MISCELLANEOUS

D I M A N



TITANIC

(continued from page 7)

Today, not many people realize how tragic it was, but in a movie released at the end of 1997, people can relive the terror and confusion aboard the Titanic some 86 years ago.

The movie stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet as the star-crossed lovers, Jack and Rose.

Leonardo DiCaprio plays Jack Dawson, a third class passenger who makes his loving as an amateur artist. He portrays all the characteristics of a first class gentleman with a lust for life, despite his disheveled appearance.

Rose DeWitt Bukater, played by Kate Winslet, is a refined young lady who is unhappy with the marriage arranged by her mother. She is sick of being the "upper class" and having to put up an act.

When the two meet, they are instantly drawn together. Throughout the entire movie they have a hard time staying together, and when the ship begins to sink, it becomes even tougher. I enjoyed this movie immensely. It definitely touched my heart. I'd strongly recommend that you see this movie if you haven't already. If you like romance mixed with a bit of history, this is THE movie to watch.

"TITANIC IS NOT JUST A CAUTIONARY TALE - A MYTH, A PARABLE, A METAPHOR FOR THE ILLS OF MANKIND. IT IS ALSO A STORY OF FAITH, COURAGE, SACRIFICE, AND ABOVE ALL ELSE, LOVE."
WRITER/DIRECTOR JAMES CAMERON

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Newspaper Staff, we'd like to thank Mr. Martins for helping us obtain new a computer and printer, Mr. Viveiros for taking the time to show us how to work the computer programs, and Mr. Cournoyer for helping us get the computer set up and running.

Tradesman Staff

WE APOLOGIZE

You may have noticed how long it has taken us to get this issue of the newspaper out. We were learning a new computer program so we could set up the layout of the newspaper ourselves. Also, we are in the process of getting some new equipment. We apologize for the delay.

Tradesman Staff

B E N G A L S

THE TRADESMAN
DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
-- A NEWSPAPER by and for DIMAN STUDENTS --
Volume 5 No. 3 March 1998

Prison Life

Tara Assad & Jeremy Chabot

One hundred-twenty people per block. Forty cells. Three people per cell. If you choose a life of crime that's what you have to look forward to.

In our recent trip to the Dartmouth House of Corrections we were taught a real life lesson about where alife of crime will lead you.

Captain Gregory Centeio, from the S.L.A.M. program (Students Learning A Message), and Lisa Birkness, who is the Director of Communications of the prison, gave us a tour of the compound. We were able to see what a basic jail day is like. We were also able to speak to some of the inmates.

The first cell Captain Centeio showed us was in the Segregation Unit of the prison. It is a 6' x 12' cell which contains one toilet, a sink, and a bed which is bolted to the floor. This unit is for prisoners who cause trouble inside the prison.

These segregated inmates spend 23 hours a day in their cell, and one hour outside to exercise. They get fed through a slot at the bottom of the door. Before exiting the cell they must be hand-cuffed. When a prisoner is confined to this cell it is for at least 30 days. This confinement can be so unbearable that sometimes a prisoner tries to commit suicide. For protection, inmates hide homemade "shanks" inside the vents.

The general population of the compound that are not segregated are treated a little differently. They are able to receive their GED, and have access to the library and the chapel on Saturday and Sunday.



Inmates from left to right: Lisa, Frank, Warren

Also, they can learn a trade such as wood working, auto mechanics, maintenance, or sheet metal work.

The first inmate to speak with us was a man named Warren. Warren has been in and out of the prison system since he was 17 years old. He stated that e had been shot and stabbed over a half a dozen times. He also said he was into drugs and has overdosed. He said, "It is by the will of God I am still alive."

The next person to speak with us was a woman prisoner named Lisa. She said she came from a good, strict, Portuguese family. She started having troubles at 13 when her father died. She started smoking pot and drinking. She thought she was cool and wanted to fit in. At 17, Lisa got pregnant. She started writing checks for money she didn't have. In 1994, at the age of 21, she got arrested for writing false checks. After serving a year, Lisa returned to college and started getting her life back on track. After a while she resumed writing bad checks and found herself back in jail. She was sentenced to two years in the House of Corrections and is currently serving this sentence.

