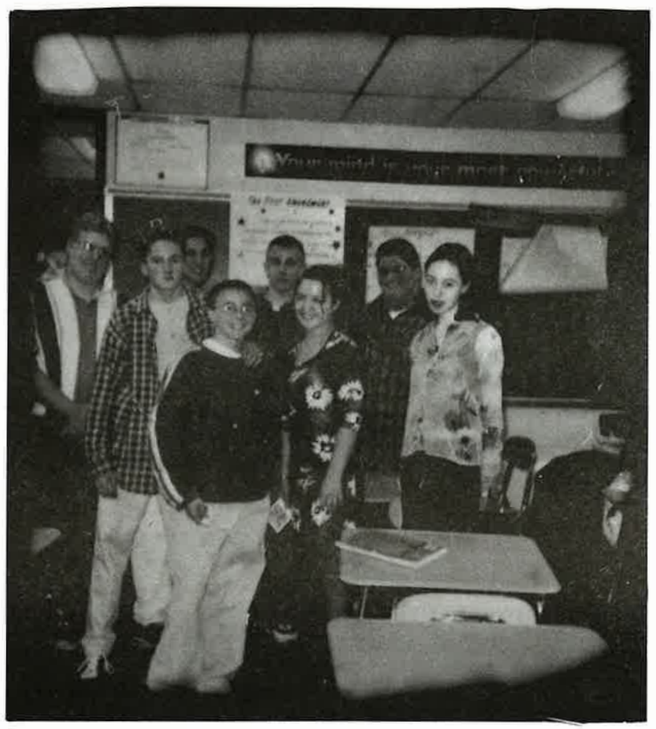
GREETINGS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



The Newspaper Staff would like to wish everyone a

HAPPY NEW YEAR ! ! !

THE TRADESMAN

DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

-- A NEWSPAPER by and for DIMAN STUDENTS --

Volume 5 No. 2 December 1997

Making "Friends Forever"

by: Lisa Miranda and T.J. Correia

In November, Diman had the honor of hosting 12 students from Northern Ireland. You may have seen them walking around with some of our students.

Each year, the Friends Forever program sends 6 Catholic and 6 Protestant teenagers from Northern Ireland to Fall River. They stay at the YMCA and are given the opportunity to befriend others of different faiths, something they can't do in their own country.

Students that were allowed to hang out with people of different religions in our country are discouraged to do so back home in Ireland because there is, and has been for a long time, a major conflict going on between Catholics and Protestants. Students were sent here to try to forget that conflict and just be themselves.

We wondered how, with all the people in Northern Ireland, they can distinguish between Protestants and Catholics. One of the students explained. "The schools have different uniforms, so you can tell...We hang out with people only of the same religion."

While here, the Irish students visited many area schools to try to get the feel of how schools are run in the U.S. At Diman, and they were introduced to some of our clubs and extracurricular activities. For example, Peer Leaders ate breakfast with the visitors, followed by a quick tour of our shops and classrooms.



Students from Northern Ireland receive cups from key club.

Later in the day, we finally got a chance to chat with them. We couldn't help but notice their incredible accents. A few or the girls were very happy to talk with us. They said that a difference between them and American teens is that the girls in Fall River seem much more outgoing than the girls in Northern Ireland.

We talked about a lot of things, like what they do when they hang out with their friends, and they said they go to dances and do basically the same things we do. They were happy to be here, they said. It helped them forget about their differences in religions. Soon after our talk, they had to leave.

We think this project is not only a great experience for the Irish students, but also for all of us who got to meet them. They were great kids and very friendly. We perhaps made lasting friendships that we can keep, and they can take back home.

Back in Northern Ireland, the organizer of the project hopes to hold weekly meetings until June, so the students can discuss ways they think the problem in Northern Ireland can be alleviated.

Feature Articles

Achieving New Heights Massachusetts Fall Leadership Conference for Work Place Readiness

by: Christopher Makuch

The first major activity for the VICA organization is its "Fall State Leadership Conference." As in the past, this year's FSLC was very successful. Students from all over the state came together to learn about VICA, being a professional, and the skills needed for a successful future. The FSLC opened on November 16th, and continued through the 18th, at the Sea Crest Ocean Front Resort & Conference Center in North Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Diman sent four well qualified students to the conference: Carmen Cabral, Sue Raposa, Chad Costa,and myself. In order to attend the Fall State Leadership Conference all the students from Diman had to be Shop Representatives and also had to write a letter about why they would like to attend the conference. The students who wrote the best letters and expressed the best reasons were chosen.

At the Leadership Conference we were split up into 5 different companies. The four of us were not together during the conference. In fact, the only time we actually saw each other was at night, in the morning, and at the dance and talent show.

In our companies, the first thing we did was to elect company officers; Carmen was the only one of all of us to be elected company Vice President. After officers were elected, we had to choose what project team we would participate in. The project teams were Community Construction, Company Theme & Logo, Product Infomercial, TQM Presentation, and Company Profile Project.

Sue and Chad chose the Community Construction team in which Sue received a silver medal and Chad received a bronze medal, Carmen being Vice President, had to make a Quality Company Profile which she received a bronze medal for, and I chose the TQM team for which I received a silver medal.

After choosing a team, we were to work together to find a solution to a problem that was given to us, and to prepare a small, no more than ten minutes, presentation for the judges. Another thing we had to do in order to receive our state leadership pins was to complete a verbal question and answer test; all the questions were VICA related and most of the answers were found in a book that was given to us.

