware of the responsibilities of having a baby at a young age. The "baby" is a computerized doll that cries every 3-4 hours. When it cries, you must put a key in its back and hold it there in place for about 30 minutes each time. If you don't tend to the baby's needs within a minute of its crying, then it registers in the box that you've neglected it. If you hit or drop the baby, it will register that you've abused it. The box is locked in the back, so you can't shut the baby off or take the batteries out.

Each student is responsible for taking the baby home for two nights. This means two nights of pretending that this baby is real. So if you want to go out, the baby goes with you, or you must get a baby-sitter. If it's 3:00 in the *(cont. on pg. 10)*

I See You!!!

by Mike Nadeau '99
Erica Followwill '98

If you catch a ride on the Stafford Road bus, then you have probably noticed that on-board video-camera and that "video-camera mat be in use" sign. You might be wondering that all-logical question "Why?" Well, we'll tell you.

(cont. on pg. 9)

Entertainment . . .

Star Wars Trilogy: Special Edition

by Ernie Raposa '98

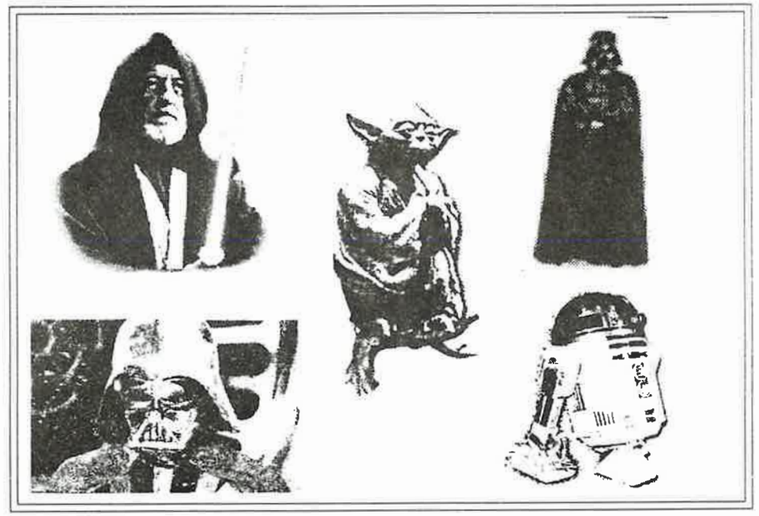
On January 31, 1997, the United States was once again able to "fell the force" as the first installment of George Lucas' space epic trilogy Star Wars was re-released in theaters. Star Wars fans flocked to the theaters to experience the 20 th Anniversary Special Edition, forming lines that went on for city blocks. The Star Wars phenomenon was happening just as it had in 1977 when it was first released, and total ticket sales from both releases reached over $400,000,000, pushing it passed E.T. as the top grossing film of all time.

Following Star Wars were its two sequels, The Empire Strikes Back, released on February 21, and Return of the Jedi, released on March 14. But what did the title "Special Edition" actually mean? According to the creator of the trilogy and director of the first Star Wars film, George Lucas, it meant being able to experience the films the way they were meant to be, "big and loud."

Since the final installment of the trilogy was released in 1983, Lucas has always commented that he was unhappy with the final products, especially in the first movie. As the 20 th anniversary approached, Lucas seized the opportunity to restore and in some aspects recreate the film. The results was the Star Wars Trilogy: Special Edition.

The "new and improved" films were restored and now carried sharper picture and clearer sound. But the movie previews continually boasted, "and a few new surprises." What were they talking about?

Apparently they were referring to George Lucas' added scenes to each of the three films and additional background images. The entire restoration process cost $20 million, twice as much as the budget for the original film.



"Now that I've recreated the films to be the way I wanted them," George said, "I can now focus on the next trilogy." That's right. Beginning in 1999, George Lucas will be releasing the first part of a prequel trilogy that will tell the story of Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker's father. Until then, Star Wars fans will just have to be content with what we have now.

But as Mark Hamill, the actor who played Luke Skywalker in the Star Wars films, commented, "There was a princess and a wizard. Then there was a farmboy and a smart-ass pilot. Then you have these bickering robots with wonderful one-liners. What's not to like?"

Disarmament Dissertation

Hey, kids. This is for you. Write an essay on "Why guns aren't cool," and win a savings bond, which turns into a lot of cash when it matures. Sen. John Chafee will also put the best essays on display in his offices in Washington and Providence, a.k.a. the corridor of power, where they could appear on television.