The third and final prisoner we spoke with was Frank, a.k.a. "Apache". He is a 28 year old who was first sentenced in 1995 for involuntary man-slaughter. He received a life sentence with no parole, but his sentence was overturned. After being released he was given a three year suspended sentence. One night he and his friends were drinking in an abandoned apartment. He had too much to drink and passed out. When the cops came, his so-called "friends" ran and left him there to be arrested. He is now serving a two year sentence. Frank states he is a "talented artist" and could "make a lot of money on the outside," but it is getting him nowhere in jail.

When asked, "Has jail life changed you?" One inmate stated, "It is hard to live in a positive way when living in a negative environment."

FEATURE ARTICLES



Editor In Chief
Ryan Andrade 2000 DR

DIMAN PRIDE ?

It's the '97-'98 school year, a phenomenal sport year so far for Diman Regional. Why, you ask? To answer I'll do a quick recap.

Bengals cross country team won the three big championships that it first set its eyes on way back in June. And to top that , they went undefeated in the process.

Diman varsity soccer made it to the playoffs for the first time in years. Even before that , they crushed their once unbeatable arch-rival, Bishop Connolly.

Diman's boys varsity basketball team recently schooled Westport and ran away with the win.

And last but not least, our winter track team won a meet for the first time in 12 years. This may not seem like much of an accomplishment, but their opposition consists of such large schools as Dighton Rehobeth and New Bedford Voke.

We are barely half way through the school year and our school has been this successful. We still have VICA, baseball, softball, and many other activities that our school has always triumphed in.

So, if we are this successful then what's missing?

The answer is school support, our teams don't have enough. For example, when the soccer teams were battling Blue Hills,or when cross country team members were pounding the pavement against the ever challenging Sacred Heart, the only support they had were members of other teams, friends, family, teachers, or administration, yes, administration.

This may sound like enough help, but there really isn't a known limit. When the boys varsity basketball hosted Westport, the large crowd at the game helped keep Diman's momentum going strong right up to the end. Knowing that the shouts and roars of the audience are in your favor will make you run that much faster, focus that much stonger, and push yourself that extra inch to beat your opponent.

I don't think that lack of interest or not having enough time are reasons for Diman students not wanting to help support these activities. I think it's more like apathy and ignorance.

If you think you might be interested, even just a little, in attending a Diman sporting event, joining a team, participating in an extracurricular activity, or just finding out about one of these things, then by all means ask someone. Club advisors, for the Key Club, Newspaper, VICA, etc., are known by most teachers; doing activities can improve your college resume and may help with your school grades.

Team schedules are posted in the boys' locker room, most teachers' classrooms, and in the gym offices.

Please, though, if you are just trying to get out of classes, or act like a punk at a basketball game, then stay in class or go home. Diman doesn't need you humiliating yourself and your school by doing this. Besides, some of these activities involve actual work.



Sergeant Talks To Diman Students About Youth Violence.

Tony & Ryan

In December, Sergeant Michael Pleiss, from Youth Violence Protection at the Fall River Police Department , came to Diman to help educate and inform participating classes about gangs and related issues.

He gave a brief testimony about his life before and after the force. He spoke of how he has operated with the local "gang" unit for sometime and that he has an extended knowledge on the area gangs. His major job is to patrol hang outs.

After that introduction, he made some valid points on why kids join gangs. He asked the students why they would join a gang. Some of the reasons were: protection, family, fitting in, and fun.

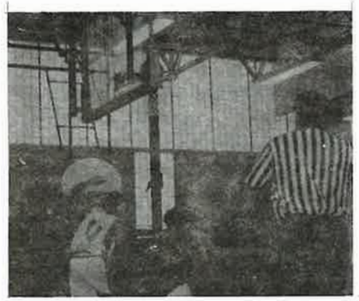
He also gave some interesting facts about gangs. Its a felony, that is automatic prison sentence if convicted , to be "jumped in" a gang. Another is, once you have been picked up or arrested by an officer on patrol and identified as a gang member, you are in permanent records as being in or associated with that particular group.

"It's just not worth it!"

When your group commits a crime or misdemeanor and is recognized as similar in appearance in any way, shape , or form, you are written up as a "gang". This means that any time your gang is suspected of involvement with a crime, you and the other members can be brought in for questioning, arrest, or temporary holding. **cont. on pg. 3**

SPORTS







Winter Track

By: Jeff Collins

This year the Winter Track team has been doing the best they've done in years. The team has won their first meet in twelve years.