Even though the leadership conference was a lot of hard work, we all feel it was a great success, and the skills we learned while at the conference are invaluable. All of us would enthusiastically recommend to any student to get involved with the VICA organization because, after all, it's your future.



The enthusiastic new mothers (from left to right)
Top row: Tamara Souza; Janice Homan; Erica Ferreira; Kristine Rodriques; Erica Jennings
Bottom row: Kelly Carvalho; Jolene Vieira; Michelle Albernaz; Stephanie Duarte

Gotta Love Those Babies

by: Heather Green HC/00-A

In late November and early December, I'm sure that the students and faculty have noticed a handful of students carrying around baby carriers and dolls. This is because the Health Careers shop has started its Child Care unit and assigned a project to the students.

The purpose of this project is not only to teach the students how to care for a child, but also to teach the responsibility involved in caring for a baby. I was assigned this project on November 13 and instructed that I was to carry around a doll as if it were my own, living child. We had to name our babies, make sure they weighed a minimum of 5 lbs, and take them with us wherever we went. Also, for 2 or 3 days out of the week, we were assigned a doll that cried every 2-4 hours and the "parent" had to stop whatever she was doing to tend to the doll's needs. For me, this project presented a problem, as I'm sure it did for the other Health Career students.

With no way to estimate when the doll would cry next, it interrupted my studying, eating, and especially sleeping. Also, it cried while I was trying to do my homework, and when I went to the mall, it had to come with me. I received looks from adults as I walked through the mall, as if to say "What's a 15 or 16 year old doing with a child?". I felt like screaming that it was just a doll.

Finally, the agony of taking care of a doll ended, but for all of us, the experience left a permanent message: "You play, you pay." And unless you want to carry around a living baby who depends on you to survive, you'd better be careful what you're doing.

Though this project did interfere with my life, schoolwork, and sleep, I think we all benefited from the experience and I definitely believe that the Health Career teachers should continue to assign this project.

REVIEWS

Least Favorite TV Show

by : Richard Brum

Everybody loves Seinfeld. Or do they? I think Seinfeld is a dense, half-witted TV show with old, recycled and re-used plots. However, on occasion, the creators of Seinfeld may throw in a "new" story line.

The first thing that makes Seinfeld tiresome is the fact that every plot seems to be a variation on a theme, the theme being that one of the characters gets blamed for something tedious and every other character criticizes him or her for doing it. For example, in one episode, everybody is shocked at Seinfeld for making-out during Schindler's List. Like anybody in real life would care. Another example would be when Kramer is criticized for practicing karate with smaller kids. Does it matter? The characters in Seinfeld need to learn to stay out of other people's business.

But some people would say, "Oh, but that's what makes it so funny!" I don't think so. At least not the last time I checked. I don't think a show in which the writers can't seem to be able to get rid of the same plot they used last month is a very good one. They need to spice it up a little. They should put in twists to the plots, or get rid of that fat mailman with the glasses from the 1 - 800 - COLLECT commercials, for instance.

Another thing that makes Sienfeld so backward is that the characters are completely unbelievable. Am I to believe that there is a comedian who lives with a crazed lunatic and a woman who doesn't know what she wants to do with her life, along with a bald guy who lives with his parents? A show that is considered "funny" should at least be believable. If you could put any one of those people in a real-life situation, you can bet that he or she would make a joke about every thing.

Additionally, the situations in the series are totally nonsensical. For example, a man jumps out of a hospital window onto George Castanza's car. Another example would be when George's father needs to wear a masculine version of a bra, called a "bro." Yet another is the famous episode with that German guy that owns a soup store who yells at people who do anything other than pay for their food and leave. Everybody calls him the "soup nazi" and the episode ends with Elaine finding out the soup nazi's secret recipe. That episode made no sense and has played at least twenty times since it was first aired.

You could probably say that I've watched a lot of episodes of Seinfeld, but only for research, I can assure you. And if you pay attention to Seinfeld very closely, you might see what I mean.



REVIEWS Cont'd.

(Mortal Kombat continued)

was broken was if your best fighters win ten tournaments, one a generation, in a row, you now own your opponents' world. Kahn sends his troops after the victorious earth heroes of the tenth tournament. After seeking the help of the elder gods, who control the tournaments, the earth heroes defeat Kahn and his forces.

The fights were outstanding, however. They were packed with special movies, combos, and a few, although somewhat lame, animalities. "Animality" is MK talk, where the characters turns into an animal and "finishes" his opponent. Most of the characters appeared and fought. Quite a few characters lasted one scene before being obliterated.

Unfortunately, I have to recommend that you stay home and watch "Full House" for better acting. Because all of the main characters fight, they have to be martial artists, and good for this particular film. Most talented martial artists are moderate actors, which is disappointing because you hear, "I am the chosen one!" , with no change in facial expression.

This sequel proves one thing. Just about every second movie in a series is junk. If you do your homework, you'll discover some of the truth behind this theory. "Rocky," "Die Hard," "Beverly Hills Cop," and, God forgive me, "Home Alone" all have horrible sequels. It might have something to do with writers including everything that they wanted to put in, but left out, the first time around. Whatever the case may be, go see "Bean" or "Alien 4" instead. Make the matinee if you can. You'll save three bucks.