Imagine that. Say there's a crisis somewhere and they start interviewing senators in the Senate Office Building - and there, in the background of course, but still quite recognizable if you know what to look for, is your essay! Could happen.

This essay is about a serious thing. Kids are getting killed, Why is this? What can we do? What do you think about guns? What do your friends think? The main reason for this contest is to get some good ideas from students themselves about what can be done to keep young people from getting shot.

Ask your teachers for more information on this contest.

Third place winners get a $500 savings bond and a certificate of merit; second place $750 and a certificate; and winners get bonds for $1,000, the certificate and a trip to Washington to meet Senator Chafee. Send all entries by April 30 to the Office of Sen. John H. Chafee, 10 Dorrance St., Suite 221, Providence, R.I. 02903, attention: Ms. Stacy Steinman, Winners will be announced at the end of May.

We'll throw in one more thing - we'll publish the winning high school essay on these pages.

Courtesy of Providence Journal, March 1997

SPORTS

My year on a Basketball Championship Team

by Mellany Gauthier '99

It was the second year Diman girls had basketball teams and we were pumped. It took a lot of work to be on this team because we practiced six days a week for about two hours each. Having practice made us understand that it takes a lot of work to have a winning team.

In practice we worked on many skills, like jump shots, foul shots, inbound plays, trapping, braking a press and one-three-one defense. We also worked on an over load and a woman to woman offense. All these skills took weeks to master and we still haven't perfected them.

Sunday practice was when the coach worked with us individually. He helped me and Shelley with our inside shooting; and helped Amanda, Sara, Tasha, and Nicky with their outside shooting and driving to the basket. To break it up at the end of practice we would play some type of game.

I never really thought that lots of practice would pay off, but it did. When we got into the games, we were in a little bit better shape and our over all game was a little better. It felt good winning because I know our hard work was paying off.

At the start of our season I thought we wouldn't go anywhere because our record was 2-5, but we never gave up. We kept on working hard and by the end of the season we were 10-6 and fighting for the championship. I could hardly believe it.

It was the day of our BIG game with New Testament here at Diman, and Shelley, starting center, was unable to play, so I had to step up and take her position. It was difficult for me to do since I hadn't played much at the center spot all year.

Before the game began, we were all very nervous. But once the game started, we calmed down and played our hearts out. At the half we were tied 21-21. Our coaches told us we were doing great and to keep it up, so we did. In the second half I think we had just a little more energy then they did, and that's why we won 37-38.

The celebration after the game was great. We hugged, jumped, and screamed when it was all over. We finally had done it, won the championship in only our second year in having a team.

Our season ended with a win against Bristol Aggie, which made our record 12-6. Everyone was sad because this was the last game we'd play with Tasha. We all signed a ball for her from the team and we closed our season with a trip to Burger King. We'll miss you, Nasty!



Melany taking a shot and Shelly going in for a rebound.

Diman vs Westport

by Gregory A Feigo '97

What do the students of Diman think about when they hear Diman Vs. Westport? Is it, "That's going to be a good game," or is it, "Time for an all out brawl!" ? In most cases, if you're an athlete you think about the first scenario, but the fans of both Diman and Westport think of scenario two, "It's an all out BRAWL!"

For the past four years, I've attended all the Diman Vs. Westport basketball games, and I've also participated in all the baseball games. I think I have a pretty good understanding of how fans and athletes will act and respond to any tension during the game. From the fans' point-of-view, I know what they go through. As the tension builds up on the court or the field, the tension also builds up in the crowds. Because of this tension it is guaranteed that there will be a fight after the game. All this violence is not necessary because innocent bystanders get hurt as a result of it.



Natasha (nasty) our only senior who is leaving us.

At last year's Diman Vs. Westport, there was a large altercation while the gym was clearing out. The fight was large enough that the police officer had to use pepper gas to break it up. The only problem I had with the officer using the gas was that he sprayed my friends and me while we walked outside. I feel that I wouldn't have been sprayed in my ace if the fight did not happen. I do not blame the officer for what he did because he was only doing his job and that was to try and maintain the peace. I blame the individuals of both schools that were involved in the fight for my friends and me getting sprayed in the face.

If the fighting at school sports continues, it will make it hard for teams and the schools to earn a good name for the athletes and the school itself.