The runners are all very talented but they just don't have enough people to win some of their meets.

Leading the team in points is junior Chad Carreiro who has been doing exceptionally well in the mile and the fifty yard dash.

Senior Craig Aroujo has also been running the fifty. Craig is one of the teams leading scorers.

Following Craig and Chad in the fifty is freshman Matt Michel and senior Nuno Merales. In the two mile Justin Hoyle was back for a few meets but he is out again due to another injury. With Justin gone, Jeff Collins has been taking the lead role.

Embarrassing the competition in the mile are: Chad Carreiro, Mike Cabral and freshman Danny Lynch. More points are added by senior Jay Carreiro and junior Adam Imbriglio in the 600. Senior Steve Pereira has been another big point scorer in the 1000. In the shot put , Joe Cleary leads the way followed buy Adam Imbriglio and Matt Michel. Finishing the point scoring is Adam Huwyler in the high jump.







DIMAN

BENGAL SPORTS

SPORTS

Athletes Of The Issue

By: Jeff Collins



Lenny Dutra - Male Athlete of the Issue



Priscilla Souza - Female Athlete of the Issue

Lenny Dutra is our male athlete of the issue for The Tradesman. I chose Lenny because he has been doing exceptional in hockey. Lenny has also been chosen to be athlete of the week by the Herald News and has received honorable mention before.

I spoke to Lenny about his hockey experiences. The first question I asked was, "How long have you been playing?" Lenny told me he's been playing since he was five. He is sixteen now. My next question was "Do you have any goals you would like to achieve?" Lenny responded, "First I would like to get the Diman team to the state tournaments for the first time. Then I would like to make it to the college level."

After I spoke to Lenny, I asked his couch, Mr. Pereira, if Lenny achieved any school records. Mr. Pereira laughed and said, "Yes, Lenny is the all time leader in goals, assists, and unfortunately, penalty minutes."

Lenny has been leading the Bengal hockey team this year with over twenty goals. He's also been leading the team in hat tricks and assists. Lenny is only a junior and will be back next year to dominate the scoring for the bengals.

Priscilla Souza is our female athlete of the month. Priscilla has been one of the top athletes in Diman since she came into the school last year. She has made the varsity softball and basketball team each year. In both sports, Priscilla has been a leading contender every game.

Priscilla, who stands at five feet and one inch, plays a good point guard position She averages 7 9 points, 9 4 assists, and 5 rebounds per game, which makes her one of the leading scorers for the team.

Couch Blanchette and Aubin describe the point guard as the quarterback of the offense. This means she controls the game and calls all the shots.

For softball, Cilla played second and third base. Her batting average was .333, which was one of the highest on the team. When Cilla got up to bat, the team was almost sure she would get a hit.

Softball is starting up soon so if you haven't seen Priscilla in action yet, I suggest you come out to watch the softball team.

Feature Articles



Sergeant Talks To Diman

cont. from page 2

Sergeant Pleiss was direct and frank. He understands the reasons for joining a gang, but none of them validate violence, theft, destruction of property, or any other crime. As he stated, " Its just not worth it."



STRESS!!!

Vicky Burnes '00 CA

I am stressed out!!! That's what alot of teens are saying lately.

Everyone has some form of stress in their lives. Stress is a normal part of a person's life. Many things in life can be stressful, such as school, after school jobs, relationships and parents, and other commitments.

But, what exactly is stress? "Stress is the wear and tear our bodies experience as we adjust to our continually changing environment."

We all thrive under a certain amount of stress. Our goal is not to eliminate stress, but to learn to manage it.

There are many ways to manage stress. They are:

1. Find out what stresses you.
2. Learn how your body responds to stress.
3. Don't expect to please everyone.
4. Handle each thing as it comes.
5. Set realistic goals for yourself.
6. Work off stress with a physical activity.

The key to managing streess is to get stress to work for you instead of against you. Try seeing stress as something you can cope with instead of something that wears you down.

When you have stress, your body goes through some physical changes. These include: a faster heartbeat and breathing rate, higher blood pressure and increased muscle tension. These physical changes give the body added strength and energy. When stress is dealt with in a positive way, the body restores itself and repairs any damage caused by the stress.

The most common symptoms of stress include: muscle tension, tiredness, nervousness, sleeplessness, and pain in the muscles.