KISSING THE WITCH: A new take on old stories

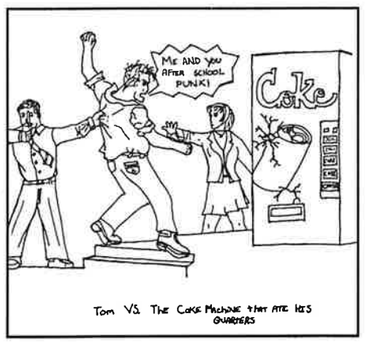
by: Sharon Charrette 2000

Kissing The Witch is written by Emma Donoghue, who wrote the book as a collection of fairy tales retold in an upbeat way and from a woman's point of view. However, she wrote them in chronological order to develop one whole story. I think Donoghue's intentions were to help us realize what the women in the tales thought, not just the men.

Kissing The Witch is an excellent book and kept my interest all the way. I especially liked how the book was one continuous story; all the tales followed with a woman from that tale telling the next one.

The tale that I loved was "The Tale of The Skin." I found this story most interesting and it was also the saddest. It was very depressing to see how the main character was manipulated by her father, who gave her no choice but to run away and hide. Another part was when she went to the masquerade ball and the prince fell in love with her disguised self. She chose not to reveal herself even though she knew that the prince loved her.

I highly recommend this book to females who like mysteries and fairy tales. I plan to read more books written by Emma Donoghue.



I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER, A must see ! ! !

by: Matt Teixeira

This movie starts off on July 4th in a small fishing town in North Carolina. After the town festival four teenagers decide to go down to the beach.

On the way to the beach Ray, (Freddie Prinze, Jr.) and his girlfriend Julie, (Jennifer Love Hewitt), are driving on a dark and remote road when they suddenly hit an object because Barry, (Ryan Phillippe), is drinking in the back seat and distracts Ray. At first they thought they hit an animal, until, that is, they see a dead body at the side of the road.

Afraid that they will be charged with murder, they decide to throw the body off the pier into the river. They all decide to forget about the whole thing and keep the secret to themselves as long as they live.

The only thing is, it's kind of hard to forget about something when you keep getting threats, finding dead bodies in your trunk, waking up with all your hair cut off, and getting stalked by someone with a twelve inch hook.

I have to say that this is one of the best movies I've ever seen. The movie never had a dull moment. It kept my attention through the whole movie. I haven't seen a movie with such a good storyline and plot in a long time.

I give this movie 6 stars on a 6 star scale. I hope you will take my advice and go see this movie before someone says I know what you didn't see at the movies.

Feature Articles

Eating Disorders . . . CAN KILL

by: Vicky Byrne 2000

I think there is a lot of stress put on teenage girls to be thin, more than there is for guys. This is because of the constant message of magazines, television, and other media to be thin and, therefore, beautiful.

Being a girl, I know how hard it is to become accepted in high school. A need for acceptance contributes to eating disorders among teenagers, especially girls.

What exactly is an eating disorder? An eating disorder is "any habit involving the intake of food that is detrimental to the body." Mostly teenagers and young adults develop eating disorders.

There are two eating disorders that are most common among teens and young adults: anorexia nervosa and bulimia. These disorders start with a physical attempt to lose weight or as a way of coping with problems. Your brain is telling you that you need to pay attention to some situation on your life that you are ignoring or avoiding. Eating disorders can be prevented by dealing with situations before they have a chance of becoming a problem.

The first step in fighting an eating disorder is admitting to it. This could be the hardest step of all. As I mentioned before, one type of eating disorder if anorexia nervosa which is an act of eating little or no food for extended periods of time, in other words, slow starvation. You could say the young person has "chosen" to starve herself rather than deal with a difficult problem.

There are some statistics I found interesting: 1 out of every 250 teenage girls will develop some symptoms of anorexia; of the people who are anorexic, only about 1 in 15 are male; anorexia occurs almost exclusively in females who are between the ages of 12 and 18; an estimated 1000 young people each year die of anorexia.

The other type of eating disorder is bulimia, the act of eating large amounts of food and then vomiting. Bulimia affects many more females than males, also. Unlike anorexia, it's more common among older teenagers. Some causes include: family problems, relationship problems, or remarks about weight and physical appearance.

Eating disorders are very serious. They can kill. If you are someone suffering from an eating disorder, or think you may be, get help. The hardest part is asking for help, but it's worth your life.

Computers in Class Make a Difference

by: Mike Gaudencio '99 ET

Mr. Mullaly has been an instructor at Diman for 28 years. He teaches history, geography, and economics. In a recent interview we discussed his new class equipment, 10 IBM compatiblecomputers. After submitting a requisition to Mr. Martins this past summer, Mr. Mullaly received several new computers all equipped with access to the internet. Having these computers has effected Mr. Mullaly's class and has helped the class to learn.

Mr. Mullaly gave some examples of the activities for which the class uses the computers. For the freshmen, students in Mr. Mullaly's class must write a term paper on a certain country. The group researches the country on the internet by utilizing electronic encyclopedias, United Nations data, and by reading the newspaper on-line from those countries. Freshmen also follow journeys in Brazil, China, and Greenland. The Sophomores use the internet to gather information to help with their term papers which they must write about some historical topic. In his Senior Economics class, students use the new computers for letter writing, researching economic indicators, and also checking the financial standing of their stocks and mutual funds.

