Teeing Off in the Right Direction

by Vicky Byrne CA

vB: How has the team done this past season?
Mr. O: Fair. We lost out top three players from last season, but we did pretty well with six rookies.
VB: Any star players?
Mr. O: Jonathan Laprise led the team with a 10-1-1 and his partner Jason Bernard was 5-5.
VB: What was the team's biggest challenge?
Mr. O: Having a legitimate #1 and #2 to replace last year's seniors.
VB: What are the team's strengths?
Mr. O: Everyone will return next season and should be improved with more playing time next summer.
VB: What are the team's weaknesses?
Mr.O: Inexperience amongst the rookies.
VB: How many wins-losses?
Mr. O: 5 wins, 9 losses
VB: What goals has the team accomplished?
Mr. O: We hoped for three wins so we went beyond that and hope to add at least 3 more wins next season. {When you have a young team, growing pains are inevitable}



Kyle Mello
Justin Taylor
Jason Desmaris
Craig Cloutier
Jason Bernard
Jonathan Laprise
Michael Bates
Eric Bedard
Alan Costa
Chris Hankins

Diman Soccer Sets New Goals

By Brian Couto MS

"We haven't won a division game since 1985," said coach Chicarro. Losing their first post-season game which Diman hasn't won since 1986.

That last game was a killer, they lost with one minute left in overtime, how close they came to stepping that last post-season win in '86 to '97.

Diman soccer lost 8 of their strong seniors including goalie Kurt Furtado, strong defenseman Helder Barrasso, and Nuno Meiralles.

"Some of the younger guys had to step up and take their place," said Chicarro. Diman Soccer is being led strong this year by the two co-captains, Kevin Santos and Scott Couto.

Coach Chicarro stated that this year started as the "rebuilding year" now Diman has become a threat.

If Diman takes the next 3 of 4 games they will be division champs.

Now sit back, relax and watch the records be broken by the best in Diman.

DIMAN VARSITY 98 - 99 SOCCER	DIMAN J.V. 98 - 99 SOCCER
Kevin Santos - Captain	Jimmy DaSilva
Chris Dufresne	Chris Alves
Scott Couto - Captain	Dominic Morse
Michael Lima	Keith Carvalho
Kyle Thibault	Robert Teves
Derek DaSilva	Steve Pereira
Kevin Cabral	Scotty Botelho
Jason Pedro	Mark Oliveira
Kevin Jacob	Peter Simoes
Carlos Constintino	Robert Cabral
George DaCamara	Bernadino Cordeiro
Joshua Braga	John Hesketh
Sergio Cordeiro	Eric Rego
Caesar Duarte	Dayleen Finch
Jose Medeiros	Philip Vidinha
Scott Texeira	Debra Roias
Robert Cabral	Ryan Medeiros
Duarte Valerio	Anthony Anselmo
	Jason Souza
	Jayson Carvalho
	Nathan Arrujo



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A NEWSPAPER by and for DIMAN STUDENTS - GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Nov. 1998

In Memory of Mike

by Suzanne Raposo MS

A student, friend, and son passed away on October 3, 1998. A tragic car accident was the cause of the death. His death was a complete shock to everyone.

Mike Dion was a junior enrolled in the Auto Body shop at Diman. " I wish he was still here because he had a lot of potential. I liked the kid," Mr. Ashton stated.

Mike loved to bowl. He was one of the best bowlers in his division, and he won several awards in it. He liked to shoot pool, play basketball, and most of all, he liked hanging out with his friends.

He didn't try to be someone he was not. He liked who he was and wasn't ready to change his personality for anyone. Shannon Floriano, a good friend, said, " He didn't change himself so people could like him. Mike was Mike."

He will be greatly missed by those who knew him well. Timmy Kingman, his best friend, said,"He was a good person. He didn't deserve what happened to him. I was there for him all the way until the end and I know he would've done the same for me."



December 1, 1981 - October 3, 1998

Mike was only sixteen when he died. He didn't get a chance to explore the real world. He has left unforgettable memories with his friends and family. We know you're with us and we'll miss you.

It's So Hard To Say Goodbye

by Tara Assad GA

Shock was my first reaction. Then came the tears. After that July 19th things weren't ever going to be the same.

As I sat and watched the news, I saw a picture of a car accident; then two names from Fall River and Somerset were said so quickly. The story then changed to another subject so I quickly turned the stations hoping to find a longer description of the accident. Then I heard what I hoped I never had to hear:

"Brian Biancuzzo of Fall River and Alan Couto of Somerset were killed this morning in a Wareham car crash."

I can't begin to explain the feeling I had at that moment. I had been friends with Brian since I was in the eighth grade. I cheered for him when he had played for Pop Warner football. Brian and I had become close friends. Whenever I had a problem, without even asking, he was there to help. He was a genuine person, someone who could always make you smile. Just ask anyone who knew him.

(see GOODBYE, page 4)



September 9, 1980 July 19, 1998

Look for in the next paper: *Teens and work...*



STUDENT APATHY

Editorial

To good old Mr. Webster, apathy means "the lack of feeling or interest." To Diman students, it apparently means, "I couldn't care less."