Two ways to reduce stress are to identify the causes of the stress in your life, and to share your feelings. It's helpful to talk to someone about your problems. Have the courage to be imperfect, and learn how to relax.

Learning how to relax is one of the most important ways to cope with stress. Keep in mind that no one is perfect. Take control of your life and don't let **stress take control of you.**



Diman Faculty Joins Together To Help A Fellow Colleague

Michael Gaudencio '99 ET

On January 3, 1998, Mr. Killavey and his family suffered a hard loss when his home was heavily damaged by fire. Mrs. Hopkins, NHS advisor, said that the home was not destroyed in the fire. In Mr. Killavey's e-mail to the school he wrote "...the porch, side hall, and kitchen were totaled, but firemen put it out just as it was about to eat through to the second floor..."

Upon hearing the terrible news, Diman faculty and staff joined to assist a fellow co-worker. With the assistance of Mrs. Hopkins, Diman's National Honor Society went around the school to collect donations to help Mr. Killavey. Money was donated by administrators, shops, instructors, secretaries, custodians, and other staff. The money was presented to the Killavey family.

In Mr. Killavey's e-mail he also wrote "...besides the 'be prepared' lesson that I learned, I'd like to mention one other thing - take it slow everybody, life is too precious to fritter away...I hope to see you all soon."



Teacher of The Month



Jeff Collins

Mrs. Karen Oliveira ,the Health Careers sophomore teacher has been elected teacher of the month in a "Whose Who" magazine. This magazine is really a book which features elected outstanding students and teachers. The book is published yearly and is pretty popular among people in the educational business. This is a wonderful accomplishment and on behalf of the Tradesman staff we would like to commend Mrs. Oliveira

Feature Articles

Cloning and it's Consequences
Mike Gaudencio '99 ET

Cloning is defined as the process by which an exact duplicate of a pre-existing living organism is created by scientists in a labotory.

In 1997 groundbreaking news reached the press that scientists had successfully cloned a female sheep. Dolly the sheep was successfully cloned in Edinburgh by a scientific team from the Roslin Institute. The sheep is genetically identical to her mother. How do they do it, you may ask?

First, a single cell is extracted. The cell's nucleus cotains the sheep's DNA blueprint. Second, the nucleus from the cell is removed and the nucleus from another donor sheep is put in its place. The yet to be born sheep will look identical to the donor sheep. Third, a small electrical current starts the egg into behaving like a newly fertilized egg. Fourth, cell division and growth begins and the egg is implanted into a surrogate mother (like in vitro fertilization). Fifth, the clone is carried to term and is born. This scientific breakthrough has been recieved with mixed reaction.

The scientific possibilities with clones are endless, but so are the ethical delimas. If a sheep can be clond, are humans next? Britian has already passed laws outlawing human cloning, but no such law has been passed in the US or elsewhere. The US does however prohibit federal funding of any cloning experimens and President Clinton has already ordered an ethics review of cloning.

Some people think that cloning is good. By cloning chickens and cows they can put an end to world hunger. Imagine having a clone of yourself kept in storage. If you ever were in a bad car accident and needed a new liver you could just take it out of your clone and not have to worry about rejection because it's identical to the organ removed. The flip side of that is that more people would abuse their bodies with drugs and alcohol knowing that spare organs can be quickly aquired. What if some scientists cloned Albert Einstein, one of the greatest scientific minds of all time? He could show our modern scientists his insights into theories in math and science, and greatly increase our scientific progress. How about if they cloned Mother Theresa? She was known as a living saint for her selfless contributions to the poor and sick in India. However, what if some mad scientist cloned someone like Charles Manson or Adolph Hitler or a hundred Hitlers or Mansons....a scary thought, huh?

Now, the Bioethical Advisory Commision, world leaders and legislators, and citizens alike will debate over whether or not cloning of animals or humans should be allowed. Whatever they dicide, you can be sure it will profoundly affect our lives for years to come.

** Source USA Today & NY Times



Homecoming "98"
Jeff Collins

WOW!

That's what I have to say about this years homecoming. It was just such a good time.

I picked up Chad and Ryan at six and then we went on to pick up our dates. After all the pictures and talking to parents, we made it to the Venus in Swansea. When we got out of the car we were surrounded by Diman students dressed in Khaki pants and ties, fancy skirts and dresses.