Generally, the computers have changed the class by encouraging more learning and more independent research, mentioned Mr. Mullaly. It is to be hoped that the students will learn from Mr. Mullaly how helpful the internet can be and learn to use the internet to individually explore the vast world of knowledge, and not just use this resource for mindless surfing.

DIMAN STUDENTS COMPETE AT THE EXPO CENTER IN BOSTON

by: Jimmy Rodrigues

On November 6, at 7am, VICA stars Ryan Shane and Jason Almeida, both of the auto mechanics shop, headed to the Boston Expo Center. Most of the students in the A.M. shop also went along to cheer these courageous students on. They competed against equally accomplished students from 10 different Massachusetts schools.

The competition began at 9am. We wished Ryan and Jason the best of luck as they entered a competition unfamiliar to Diman. Each team was given a car which had been "studied" a week before-hand. The judges had "bugged" the car, or caused a problem purposely which the students would have to diagnose and correct. The teams were judged on quickness, accuracy, and technique.

While they were competing, we occupied ourselves at the car show on display until 12 noon when the students heard the final results. Time dragged a bit as we all waited impatiently for the winners to be announced.

Finally, the moment arrived: 3rd place winner, Bristol Plymouth; 2nd place winner, Diman; 1st place winner, Cape Cod Tech. Prizes and scholarships were awarded.

Ryan and Jason represented our school well, and we all enjoyed the day.

Feature Articles



Mrs. Jeanne Black
Tech. Drawing Instructor

Mrs. Black

Mrs. Black is a new Tech-Drawing teacher here at Diman.

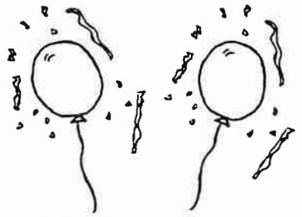
Previously she taught an evening class for students continuing their education in Auto Cad (a computer program used by drafters.) She also owns her own business as a designer. She did architectural designing for people during the day and on the side.

When asked why she came to Diman she said that she liked teaching and applied for the Tech-Drawing department.

I asked her what appealed to her about Diman and her response was, "I like the attitude of the teachers... they seem excited about their jobs, and that's good."

Even though she is now a full time teacher here, she still teaches in the evenings and keeps her business going on the side.

HAVE A HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



Mr. Letendre On Leave

by: Ryan Andrade 2000

Mr. George Letendre, Academic Coordinator at Diman Regional, has taken an extended medical leave of absence. It is unclear when he will return and no replacement has been appointed.

Mr. Letendre served in the Vietnam War as a marine. He was wounded by shrapnel which did a reasonable amount of damage to his knees. Recently, he has had to undergo further medical treatment to relieve him of pain related to this injury.

When asked about the rumors around the school suggesting a disagreement was the cause of Mr. Letendre's leave, Mr. Martins replied, "Mr. Letendre is sick. It's only temporary. I think it's the newspapers job to report this, not rumors."



Mrs. Karen Mendes
History and Office Procedures

Mrs. Mendes, New History and Office Procedures Teacher

by: Vicky Byrne

Mrs. Mendes joins the Diman staff this year as the new history and office procedures instructor. Mrs. Mendes had heard of Diman's system and well-behaved students from other educators. Also, her brothers are Diman graduates.

Mrs. Mendes grew up in Fall River and has been teaching for 2 full years. She previously taught at Case High in Swansea for one year, and has been coaching volleyball for 8 years. She served as the head coach at Bryant College in Smithfield, Massachusetts.

When she's not teaching or coaching, Mrs. Mendes enjoys playing volleyball, running, reading and spending time with her family.

On the job, Mrs. Mendes enjoys interacting with students and being a role-model for them. She obviously feels a positive attitude is an important part of the job.

REVIEWS

Road Kill Cafe

by: Lisa Miranda

Roadkill Cafe is a pretty popular restaurant, meaning there is a large chain of them from Maine down to Rhode Island. I recently got to visit their fairly new restaurant located in the heart of Newport.

The cafe boasts a terrific array of roadkill, including deep fried racoon, mutilated mule, and the ever so popular, the chicken that never made it to the other side of the road (one of my favorites). Heck, on the way there, instead of dodging those ugly clumps of flesh in the middle of the road, why not scrape 'em up and bring 'em in to Roadkill?

Well, I know I've probably got you a tad bit squirmish by telling you all that, and any appetite you had is probably gone by now, but no need to worry. I was just fibbing. Road Kill does not actually cook real roadkill; it's just a theme for this comical restaurant. Actually, the cafe' serves excellent nightcrawlers (french fries), and they



go mighty well with the Porky meets Betsy burger (bacon cheeseburger).

Upon my first visit to Roadkill last month, I experienced something everyone should get a chance to experience - a night at Roadkill Cafe. When we walked in the door we were greeted by a very friendly bunch of employees who quickly sat us near a wall of license plates and road signs. They gave us our menus and left, leaving us baffled.



Cat tails? Lug nuts? Chicken knuckles? I guess our waitress could read the question marks over our heads, so she explained the menu to us. And we were very grateful.

The food was excellent. But, even if the food wasn't good, I probably wouldn't have noticed because I had so much fun there while we ate. The wait staff kept us very entertained.

I have proclaimed this restaurant my new favorite. I only recommend it to you if you are looking for a lot of laughs and a good time with friends.