Participation in school activities, fund raisers, and,most importantly, doing the assigned work is lacking mainly because some students here at Diman just don't care.

Fund raisers and activities are successful because those few who do participate, participate well.

The work accomplished is by students who care and want to get a good education. Other students just can't be bothered. They have more important things to worry about, and put their assignments aside.

Apathy also leads to cheating. You may think if the students are cheating to get the work done they must care even a little, but is cheating worth it? If they really cared they would put in the effort and complete the assignment like the other students have.

Over working is also a major cause of apathy. Students working 30 - 40 hours a week, tend to be too tired to care and put in an effort to do well.

Apathy is a serious problem that many students face here at Diman. Students are putting work and relationship matters before their education, where education should come first more often.

CHEATING

By Stephanie Pereira PD

Why are so many teens cheating?

You didn't study for the math test? Would you ask your classmate for the answers? Maybe secretly pull a cheat sheet from underneath your desk?

Many kids who don't study for tests either get the answers from someone else or use a cheat sheet. "A whopping 76 percent of the nation's best students have cheated on school-work," according to the Survey of High Achievers conducted by Who's Who among American High School Students. Yet 24 percent believe honesty is the best policy.

Cheating isn't confined to tests, though. It "runs the gamut from copying homework to plagiarizing reports," says the survey.

But when you slide through school on borrowed grades, it's a big price to pay. When you cheat you really take a chance of getting caught and paying the consequences. Yet so many students do it.

There will be very few who make it through and become successful. Cheating in school sets up a long-term pattern of cheating yourself. (Just look at the President) While pressured to do well and still have somewhat of a social life, cheating is hardly the answer.

The bottom line is try your best, don't cheat and you will make it through.



Something *Not* to Talk About

by Laura Silvia G.A.

It seems that almost everytime I turn around someone is making jokes about gay people or telling someone else who's gay and who's not. It seems as if the person doing all the talking is oblivious to how the gay person might feel, or perhaps, a relative of a gay person.

Well, I'm a **proud** daughter of a gay woman. I used to be like some of those "talkers" gossiping to so and so how I heard she was "lesbo" or how John Doe had finally "come out of the closet" and admitted to being gay.

But a year and a half ago when I found out my mother wanted a divorce from dad and to top it all off was in love with her best friend, a woman, I stopped the talk. Now I realize that many of you out there

see Something, page 3

Serving Up A Great Season

by Vicky Byrne CA

Girl's volleyball at Diman is only in it's first year and has been extremely successful.

According to Coach Chris Cyr, "bringing volleyball to this school has brought girls who don't usually try out for sports to try out. It has also interested boys in the sport."

Jessica Pedro, a setter on the varsity team has said, "The team has done pretty good for the first year." The team's strengths are teamwork and good servers. The team's weaknesses is communication.

"Communication is key", added Jessica. The team's biggest challenge was to beat New Bedford Voc. Coach Cyr describes them as being "very intimidating."

Coach Robert Parks of the Jr Varsity team has seen a great improvement in his team. "I should see a bigger improvement next year. A lot of hard work and dedication made this team a success."

If you are interested in joining volleyball next year, you should contact the school during the summer. Remember, when school starts, volleyball has already started.



Christine Constantinho
Stacy Motta
Monique Nadeau
Pricilla Souza

VARSITY

Jessica Pedro
Tina Sentra
Erica Albernaz
Laura Pelton



Danielle DaCosta
Alicia Aguiar
Beatrice DeCastro
Jamie Lyn Rua
Milissa Farcier
Kathy Mello
Alaxandra Miranda

JUNIOR VARSITY

Megan Robitalle
Holly Senechal
Heather Small
Lisa Sousa
Cindy Medeiros
Angela Desmaris
Desiree Gaskell

Running After A Championship

by Sean Grady EL

The Hope:

Can Diman's Cross Country team repeat their championship of the City of Fall River's Mayflower League? Mr. Brodeur and Mr. Arruda hope to have a repeat of this.

Mr. Brodeur, the coach of the girls' team for just a year, feels that their team has the "self-esteem and the confidence" to win. Mr. Arruda, the coach of the boys' team, feels the same way; he stated, "I believe that we can succeed to become champions again." But two teams will be exceptional opponents, Sacred Heart for the boys and Westport for the girls' team.

In order to win, players must have an attitude to work for it and Diman Cross Country does, running three to five miles a day for six days, battling the hills of Fall River. This is a very demanding sort, which builds high expectations and endurance.

When asked who he thought are two exceptional runners on the cross country team, Mr. Brodeur replied, "It would have to be Lisa Miranda, a Senior in Health Careers, for the girls and Mile Cabral, a Junior from Carpentry, for the boys."

This team is definitely going places, with two exceptional coaches to lead them there, Mr. Brodeur and Mr. Arruda.

The Realization:

On Wednesday, October 28, the boys cross country team won the Mayflower League meet, the highlights of the 1998 Cross Country season. The hope of coach Brodeur and coach Arruda were fulfilled.