We walked in and found ourselves in a line of kids waiting to get their pictures taken. My date and I had pictures taken, and then we proceeded into the Apollo room. My friends and I found a table and started to talk about last years homecoming.

The food was served at eight o'clock. Our table was called at about ten passed and we rushed up to the buffet line. There was salad, delmonico potatoes, macaroni and cheese, meatballs, chicken, and ham. I filled my plate and walked back to the table.

Ten minutes later they announced that they were serving dessert. Chad Carreiro and myself ran up and grabbed some cheese cake with strawberries on top. The meal was satisfying especially knowing that I'd be dancing for the next three and a half hours.

My friend came up to me and told me it was time to take our group picture. I followed him and the other fifteen kids taking the picture. Paul Camara collected our money for the photographer and we started to get into position. He took two pictures and we all went into the Apollo together.

"To the dance floor," yelled John Hetzler, and everyone followed. After that, the floor was packed for the rest of the night. It seemed like everyone was having a good time including some teachers who found themselves dancing alongwith the rest of the crew.

Some kids were having a little too much fun taking off their shirts, to only have on a T- shirt on underneath. All through the night no trouble was caused and no harm was done.

I went around the school on Monday, after the weekend to ask some questions on homecoming. The major question was "What did you think about homecoming?"

Eme Lebron said "I had lots of fun, I never stopped dancing and my feet still hurt."

Chris Pacheco said that it was the best dance he had ever been too.

I definitely had a good time. I'm sure Shannon Raposa and Danny Ferreira, who were Homecoming King and Queen, had a good time.

On behalf of all the people who went to homecoming, I would like to say thanks to the Cheerleaders who put the whole thing on.

Reviews

The Late "Seinfeld"
Richard Brum

So, they canceled Seinfeld. Well, I'm glad. Do you think they ran out of ideas for plots? Or maybe a few of the actors wanted out? I know I would if I were part of the Seinfeld cast. It wasn't doing anything for their acting careers. Let alone the audience. Watching Seinfeld was a complete waste of my time and energy. I could have been more entertained and excited if I watched the snow melt. At least I could've had a great time.

What's this about a new spin-off of Seinfeld? Apparently the actor who played Cosmo Kramer couldn't let go of his precious character. This new show will be titled, "Kramer." How ingenious. How clever. I swear, even I couldn't have come up with a title like that. Oh, and evidently, Kramer will mention his friends from Seinfeld, but they will not appear in person on the show. We could probably expect Kramer to be blamed and criticized for odd and unimportant things.

It has recently been brought to my attention that a few of the episodes of the late Seinfeld had a point, which is amazing in itself. It appears that there really is a soup kitchen in New York City with a nazi chef. It also appears that Jerry Seinfeld (or his character) was criticized for making out during "Schindler's List", because Jerry is Jewish. I don't know about you guys, but not once during that episode did I recall anybody mention the fact that Jerry was Jewish, let alone the fact that it was why they were criticizing him.

Surprisingly enough, nothing concerning the episode in which somebody jumps off a building and lands on George Castanza's car has been brought to my attention. Obviously, poor George is sympathetic with the death of the mentally unstable patient, but what about his car?

Another this that has been brought to my attention is the fact that Seinfeld is a show about nothing. Well, a show about nothing eventually becomes nothing. I know that I don't like watching shows about nothing. Imagine if they kept on going with plots that amounted to nothing. "Today's Plot: Nothing! Nothing happens! So we'll watch George Castanza sleep! And our ratings will go up!" It's a surprise that Seinfeld was so successful when it existed.

Anyway, I just had to make myself clear. The makers of Seinfeld did hat they had to do to save their dignity and we all respect them for that. Mr. Perreira, if you have any other problems with my opinions, just call me down to your shop.



Bond's Tommorrow Never Dies

Ryan Andrade 2000

Packed. Action Packed
those two words are all that you need to sum up "Tommorrow Never Dies: 007". From the very first scene, this movie explodes with amazing stunts, huge gun fights, unbelievable gadgets, and, of course, James Bond's witty comebacks.

During the previews I thought to myself, "Bond movies are all about tradition and repition." Repeating certain lines, "shaken not stirred". Improving old gadgets, like 007's Mecedes Benz. And the icing on the cake, James is always getting the girl, or girls. But, hey, that's why we go see the films, right?