THE WEATHERVANE

by: Tony Correia 2000

After hearing from several people about this great new restaurant in Dartmouth called The Weathervane, I decided to see what all this fuss was about.

First, I waited thirty-five minutes and from what I hear most of the time the wait is much longer. I don't know about you, but when I'm hungry, I'm hungry. The last thing I want to do is sit in a crowded, smoke-filled room while smelling food on an empty stomach.

After this extended period of waiting, they finally called my number. I went into another room and while I was there, they served me appetizers which consisted of potato spuds and french fries, which where o.k., but how can you mess that up?

The restaurant was decorated with the over-used, classy fisherman look. The menu had a fair mount of choices, but the prices were outrageous for somethings and cheap for others. I ordered fish and chips and the fish was under-cooked, greasy and extremely small.

This restaurant is definitely not the "I'll be back" type. Its more like "Should have gone to Burger King."



MORTAL KOMBAT "HUMILIATION"

by: Ryan Andrade 2000

Before I start, I have to say that I am truly a huge Mortal Kombat fan. I love the games, characters, and the first movie. With that said, "Mortal Kombat - Annihilation" was probably the movie that I wanted to see the most this year, and, boy, do I see a lot of movies.

I busted my hump to get a ride to and from the theater. Then I forked over $7.25 for the ticket. For me, these seemed small prices to pay to see my "most anticipated film of the year." Finally I sat down, watched the previews, and drooled as the opening theme music blasted. But once the movie started, I wiped my mouth and ducked in shame for 130 minutes.

What I expected to see was very little dialogue, a ton of fighting, and awesome special effects. Instead, I was served too much plot, too much talking, a select amount of fight scenes, and spectacular special effects. What I mean by too much plot is that the movie had scenes, characters, and dialogue that were included specifically so that it might have been able to pass as a somewhat decent film, not a fight fest. That's too bad because I wanted to see a fight fest, with broken bones, blood, and decapitations.

The elongated plot goes like this. Shoa Khan (Out World Emperor) illegally (according to the MK tournament rules) invades earth. The rule that

(continued on page 12)



SPORTS Cont'd.



VOLLEYBALL ANYONE?

by: Vicky Byrne

Last year, Diman was supposed to have started a volleyball team. It didn't happen.

This year, there are plans to go ahead with the team with Chris Cyr, a substitute teacher and fitness instructor, as the coach.

According to Ms. Cyr, the volleyball team was put on hold for a while because of construction in the gym, but Diman will definitely go ahead with a team this year.

Signups and intramurals will be held in the Spring. Any interested students can become involved.

Much time and effort has been put into starting up a team. Ms. Cyr is hoping for an enthusiatic response from the students.





Justin Hoyle runs to victory at the '96 City Championship, at Durfee High School

JUSTIN HOYLE

by: Chad Carreiro

Justin Hoyle looked like the most promising runner for the boys Cross Country team this year.

Justin, who stands at 5'4, is very talented for his size. This summer he and the rest of the team prepared for the 97' season. As part of the training, he and the team ran a few road races.

The first race was the Little Compton Road Race where Justin finished a very impressive 2nd in his division. The next race was the Leahey race where he came across the line in a respectable 7th in his division.

The Acushnet Road Race was the turning point of his season. Justin finished 6th overall and 1st in his division. In the process of running the best race of his career, he fractured his fibula bone in his right leg.

Justin was out for two months, but he still went to races and practices. Two months later, he started his comeback by running the city Championship race.

A mile into the race he tore his Achilles tendon. Even injured, Justin didn't quit. Courageously, he finished in a respectable 9th place.

Justin now was out for the rest of the season. He said it was hard to watch the rest of the team over the two month stretch, but it was even worse knowing his season was over.

Justin is looking forward to winter track so he can get back to running.

THE BENGALS *ARE ROARING BACK*

by: Scott Cote

Well, it's time again, that's right, hockey time and Diman is getting back into the swing of things. Try outs were held and things went well. Perriera, the varsity coach, feels that even though we are a young team, if we don't make too many mistakes, we will do all right.

As you probably know, the Diman hockey program is still young and building. We have some good freshmen, and veterans from last year's team are returning.

Last year's team went out with 5 wins, 14 losses, and 1 tie and could have very easily made the 500. Mr. Perriera is hoping to do better than last year and make the 500 and go to the state tournament.

With returning goaltender Mike Deuchesne and backup Jay Bernard this goal is very possible. To make this more attainable, we have Diman's all-time leading goal-scorer Lenny Dutra returning along with Brett Codega and last year's freshmen sensation Joey Tabicas.

Diman hockey needs your support and would like you to attend as many games as you can to encourage the Bengals.



Feature Articles

A Fishy Story

by: Mike Fletcher '98 - CA

As everyone might have already heard, there is a new lab under construction here at Diman. The Aqua Lab is where students can learn how fish and other aquatic life reproduce and survive. Mr. Kuthan is the teacher in charge of this operation and first spoke about it back in October.

What types of marine life will be included in this lab?

Mr. Kuthan: Well, right now we are only going to breed Tilapia, which is a fresh water fish that is fast growing and easily survives.

What is the purpose of this new lab?

Mr. Kuthan: I witnessed this program in use while I was at New Bedford Voke and was fascinated with it. I see how it will combine work for many of the shops, and I will try to utilize as many shops as possible. I would like to acknowledge the shops which helped so far and thank them: Drafting for the design of the lab, Building Technology for setting up the tanks, Plumbing for doing the air supply to the tanks, and Electricity for all the necessary wiring that had to be done.