Mr. Brodeur explained, "the Bengals defeated Sacred Heart 50-73 and also everyone else in the league." The boys team now has a record of 12 wins and 1 loss. The girls are 4 ins and 4 losses.

On November 3 the boys defended their state vocational championship at Blackstone Valley. Coming in first place, the girls defeated Norfolk Aggie 36-34 with Lisa Miranda dominating first place. The boys settled in second place trailing ten points behind Shawsheen Tech 87-77. Mike Cabral led the Bengals and came in at seventh place.

BOYS

MIKE NADEAU	MS	99
BRIAN PRATT	CA	99
MIKE CABRAL	HM	00
SEAN KENYON	EL	01
MARK BROGAN	EL	01
DAN LYNCH	PL	01
AARON IAMARONE	AR	99
CHRIS GONCALO	ET	01
GIL ROCHA	EX	02
JON TAPPEN	EX	02
DARYL JOSEPH	EX	02
JIMMY SOUSA	EX	02
JASON REED	EX	02
SCOTT COTE	DR	00
BRANDON PARADISE	MS	01
NICK GUERRIER	EX	02
STEVE PERRY	EX	02
SEAN PERRY	BT	01
STEPHEN THEBERG	EX	02

GIRLS

LISA MIRANDA	HC	99
SUE RAPOSO	MS	00
SARAH TELLES	DR	01
NICOLE ROCHA	DA	01
AMY LEWIS	EX	02
NICHOLE WHITE	HC	00



Something...

don't care who's gay and who's not and you might not gossip at all. I'm not accusing all of you. Just some of you, the ones I've heard personally.

We all know that if someone starts to gossip about someone, we all listen happily. But now, I don't like to listen to people joking around about homosexuals. It makes me so mad. People, two in particular, always make jokes about my mom being gay. Of course they are not serious. They could not care less about my mother's personal choices, but it still hurts.

What people do behind closed doors is their business not ours. You don't hear people going around calling heterosexuals "straightie," or "opposite sex lover," do you? No, so why do we make fun of homosexuals?

Recently, I did some research about this and I found out that man made it sin to be gay, Not God! In the New Testament, it states how it's a sin to be gay. But if you read the Old Testament it says how Moses had five wives and they all had sexual intercourse with each other. Long ago, there were plays with all men and most of them were gay. But when the new world came and laws were made by man, they made it a sin to be gay.

In my opinion, love has no color, no prejudices, no face. It isn't made fun of. Love is love, period. I don't understand why people ask me constantly, "How do you feel about your mom and her lover?" I say the same thing everytime: that I love my mother with all my heart and no matter what she wants in life, I'll support her. As long as she's happy, I'm happy. And if that means sharing a bed with another woman, then so be it.

Love is love. I just wish everyone could see it like that.

DOES PEER MEDIATION SOLVE ANYTHING?

by Jessica Rounds

"Why are you saying things about me?"

"Because everything I say is true!"

"How would you know? You don't even know what goes on in my life."

"So? That doesn't mean anything. People told me it was true. If you have a problem with that, then why don't we just solve that right now?"

Peer Mediation is students helping students with problems. If anyone is having relationship problems, or hearing rumors about yourself, or your friend just backstabbed you, see Mrs. Burns and she'll do her best to help you. This is what Mediation is all about.

Mrs. Burns is the Peer Mediation coordinator. She trains students so they can mediate student conflicts. Mrs. Burns said, "Peer Mediation is a way for students to help solve problems in a non-violent manner."

Students go to Mrs. Burns and say they want to be mediated, then she finds the students involved in the situation, tells them what mediation is and then has them sign a paper saying they agree to be mediated. You are not forced to go, and mediation is confidential.

The students then meet somewhere, such as the library, Mrs. Burn's office, or anywhere they can talk in private. Anything said during the meeting is not to be repeated to anyone else under any circumstances.

The students, after listening to each other talk and getting suggestions from the mediators and Mrs. Burns, come to an agreement. The agreement might be to stay a distance from each other, or to become friends.

Does mediation really solve anything without violence? Mrs. Burns said, "Yes, a significant amount of data shows that it does."

One student said, "No, because they still fight, and peer-mediation only makes it worse. The student that got brought to peer mediation is even more mad at the other for bringing them."

Another student said, "Personally, I don't think it does because they think it's just a big joke."

Do students repeat things that were said in the room? I asked a student who went to peer mediation. Her response was, "I was told that if I say anything then I'll get suspended from school. I still told my friends anyway."

Admittedly, I have repeated what was said in meetings.

I don't think Peer Mediation solves anything because the students are often still feuding afterward. This isn't the case for all situations. There are some situation s that work, but there are too many that don't.

Hard To Say Goodbye...

He had real goals in life. Brian was going to attend Providence College. He graduated from B.M.C. Durfee High School fifth from his class. He won numbers of awards and had many accomplishments that shouldn't have stopped where they did.

The next night as I was getting ready to attend my friend's wake, I thought of how this wasn't right. I could remember getting ready to go to the movies or to a dance with him. But the time that should have come many years from now was here.

Hundreds of people were there to mourn the loss of two outstanding people. Students from Diman, Durfee, Somerset and all over came to pay their respects to the families and say goodbye one last time.