This spectacle doesn't disappoint Bond fans either. If you like explosions, about thirty six cars, trucks, helicopters, and boats get blown to bits in stunning bursts of erupting flames. If you like gun fights, dozens of European, gun toting goons get what was coming to them. If you get a kick out of Bond's promiscuous behavior, well then go see the movie.

The story line is pretty unique for a 007 movie. The corrupt C.E.O of a news corporation is manipulating the headlines of the world. This man, Carver, has stirred up a conflict between the British Navy and the Chinese Armed Forces. Because he caused the problem, Mr. Carver's news group has the exclusive scoop, which means cash, power, and more cash for Mr. Carver. These problems arouse the attention of both the British and Chinese secret services. To stop Mr. Carver, Bond ends up working with the female Chinese operative.

This tag team is one of the many new ideas put into this film. I think that because the first James Bond writer, Ian Fleming, died some time ago, the new writer(s) are trying to bring the plots in new directions while keeping the original feel of the James Bond series.

The writers do an excellent job, too. Anyone who has seen any of the older Bond films would think Tommorrow was written by Mr. Fleming.

As for Pierce Brosnan playing Bond again, he shows outstanding effort in acting out 007's personality. To me, he already seemed theperfect man to play James way back when he was in Mrs. Doubtfire. He probably will be in a few more Bond films to come. Surely, you don't think this is the last James Bond movie, do you?

If you get a chance, check out "Tommorrow Never Dies". It is right up there with "Goldfinger" and "License to Kill".

S.O.S

Heather Green HC/00

When the "unsinkable" Titanic sank on its maiden voyage in 1912, people were devastated at the death rate.

continued on pg.10

IN OUR OPINION...



Lock It or Lose It
Scott Steele 2000-DR

Recently, on the morning announcements, you may have heard that people's personal belongings are being stolen from the locker rooms. There have been many instances where pagers and money have been stolen from the boys' locker rooms. However, some kids will not report that their things have been stolen because they are not supposed to have pagers in school.

Some girls have had their belongings taken as well. The main reason why things are disappearing is because the students share lockers and tell their friends the combination.

You may not think that this is a big deal but it is; Just because they claim that they are your friend, doesn't mean that they won't take your personal things. You shouldn't share your combination. Any one could overhear you, and when you leave, they will have a perfect chance to steal from your locker.

The only way that we can stop people from stealing our stuff is to leave unnecessary valuables at home. The administration will not do anything other than tell you not to bring valuables to school and if you do, lock them up. That is the problem though, most of the students belongings are being stolen from locked lockers.

If teachers' belongings were being stolen it would be a different story. Most likely, the school would find some way to punish the whole student body for the actions of just a few. For example, they would turn off the vending machines or take away our other privileges until some one confessed.

The only way to stop the theft is to lock the locker rooms when there is nobody in them or have somebody watching them at all times.

Let's Get Real
By: Christopher Marcione '98
Tony Santos '98

Have you heard about those "Brine" key ring straps? Many kids here at Diman have been wearing them around their necks or hanging them out of their pockets. If you haven't seen them yet, they are straps with a key ring at the end of them. They are covered with logos such as "Brine", "Tommy Gear", or "Nike." Last fall, the administrators decided to ban them, so Mr. Bentley announced that they were prohibited, and wearing them would result in disciplinary actions.

This is just an example of Diman coming down hard on dress fad. Do you remember when Mr. Bentley announced that hanging belts were banned? What were their reasons behind that? When asked, Mr. Bentley replied, "It is for safety reasons." Are the administrators here at Diman trying to show how strict they are by banning fads because they can? We asked Mr. Bentley how the administration decides what dress fads should be banned. "When one of us (the administrators) notice a lot of kids wearing a new fad, we get together and discuss any possible threats that could be a result of it," he responded.

I think our administration should worry more about cracking down on community smoking in the restrooms than disciplining students for hanging a key ring around their necks or from their pockets.

For every student that gets sent to the office for his or her clothing there are 10 students regularly relieving their nicotine urges in the bathroom. My message to administration is to open your eyes and worry about real problems here at Diman Regional.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Tradesman Staff,

I would like to commend your efforts on the latest edition of the school newspaper. I was thrilled to see more articles that focused on the importance of reading in an adolescent's life. "In Our Opinion..." is a must.