Do you think this project will have a large, positive response?

Mr. Kuthan: Yes, so far there has been a large response from Mr. Martins who's all for the project along with the rest of administration, and many shops have been highly involved. Many people even worked during their summer vacation to build the room.

Which classes will be working in this lab?

Mr. Kuthan: Well as I figure it now so far it will be Marine Biology, Biology, Environmental Science, and Chemistry.

I'm sure people are anxious to know if they (students & teachers) will be able to visit the lab even though they do not have one of the classes that are involved.

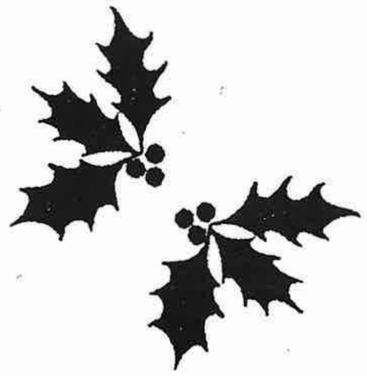
Mr. Kuthan: Of course, any teacher and class that is interested may use this lab.

The Aqua Lab will consist of six 55 gallon tanks, one large tank for breeding, fish charts, and a book of records of what happens in the tanks. Students will be responsible for it running properly.

Mr. Kuthan's short-term goal for this project is to establish an aqua culture class for next year. His long-term goal eventually is to make aquaculture a shop all of its own. Aquaculture is the fastest growing industry today, and not only is it fun, but it's very inexpensive to start and run. However, the money spent will yield high returns in the selling of grown marine life.

The lab is located at the end of the hall in the C-wing at the bottom of the stairs.





PEER MEDIATION

by: Vicky Bryne C.A.

I recently spoke with Ms. Burns about the Peer Mediation program. Here is what she had to say.

What is Peer Mediation?

Ms. Burns - Peer Mediation is a form of settling problems in a nonviolent manner through discussions.

Who can be a peer Mediator?

Ms. Burns - Any student.

What is in store for us this year with Peer Mediation?

Ms. Burns - We are writing grants to retrain mediators and we're recruiting new mediators, mostly freshmen and sophomores. Also, we are going to be holding acted-out mediations for freshmen.

What is the selection process and what does it involve?

Ms. Burns - The selection process is your problem being accepted to be mediated. It consists of: an application; two references , one from a teacher and the other from a mediator; two essay questions; a personal interview; and a group interview.

The final selection is made by Administration and, myself, the Health Advisor.

In conclusion Ms. Burns stated that "Peer Mediators are model students. They use the skills that they have developed in Peer Mediation in the real world."

A student mediator said, "Being a mediator is a lot of fun. You can help other people and make a difference in this school at the same time."

IN OUR OPINION . . .

READING CAN'T BE THAT BAD . . .

by: Ryan Andrade 2000

Stop and think back, hopefully not that far back, to the last time you actually picked up a decent sized novel and read the whole thing. I mean on your own, not for a book report or extra credit either, but by yourself reading a 2 to 3 hundred page book. Now can you see the problem?

Imagine some one telling you, "Books are great vocabulary builders." You would be laughing, curled in a ball, on the floor. It's true though. You can learn vocabulary and a whole lot more from a book.

So why don't kids read? Actually, the reasons are a lot easier to list than the answers to why they should read. Our generation, for the most part, is becoming dependent and lazy, due to television, ads, even teachers spoonfeeding us everything. This ranges from clothing ads telling us what is cool to wear, all the way to, say, a teacher not giving the fifth geometry problem because it was a little "tough." Why bother reading a book when we can just watch television?

I'll tell you why - because, gasp, you might actually learn something. I can pick on an average tv sitcom too. They are molded and groomed to be comprehensible by just about any idiot off the street.

Is that what all of us want to be when we grow up, just any idiot off the street? Sorry, no sale here. It would be a miracle if I heard a student approach a friend with, "Hey, did you read that new Cormier novel yet?" Never, not in Diman. You only hear, "Did you see the game last night?"

Yeah, I watch sports, too, but that's not all that I do with my time. Reading isn't painful, horrific, or un-enjoyable. It's a great chance to experience a new life or a new view of the same life. That doesn't sound awful, does it?

Personally, too often my excuse is, "I don't have enough time." Well, that's why we invented the bookmark. That is just one great thing about a book. You can read a book when you have the time, at anytime.

You don't have to wait until 5:30 on Friday when TGIF starts. Reading is cool. You should try it sometime.



Stephanie Duarte and Erica Jennings care for their new infants in shop.