It was hard to see him lying there, to see his family hurting so much. His casket was filled with CD's, pictures, cards and flowers. All Brian's friends signed a t-shirt and placed it along with the other things to take with him on his way.

All Brian and Alan's friends came together in their memory. As a tribute, "Iris" by the Goo Goo Dolls and "My Way" by Usher were played together outside their funeral home. They were Alan and Brian's favorite songs. As we looked up to the sky we saw two stars all alone. We believed they were Brian and Alan together looking down at us.

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think of Brian, all the things I wish I had said to him, how he should be here accomplishing his goals and dreams. But I know he's now in a better place and still has my back just like he did when he was here with me.

For everyone who is hurting remember what Boys to Men sang. "Take with you the memories to be your sunshine after the rain."

Students + Internet, Does it = *Cheating?*

By Robert Carlos Pacheco

Cruising down the information superhighway is simple with a computer in almost every home, school and office; cyberspace lies at out fingertips. With a point and a click, students are seconds away from obtaining anything they can imagine, even their assignments.

Who needs to stop in at the public library, pick up an encyclopedia, a book or two, put in the time and effort and get the grade they deserve? All they need is a computer with Internet connection.

"Download your workload" is one logo on the web site Schoolsucks.com a site visited not only by teens but also college students. "Thousands of term papers just a click away," sounds tempting. "Free for all to see," is even more tempting.

What goes on in the minds of students when they read this invitation on the screen "Is that all I need to do? Just download my work, type in my name and date at the top, print it and pass it in. What an easy grade!

Creators of one of the many web sites available out there in cyberspace claim that their web site is helpful to students. Students can use these papers to get ideas of what other students are writing. These sites may be a good place to get different views as written by their peers. But are students actually going to use the papers offered to them just for ideas as to how to begin writing their own paper? You decide.

If these students actually stopped and thought about it, they're cheating themselves out of a grade that could possibly be higher if they had written the paper themselves. Most importantly they're cheating themselves out of an education. Copying another person's work doesn't guarantee success.

Grading systems differ from school to school; each teacher has different standards, therefore grading differently. A student in a California school may have earned an A on a term paper, but a student her in Massachusetts passing in the same work obtained from the internet, may have earned a C. Is that fair? Yes it is. The student cheated on it and that's the grade deserved.

Creators of these web sites show the positive effect that the sites have on students, claiming that the students use their web sites as a resource tool for learning. Students passing in work that was found over the Internet are taking a chance, because if a student can find them, so can an educator.

In today's high tech world that we live in today, the Internet just makes cheating easier.

OUTSTANDING ATHLETES



Lisa Miranda

by Suzanne Raposo MS

Lisa Miranda, a senior in Health Careers, has been on the cross-country team for four years. She is the captain and the leader of the girl's pack. In her career she has received MVP and has made the Herald News All Scholastic for two years in a row.

Last year she came in third place in the league meet. "It feels good to be one of the top runners in the area. I never thought this would happen. When I signed up for cross-country I thought it was for cross-country skiing," she said with a big smile.

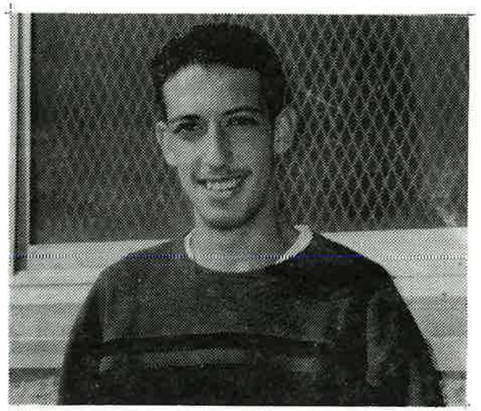
Her time of 15:50 on the Diman 2.5 mile course is the second best that a Diman girl has run it.

Lisa has been a member of the winter track team for three years, and she received two coaches awards.

She was a member of the spring track team her freshmen year. At the league meet, she placed third in the mile with a time of 6:01.

In her sophomore year, Lisa tried out for the softball team and made it on the varsity team. She plays centerfield.

Lisa has been a leader in every team she participated in, and she will be an asset everywhere she goes.



Kevin Santos

by Gina Amaral DR

"I shouldn't have been picked because I don't make the team. The whole team makes the team succeed."

Eighteen year old Kevin Santos, a Diman varsity soccer may be a star, but a very modest one. Kevin says that he's been playing since he was 5 years old and enjoys playing soccer because of the speed of the game and the game is not boring.

He expresses that the reason he is a good player is because of his "awesome coach," a good teamworkour, and the great seniors they have playing. His record this year stands as 7 - 4 - 1.

Kevin recognizes seniors like Scott Couto, Sergio Cordeiro, George DaCamara and others who play to their full capability. Kevin shows his strong belief in team spirit, and his approach to his teams' success.

"Without my teammates, I would be nothing and go nowhere."