Although I would never be interested in the Mortal Kombat series, I found Ryan's article very well written. I also thought that the headlines were "catchy" and provocative, although I cringed at Heather Green's 'GOTTA' in her headline.

Thanks for the pleasure-
Mrs. Maureen Pacheco



Dear Richard,

I concur with your observations about Seinfeld! I so enjoyed your review, it worries me somewhat that so many people like the show.

I suppose they identify with the show.

What a comment to make on some American's choices to be so boring. I like to bellieve that you, and I, and Diman students are more "pro-active" than Seinfeld and his boring friends. I loved your fourth paragraph!

Enclosed is a carton from the New Yorker (I have to admit that many people do not like the magazine's humor any more than I like Seinfeld). I thaught you might like this one.

Thanks for your good work. (I am really proud of the work in The Tradesman).

Sincerely,
Cheryl Crossley - OBrian

IN OUR OPINION...

Sexual Harassment: Is It as Big a Problem as We Think?
By: Erica Followwill

What exactly is sexual harassment? Sexual harassment is defined as "sexual or sexist behavior that creates a hostile or offensive situation or environment. Sexual harassment can be verbal or physical in nature."

But, who exactly determines what is offensive and what is not? What one person considers insulting might not be considered that way to another. I believe that accusations of sexual harassment have gone way overboard over the past few years. If someone looks at a person the wrong way, they could end up in jail or have to pay substantial amounts of money because of something so insignificantly stupid.

I think that people (and I will admit that it is especially women) have become hypersensitive. I know some people who are uncomfortable if someone compliments them on their clothing. People in the '90's have been misled into believing that everyone is out to get them. There is to much paranoia developing around the world.

According to a recent survey, approximately 1% reported rape or sexual assault on the job; 10% reported demands for sexual favors; 20% recieved pressure for unwanted dates; 25% of deliberate touching, pinching, leaning over, or sexual comments; and 35% was sexual remarks, teasing jokes, or questions.

Now, although the 1% of sexual assault and rape is definitely one percent too much. I believe that the rest of the percentages would be significantly diminished if everyone wasn't so uptight. Some people take things too seriously and think that things said or done are done towards them to intentionally hurt them.

There are too many people in this world that cannot take a joke. Too many things are misinterpreted to a huge extent.

Now, don't get me wrong. I think that when a person is physically being hurt by another person or is being touched in a manner that is vulgar, they have every right to do something about it. Now a days, though, almost everything that is said or done can be considered sexual harassment.

How bad can someone hurt you if they touch your shoulder or waist? And how offensive can it be to have someone wink at you or tell you that you look good today? Personally I'm flattered if someone can go out of their way to say or do something that is complementing to me.

The people of the United States have the freedom of speech and the right to express themselves. People shouldn't have to watch their every word and gesture over fear of being slapped with a lawsuit.

We should think before we accuse someone of sexual harassment. The real thing is a serious issue. Let's not trivialize it with careless accusations.

What is love?
By: Heather Green HC/00

What comes to mind on Valentine's Day? Love, hearts and kisses? Well, what IS love really? Can the feeling of love and being loved really be defined by any set of words?

Some people say that love is the ability to let oneself be humiliated without fear, and throws insecurity and egos out the window. Love is an unselfish act that shows that another ones happiness matters most to you. It is a longing, yet fulfilling, process that we all seek, and it only hurts when you chose the wrong person to share these tremendous feelings with.

Others say that love is being free to be yourself, and having someone who understands when you want to be left alone and when you want to be held. Love is being able to tell each other our fantasies and thoughts without hesitation or fear of laughter. Love is understanding without seeking to be understood. Love is unconditional and everlasting, it does not judge or criticize.

Love draws people together and settles disputes, it protects and when it is over, it knows when to leave.

It seems as though love has many different definitions depending on the person. Love is different in every situation. People love their parents differently than they love their siblings. They love their friends differently than they love their boyfriend or girlfriend. Also, the love for a boyfriend or girlfriend varies as well. Since no two people are the same, you never love the same way twice because you love them for different reasons.

Can love really be given a single definition? It is my opinion that love s an indescribable feeling that can only be defined by the emotions of the heart. When the question is asked 'What is love?'the only answer is that it is one of the most wonderful, magnificent, yet sometimes scary feelings in the world, and also one of the most powerful.

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