Baby on Board!!

by: Adam Huwyler MS '99

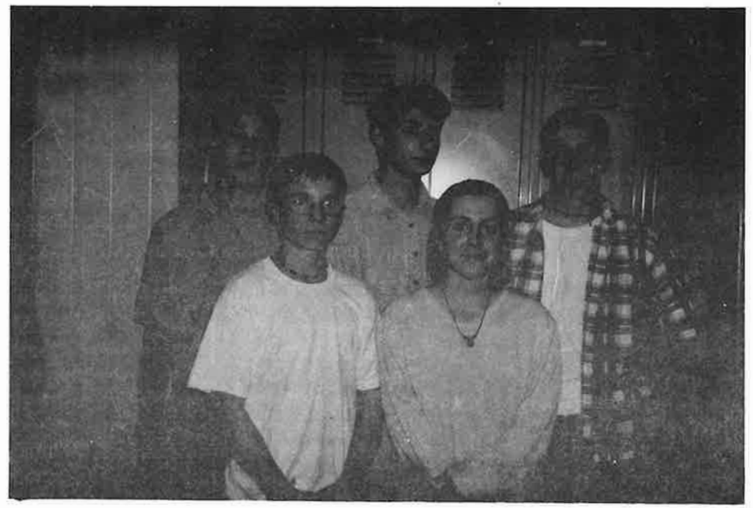
I was originally going to write an article completely trashing the Health Careers' baby program. But, I changed my mind! I thought that it was a complete waste of time and a distraction. Well, guess what? IT'S NOT!!!

I got the chance to interview a few students. They told me all I needed to know. They changed my opinion. The girls told me exactly what it was all about. They told me that the program was set up to teach the students how difficult it is to take care of a child at this age. This program is arranged for the sophomores only.

The students have to carry the babies wherever they go and take care of them as if they were real babies. This teaches them a small portion of what it's like in real life. If this program teaches these young girls that now is not the time, they're saved from a lifetime of problems? Having to raise a child day in and day out, every night, every week, every month, and every year, until that child leaves the house will completely ruin any girl's life.

So, I would like to praise this program and say keep it going and keep it going strong!

SPORTS



All Stars: L to R: (Bottom) Lisa Miranda, Jeff Collins. Top: Steve Pereria, Tony Correia, Chad Carreiro.

CROSS COUNTRY ALL STARS

by: Jeff Collins

This season, a few of Diman's cross country runners were chosen as Herald News All Stars. The students get picked only if they had an exceptional year in their sport. Students from our area including Fall River, Swansea, Somerset, Westport, Dighton Rehoboth and other close towns were chosen.

Chad Carreiro was chosen as an all star. Chad did awesome this year with 8 first place wins. He came in 2nd in the city championships, 3rd in the Mayflower League meet, 13th in the state voc. meet and 54th in the state championships.

Tony Corrieia was also picked as an all-star. Tony did a good job this year considering that it was his first year. He grabbed 5th in the city championships, 4th in the Mayflower League meet, 11th in the state voc., and 87th in the state champ.

Mike Cabral was a gift to us from the soccer team. He was loaned to us by Mr. Chicaro (Dimans soccer coach). Mike came in the top 10 his first meet which is an accomplishment that most of the young runners want badly. He had one first place win this season. Cabral finished 3rd in the city championship, 14th in the state voc., and 28th in the state champ.

Lisa Miranda was the only Lady Bengal to make it this year. Lisa had a good year finishining 2nd in the city champs. Lisa came in 3rd in the state voc. meet, 3rd in the Mayflower meet, and 55th in the state championship.

Making Honorable Mention for the Herald were Jeff Collins and Steve Perreira. Steve who is a veteran on the team had his best year in running. He came in 7th in the city, 7th in the Mayflower meet, 17th in the state voc., and 69th in the state championships. Jeff had an impressive rookie year. He came in 13th in the city champ, 29th in the state voc. 15th in the Mayflower meet and 106 out of over 200 runners in the state championships.

Good job runners!

IN OUR OPINION . . .

OPINION

Dear Editors of The Tradesman,

I am writing to you about the article in the last issue of The Tradesman, the one about whether Diman should have honors classes. I am a freshman just coming into this school from middle school. When the representative from Diman came to my middle school, I thought that Diman was going to cram in all they could when we were in academics because we only had those classes for half the school year. In my first rotation, I thought that the teachers were going easy so we could get used to the school and teachers. When second and third rotation came around teachers were acting the same as the first rotation. I still thought it was too easy.

I believe that there should be honors classes for those above average students that are also looking to acquire knowledge in a trade. In some of my academic courses I am doing work that I did in the 7th and 8th grade and in those classes I am not being challenged. I don't know about other people, but I am not one who just likes to sit there for the ride. I figure I have to be there, so why not learn as much as I can before I have to pay to learn when I am in college?

I hope Diman does institute honors classes for the students that have the motivation and ability to take the classes. Honors classes would make Diman more of a challenge than just meeting the minimum requirements.

Sincerely,
Paul Ferland
Class of 2001

SHOWDOWN
In The Gulf II

by: Mike Gaudencio 99 ET

You'd think that after the gulf war, Saddam Hussein would know not to defy the U.N., but Saddam Hussein is no ordinary ruler. He is a ruthless, power-hungry leader who has been known to use chemical weapons (like VX, an extremely lethal nerve gas) ON HIS OWN PEOPLE.

During the Gulf War (Jan. - Mar. 1991), Saddam invaded the small country of Kuwait. One of the reasons he invaded the country was because Kuwait has the highest concentrations of oil in the world. When he invaded the country, the U.S. and its allies attacked the Iraqi positions and the war was over by March 1991 with minimal losses.

As part of the cease fire agreement, Iraq was not to attempt to build up its arsenal of chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction. It would be the UN's job to be sure they didn't.