The Yellow Dress

by Laura Jean Ferreira PD

In the Yellow Dress, we meet Cindy, a senior in high school, on the night of her prom. She confides to the audience that she has an abusive boyfriend. She tells how one night after she broke up with Rick, he came to her house to "talk." She went into the car with him. He asked her back out and she said no. He lost his temper. He started to smash her head into the dashboard. He got blood all over her YELLOW DRESS, and killed her. He left her in a ditch. "Now is that what love is all about?"

I think the Yellow Dress is a powerful performance. It is good for not only young people, but for everyone.



Making People Say Uhhh

by Brian Martins MS

After listening to Master P's double CD The Last Don, I realized that many good songs don't get played on the radio.

His latest album features a song, "Make um say uhh" which has been played on radio stations all over. If you listen to the whole CD which is mostly based on ghetto life you will find many good songs that never made the radio. Two of my personal favorites are "More to life" and "Let's get um."

The rest of the CD is full of great lyrics, bass, and music that will get you moving. Each songs has a good story to it if you pay attention to the lyrics. An example of that is in the song "More to Life", when Master P raps, "There's more to life than girls, weed, and mercedes."

What it all comes down to is that Master P's CD The Last Don is a double CD full of bass that you can really pump in your car.

****stars



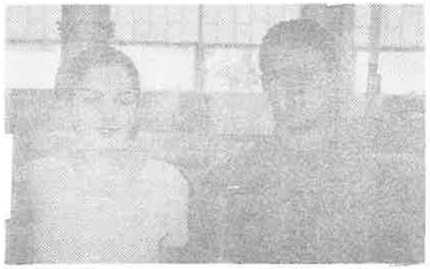
by Jessica O'Neil GA

What do you like or dislike about Diman so far?

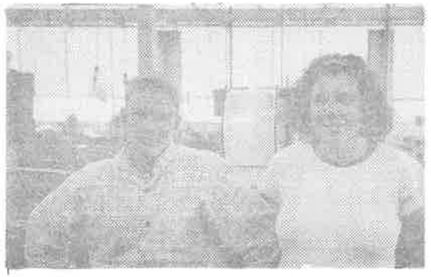
SPEAK OUT



Lindsay Sisca,"I like the two weeks of shop and the two weeks of academics."
Josh Cote,"I like the two weeks of shop and academics, **I don't like the lunches**."



Ashley Larivlere,"**I like the whole school**. It's pretty cool, but I don't like the three minutes between classes."
Steve Furtado,"I like how the cycles change but I don't like the three minutes between classes."



Josh Dias,"I like that it's a vocational school, I don't dislike it at all."
Carrie Dallaire,"I like that it's a good education, and there's no fights."



Marlene Aguiar,"I like how you get to see all the shops but I don't like how strict they are."
Nelson Medeiros,"I like the shops, but I don't like how some teachers are strict.

A Quicker Way Out Of School

By John Midura GA

It's 2:28 PM. The bell rings and you go to your locker. From there you go to the parking lot, get into your car, and crank your radio.

You think to yourself, "I'm finally out!"

You put your car in drive and start to pull out of your parking spot, and then you stop.

The other 150 or so students in the parking lot have the same idea as you.

Cars roll slowly out of the parking lot two by two. You finally make it to the gates and the security guard stops you because the busses need to get out.

Some students suggest opening the gates at the other end of the parking lot but according to Mr. Martins, "There is already too much congestion there with the busses and the students who are being picked up."

Well how about we fix the problem entirely and lock the gates in the student parking lot all together at the end of the school day?

Yes, lock all the gates but in return build a new exit that brings the students in the parking lot directly onto Stonehaven Rd.

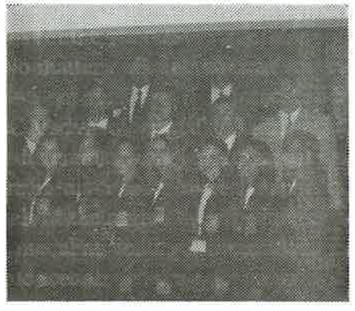
At the end of the school day the gates that we now use

will be locked, and the traffic from Stonehaven Rd would have to drive around and enter the school from the Locust St. Entrance.

All the parking lot gates would be locked by 5:30 to prevent people from going into the lot and vandalizing it.

The woods at the top of the parking lot would be cleared out and the new exit will be paved there. It would be wide enough to fit two cars so that a left or right turn could be easily made onto Stonehaven Rd. Also the busses could enter easier.

No one knows for sure when this new exit will be started but Mr. Martins is now in the process of taking bids.



VICA'S 1998 LEGACY

Regina Amaral DR

"What a rush!" is what many of our VICA winners last year said. If you talk to any of our last year's competitors they will all express the same feeling.

Many students think of VICA as work, work and more work, but that's not all it is. When stepping off the bus in Fitchburg Massachusetts, your experience starts. You meet other students from your state and you can enjoy the different activities they have for all VICA students. If you then progress at your state competition, you can move on to nationals in Kansas City. When you arrive at nationals you will notice a big difference from your state competition.

VICA has been around since 1965. VICA is a well-known national competition which allows students to show their abilities to their district, state, or country.