1997 VICA

District Competition

by Tara Duclos '99

On March 3, 1997, fifty secondary and two post secondary students from Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School competed at the South District Conference level of VICA held at Upper Cape Cod Tech. 60 % of Diman students "EARNED" the right to compete again against students from 46 other vocational schools in Massachusetts in April at the state level of competition, which will be held in Fitchburo, Massachusetts.

Diman, for the first year in a row, earned more fist, second and third place medals than any other school at South District Conference. A total of nine gold (first place), eight silver (second place), and nine bronze (third place awards were brought back to Diman. On March 10, 1997, Diman received notification that additional students qualified and became eligible to compete at the state level of competition.

The awards are as follows:

Gold Medal Winners

Joshua Bernardo-*Cabinetmaking and Millwork*
Micheal Botelho-*Welding*
Kurt Chouinard-*Precision Machining*
Kelly Dumont-*Sheet Metal*
Justin Orzeck-*HVAC*
Tommy Gamache-*Technical Drafting*
Joshua Oliveira - *Automotive Technology*
Luis Rebelo - *Collision Repair Technology*
Micheal Rodriques - *Automotive Machine*

Silver Medal Winners

Micheal Bergeron-*Carpentry*
Pam Bouchard - *Painting and Decorating*
Seth Elie - *Collision Repair Technology*
William Glass - *Metal Fabrication*
Jason Oliver - *Precision Machining*
David Reynolds - *Residential Wiring*
Ryan Shane - *Automotive Machine*
Edward Viveiros - *Sheet Metal*

Bronze Medal Winners

Joshua Amaral - *Cabinetmaking and Millwork*
Peter Bouchard - *Welding*
Paul Camara - *Precision Machining*
Jason Hankins - *Metal Fabrication*
Jeffrey Melia - *Technical Drafting*
Jay Mello - *Culinary Arts*
Albano Miranda - *Residential Plumbing*
Kevin Ouelette - *Baking*
Greg Saucier - *Residential Wiring*

Fourth and Fifth place winners who qualified

Beryl Mello - *Practical Nursing*
Natalie Couture - *Practical Nursing*
Christopher Makuch - *Electronic Technology*
Micheal Reynolds - *Residential Wiring*

Robert J. Ciosek and Stephen P. Marciszyn, chapter advisors, coordinated the efforts of the students and advisors who attended. The following advisors deserve credit and recognition for their help in preparing their students for this conference.

Robert Avilla - *Machine Shop*
David Belliveau - *Drafting*
Paul Bertoncini - *Baking*
Stephen Blanchette - *Machine Shop*
Seth Cabral - *Auto Body*
Robert Ciosek - *House and Mill Carpentry*
Steve Cloutier - *Automotive Mechanics*
Ronald Guay - *Electronic Technology*
Roland Levesque - *Automotive Mechanics*
Stephen Marciszyn - *House and Mill Carpentry*
Rene Martel - *Electrical*
Daniel Pacheco - *Electrical*
Kenneth Pacheco - *Plumbing*
John Pimental - *HVAC*
Warren Rodgers - *Plumbing*
Ronald Silvia - *House and Mill Carpentry*
Joni Souza - *Painting and Decorating*
Richard Vickrey - *Metal Fab and Welding*
David Viveros - *Culinary Arts*



Joshua Amaral & Joshua Bernadc from H&M Carpentry

The Electronics Technology Department

The department is staffed by three well-qualified instructors. Two are in the lab and provide instruction in basic electricity, and electronics technology. The course of study includes intensive training in both analog and digital circuitry, industrial electronics, computer systems, and microprocessors. Students are trained in the design, construction, and troubleshooting of any faults that may occur in electronic circuitry. The use of test equipment in the repair and maintenance of electronic circuitry and systems is also extensively covered. The students in the E.T DEPT. receive a solid "hands on" education in shop practices, procedures, and the importance of SAFETY in the field of electronics

The related instructor Mr. DePaco integrates the new terminology and vocabulary with full and complete explanation of the terms. New mathematical concepts introduced to students are incorporated in a logical manner i.e., as they relate to their particular area of trade study. The science principles associated with electronics are many, such as atomic structure of particular materials, electromagnetics, energy propagation in solid materials as well as through the atmosphere.

Integration in these areas of study not only provides an occupationally skilled graduate with vocational and academic competency, but a more confident graduate better able to reach his or her own full potential in this highly competitive and technical field.