When the U.N. weapons inspectors (which included members from the U.S.) were recently turned away, the U.N. demanded that the inspectors be allowed to inspect the sites. Iraq then forced all U.N. inspectors to leave the country. In response, the U.S., U.N. and other allies put pressure on Iraq to allow the inspectors to re-enter the sites. Iraq finally agreed to allow the inspectors to search the sites but didn't allow access to "government palaces."

"It's not over until I say," said U.S. Secretary of State Madeline Albright. She also mentioned that Iraq's actions have only "re-energized" the alliance of countries working to contain Iraq. U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen said that the U.S. won't consider the standoff resolved as long as Iraq continues to block access to 63 sites - which include "palaces" which may be concealing stashes of chemical and biological weapons. "We'll know (it's over) when Saddam Hussein agrees to allow the inspectors unfettered freedom to look at whatever sites they believe are suspect, where he might be carrying out illegal activities," Cohen said.

Iraqi officials quickly rejected Cohen's call for unrestricted access. Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf said in a news conference in Baghdad that (Inspectors) should avoid coming near sites which are part of Iraq's sovereignty and national security.

Now, Iraq has begun to publicly protest the U.S. sanctions by parading with children's caskets that they claim were children killed as a result of U.S. sanctions. Hopefully, diplomacy and reasoning will resolve this crisis quickly, for all our sakes.



TRADESMAN STAFF

Associated Editors:
Lisa Miranda HC '99
Ryan Andrade DR 2000

Assistant Editor:
Erica Followwill EL '98

Sports Editor:
Jeff Collins PL 2000

Layout Editor:
Tony Correia DR 2000

Staff Writers:
Mike Gaudencio ET '99
Adam Huwyler MS '99
Vicky Byrne CA 2000
John Cabral MF '98

Contributors:
Scott Cote; Richard Brum; Sharron Charrette; Jimmy Rodriques; Mike Fletcher; Tara Assad; Heather Green; Paul Ferland; Matt Teixeira; Christopher Makuch; Chad Correiro

Advisor: Susan Sayre

IN OUR OPINION . . .

PRIVILEGES REVOKED

by: Erica Followwill

Every year Diman students build a house. They go out and do manual work that other people would only do if they were getting paid. Although there are supervisors for the kids, there is basically a trust that is placed in them. They are to be responsible for their own actions and relied upon to act like adults. Since Diman students are being treated like real workers in that aspect, you would also assume that they were being treated somewhat like adults in other ways also.

Having worked at the house my Sophomore and Junior year, I am accustomed to the routine of working there. Every morning we would be picked up at school first thing and then dropped by the store quickly before heading to the house. Then, we have to work as soon as we arrive until lunch time. After lunch, it is more work until we have to leave.

Working there can sometimes be a hassle, especially in the winter. The only thing provided for warmth are those big, smelly blow heaters. Believe me, if you're cold, you'll put up with the smell. You come to look forward to lunch where you can get out of the cold by going in the bus or sitting in front of those heaters. It's a great feeling to just sit there and eat while you're warming up.

Recently, I was informed that students are not to be allowed to go to the store anymore. There wasn't anything special that happened for this decision to be made; it was just decided that the students should not be allowed to go anymore.

Even though I do not work at the house this year and this decision does not affect me personally, I still am a bit annoyed with this. I cannot understand why a privilege would be taken away if there wasn't any misconduct occurring. It's like the students are being punished for something they didn't do. The only thing students were doing at the store was buying their lunch.

When kids come to school, they are allowed to either buy a lunch at school or bring their own. So, I ask, why shouldn't a student going to the house be allowed the same choice?

DIMAN NEEDS A CHANGE

More Extra Curricular Activities Wanted

by: Tara Assad

For many years, Diman students have wondered, "Why don't we have the same privileges as other schools?"

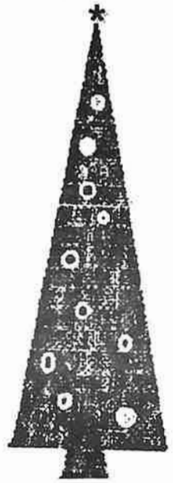
For instance, Diman does not have a football team, girls soccer, volleyball, and didn't have a homecoming until last year. But why don't we have very many extra curricular activities? Lots of students wondered this and aren't very happy. So, what do students want to see here at Diman?

I sent around a paper with a list of about twenty activities not currently at Diman that other local area high schools do have. I asked some students to check off the ones they would be interested in. There were a few activities with enough votes to make them an extra curricular activities at Diman. These activities included an art club, drama, chess club, ski club, photography club, travelers club, sport boosters (which would raise money for sports), and a group called Alternatives (which would show the alternatives to drugs and alcohol). I only asked about 35 students out of the whole school, so most likely more students would have chosen more activities.

So, what can we do to get these activities here at Diman? Well, I talked to Mr. Ramos and he said to have an extra curricular activity at Diman you need two things; student involvement and an instructor. If you would like to organize one of these activities, and know an advisor who would instruct it, go to that faculty member and say something. All help would be appreciated.

What about the funds? Well, Mr. Ramos also said Diman would be willing to fund and support any extra curricular activity, with again, student participation and an instructor. Also, fund raising is a possibility.

Extra curricular activities would bring more schools spirit into Diman and something for students to do. Every student should be involved in some school activity. More choices could mean more students getting involved.



Correction for November issue:
In "Mr. Nowell joins Diman staff", Swain School of Design was misspelled. Also, Mr. Vickrey was misspelled
We extend our apologies.