"VICA has opened the door of opportunity when students came knocking. In my opinion, the VICA program has enhanced the quality of skills that are showcased," quotes Mr. Brian Bentley. One statement that Mr. Bentley stands firm on is that "you'll never be the same when you come back from a VICA competition."

Brian Bentley, a 12-year VICA advisor, coached prepared speech for 2 years and then decided to switch to Opening and Closing Ceremonies. He led his 1998 team to a gold medal at the state competition and also to a 5th place in the country.

Last year's 1998 team consisted of seven students: Jessica Farias as President, Stephanie Duarte as Parliamentarian; Karen Carreiro as Reporter; Tanya Carvalho as Treasurer; Regina Amaral as Secretary; Rebecca Steen as Vice President; and Monica Daponte as Club Historian. Three are returning this year and Mr. Bentley's expectations for the team are "to represent the school to the best of their abilities. No matter what happens, the team will benefit from the experience."

David Viveiros, of the culinary arts shop, a 15-year VICA advisor, of the culinary arts shop sent five students competing in different categories. All five students brought home medals; some were in district, state and nationals. Two students who did extremely well at the national competition were Victoria Byrne who received a gold medal at nationals in Action Skills and Jay Mello who also received a gold medal at nationals in Job Skills Demonstration. Mr. Viveiros states his expectation for Victoria this year is to win a gold medal at states and possibly take home another gold medal at nationals. He also says, "The competition is fair, and the levels are coordinated professionally."

Mr. Blanchette of machine shop, an 11 year VICA advisor, sent 4 students and all did very well in their competitions. Normand Neveux came back from districts with a bronze medal. Two of the other students were Josh Oliver who won a silver medal at states and Mike Nadeau who won a bronze medal also at states. Both these students received medals at the state level as machinists. "With a lot of hard work and a little bit of luck they should do well again," Mr. Blanchette expects for the returning students.

See Vica, page 7



TV FOR TEENS

by Karen Rocha ET

Dawson's Creek is one of the shows that many teenagers like to watch, and it's also one of my favorite programs.

It's a good program for teenagers. The kids in Dawson's Creek are the same age as most of the kids here at Diman.

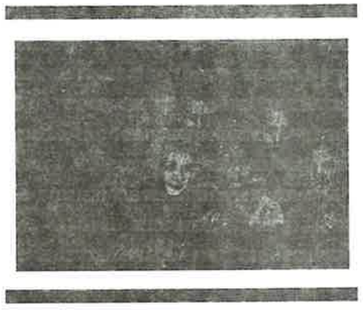
Some of us are teenagers growing up in a rapidly changing world, just like the four sophomores in Dawson's Creek. For example, in one episode, Dawson wants to get over Jen and decides to join Pacey and Billy in a boys' night out, and he finds out what he is looking for in another girl. Meanwhile, Jen handles damage control after Joey becomes the subject of a rumor at school.

Most of the kids at Diman are just trying to fit in with everybody else. When I say fitting in, I'm talking about teenagers wearing the same clothes as other teenagers, how teenagers act the same as each other, and teenagers being funny by making jokes.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer is another show that I like. Many teenagers also watch this show.

Buffy is the kick-boxing slayer herself. Her job is to defeat vampires by stabbing them in the heart with a wooden stake.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer is a good show for teenagers to watch because it's interesting and has some action in it. For example, one episode was about a costume-shop owner who turned his clients into whatever they rented for Halloween. The ghostly Willow was going to be a hooker, but she was ashamed of what she looked like, and she put on a sheet and became a ghost. Sgt. Xander was a trooper for Halloween. He had a toy gun that became a real gun. The pair took on the town's trick-or-treating terrors. Buffy fell under the peaceful spell of her maiden's costume.



A FILM IN A HIGH PLACE

by Sean Grady EL

The number one comedy of 1998, *Half Baked*, is a modern day version of Cheech and Chong movies of the 70's. Starring Dave Chappelle, Jim Brewer, Harland Williams, and Guillermo Diaz, Half Baked takes a tongue-in-cheek look at marijuana culture. Even the soundtrack has done well with hits from artist like Smash Mouth, Days of the New and Coolio.

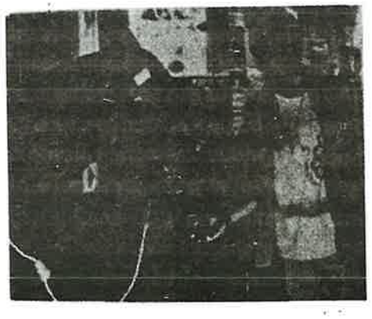
One of the not so bright pot smokers is locked in jail for killing a policeman's horse by feeding it food that is too rich. In order to bail him out, his three buddies, Thurgood, Brian, and Scarface, have to raise 20% of one million dollars. The fastest method: selling marijuana.

How to get pot to sell? Tap into Thurgood, who is a custodian in a pharmaceutical testing lab which stores a large quantity of marijuana in the supply room. Thurgood steals request forms to sign out the weed.

However, a problem occurs; a well-known big time drug dealer, Samson Simpson, finds out about their little business. The action, suspense, and comedy mount as Thurgood and Brian join a sting operation against Samson to save their friend.

Great comedic lines and out of this world graphics add to the movie's appeal. For instance, when smoking stolen grass, they seem to be floating over New York City, leaving all their problems behind, until reality brings them back to earth.

As a comedy, this movie rates five stars. If you enjoy Cheech and Chong, then you will enjoy Half Baked.



I.D.N.G. What is it?

John Midura GA

Diman Bengals beat Old Colony in cross country 25 to 10. Everything seems to be competition with other schools. Spring and winter track, basketball, baseball, and softball. Everything we hear seems to hear about other schools in win or lose.

How about this? Diman is joining Old Colony as we seek to form a diversity group with other area schools. That's right, form an INTERSCHOOL DIVERSITY NETWORKING GROUP or I.D.N.G. I.D.N.G is like no other group.

I.D.N.G is a group formed out of six schools: Bristol-Plymouth; Technical School; Southeastern Regional Technical High School; Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School; Old Rochester Regional Technical High School; and Bridgewater - Raynham Regional High School.

According to the meeting held on May 26, 1998 I.D.N.G's purpose would be to promote diversity, cultural awareness, and to give support to students, faculty, and multiethnic issues in school and the community.

The group would take a stand against prejudice, hatred, and promote an appreciation and understanding of tolerance of others and education for all. The group aims to be an outreach coalition inn the Southeastern region.

Besides helping in the community the group gives students of different ethnic backgrounds, religion, color, race, and sexual orientation a place to confide in and be understood.

It also gives people an idea on how to handle these matters in a mature and non-violent way.

One of the things that I.D.N.G has done was a fund raiser at the Cape Cod Walking Path.

On April 4, 1997 the I.D.N.G sponsored a walk-a-thon to raise money to benefit children with AIDS. Students and Advisors from Bristol-Plymouth, Bridgewater-Raynham, Southeastern, and Old Colony got together for the 3.5 mile walk.

The proceeds from the walk-a-thon was presented to the program director representing the BAMSI HIV case management program.

This program provides nursing, counseling, education, and case management services to individuals with physical, mental, and emotional consequences of HIV.

So instead of competing all the time, why not join forces with other schools?

Anyone who is interested in joining or finding out more information about this group see Mrs. Burns (Health Coordinator) who's office is located at the cross roads on the first floor.

Editorial Staff

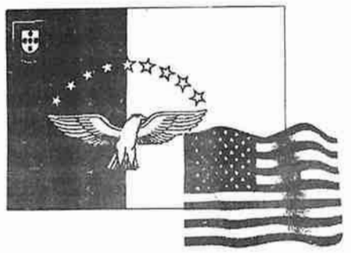
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Mr. Martel, an 8 year electricity advisor, sent 6 students to the VICA competition in Residential Wiring. Mr. Martel quotes, "VICA is an educational experience for the students."

Diman did send many other students from different shops and many others did come back with medals. Diman has definitely left its mark in the history of VICA. Will you be part of the 1999 legacy?



Life in Two Countries

by Jenn Medeiros

Two countries I take to heart are the United States and Azores (Portugal). I was born in the U.S., but I have Portuguese blood running through my veins. Even though I'm from a poor country, I'm proud to be a Portuguese American.

If you live in the city, Portugal is not that bad, but if you live in the outskirts, you must struggle to live. The economy is not very high back in the old country. A man there has to work from dawn to dusk. There are no factories; it's all open land for growing crops and raising livestock. A man would milk cows, feed the chickens and kill pigs to make a living. In the U.S., we sit at a computer in an air-conditioned office. I guess you could say that Americans are smarter, but the Portuguese are harder workers.

The climate in the Azores is good in one way but bad in the other. The good thing is that the temperatures are never too hot and never too cold. In the summer it's about 75 to 85 degrees. In the winter it never gets below 45 degrees. This necklace of islands is also known for bad weather. This past summer, 12 inches of rain fell and high winds caused a mudslide that took out half of the islands.

Because of this good climate most people live on what they grow on their farms. There is no Super Stop & Shop to go to. Normally, they will kill one of their livestock and pick some corn from the field. Their flour comes from the corn the women grind, so they can make some bread Sunday morning. Their fruit comes off the trees outside if the birds don't get it first. Here, we go to the supermarket and have the choice of 5 different kinds of apples. You can choose from organic or regular fruit.

The houses are made of a cold gray stone, almost like the color of a storm cloud hovering over a ghost town. There is no such thing as an electric or gas stove. Their stoves are like an enormous cabinet filled with firewood and family trash since there is no incinerator. The stove is also used to warm the house. The bathrooms are outside. They look like a shack with a wooden box that has a hole in it. The bath house is in the rumpus room. To clean it, you have to get a pail of warm water off the stove.

The school system there is a lot different than ours. Many teens drop out and go to work so they can help their families. About 21 % of them can't read or write. Out of the other 79%, 14% can read and write barely. Some of the kids skip school and go to the bar and drink. Since there is no drinking age, there are more and more drunk teens.

As for security, there's no 911 to call for help. The island of St. Michael only has 4 police, fire and paramedic stations, 2 in the city and the rest nearby. So if you're on the outskirts and need help, you'll die waiting. The Portuguese army is small and weak, so if war was declared on them the other country could practically walk in and take over.

For fun, there is no mall to go to and hang at, and you rarely have the money to go out and watch a movie that came out months ago in the U.S. If you'd like, you can call a friend, but you have to pay for every call you make.

Despite this backwardness, the Azores will always be in my heart, for the way people take pride in their work and the fresh air on the rolling green hills. It is the land of my ancestors, the land of my grandparents, the land of my parents.

But then again, God Bless America!

Where Do You Stand In Your Class?

by Suzanne Raposo MS

Do you know what your class rank is? If so, are you aware that your class rank could be higher than it presently is? Your shop grades play a big role in the ranking. Its 20.00 credits have a large advantage over academic classes. This, in my opinion, is unfair for those students whose teachers don't grade their students high in shop.

Every teacher has his/her own philosophy on how to grade their students in shop. To give you a clear picture of what I am talking about I'll present you with an example. If a student was receiving A's in academic classes and received a B as a grade in shop, this doesn't necessarily mean he or she will rank higher than a student who gets B's academically and an A for shop. If academic classes were counted as much as shop grades, there is a big possibility your class rank would be higher than what is told to you by Guidance.

I talk about this from experience. My class rank would be greater if shop wasn't worth much more than academics. This inequity really annoys me, as it does many other students. Having a high rank may mean nothing to some students, but for other students, whose future plans are to go to college, their class ranks are very important.

I strongly feel that academic and shop grades shouldn't be imbalanced. By having them equal in worth, every student has a fair opportunity to compete for the number one spot. I firmly believe that this should be taken into consideration and something be done about it.

Wouldn't it bother you to know that your shop grade was standing in the way of your being in the top ten? It would certainly annoy me!

Who's New At Diman?

By Brian Martins MS

This year at Diman there are six new faculty members. **Mrs. McRoy** is a new Health Careers Shop Teacher. She is a registered nurse who has been working in the school system since 1974. She has a diploma from St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston, A B.S.N. from Villa Maria College in Erie, Pennsylvania, and a Master's Degree in Education form Bridgewater State College.

Mrs. McRoy came to Diman, "because of its good reputation in educating young people and the success students have in the job market." She also says, "I am very impressed with the administration and faculty at Diman. They seem truly caring and supportive."

Mrs. Linda Diamond is a dental assistant instructor who got her Bachelor's Degree of Science in Dental Hygiene from the University of Rhode Island. She also has a Bachelor's Degree of Landscaping Architecture from URI, and an Associates Degree from St. Louis Community College in Liberal Arts.

Mrs. Diamond also taught at the Bristol Community College in Fall River, Massachusetts. She came to Diman, "for a full time position and



Mrs. Linda Diamond



Mr. Jeffrey Little

to begin a new Dental Assistant Program." She also says, "Diman is an exciting place to be and I am enjoying the Vocational aspects of teaching."

Mr. Jeffrey Little is a new Tech Drawing instructor. He is a 1976 Diman graduate. From Diman he went on to Bristol Community College, and then transferred to UMass Dartmouth where he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering.

Mr. Little came to Diman, "because the opportunity was available and I thought I would enjoy teaching the skills that have served me well in my profession to young adults." Mr. Little also says that, "Diman has changed a great deal since I graduated and offers wonderful opportunities for teenagers to learn skills that will build success careers."

Look for more profiles of three new faculty members in the next issue of The Tradesman.

What's the Difference?

by Jessica O'Neil GA

Everybody's parents are different. Some are together, some are separated. Some are remarried, some are divorced. Some are gay.

In fact, according to the Harvard Law Review, there are six to ten million children of gay parents in the United States. *Tom, 18, is one of them.

Tom found out his father was gay when he was 8 or 9 years old. He was brought up in this environment, and it doesn't bother him.

He does understand, though, how the majority of society doesn't accept gay parents. "Society fears what they don't understand," he says.

Therefore, Tom has only told a few, select people. The friends he told have no problem with it. And that's the way he feels it should be.

To him, there is no difference between a gay parent and a straight parent. "They feel the same joys and pains, go through the same tribulations as straight people."

Though many feel that homosexuality is morally wrong, Tom doesn't. "If you're born black, you're born black. If you're born Portuguese, you're born Portuguese. If you're born gay , you're born gay. I don't think people should be persecuted for their sexual nature."

So what kind of effect does his father's lifestyle have on Tom? "It gives me insight into another lifestyle." But it doesn't make him gay also. "There was a time where I questioned my sexuality, but I found I love women." And according to a 16 year study by British researchers, children of gay parents are no more likely to be gay than children of straight parents.

*name has been changed to protect privacy

"Society fears what they don't understand"

Clubs and Organizations at Diman

by Brian Martins MS

This year at Diman there are quite a few clubs and organizations. Mrs. Sayre says, "Both journalism classes are working on the paper, but there is always room for contributions from other students." Her hopes for this year are, "to put out some good newspapers." The staff has a little bit of help, with two new cameras and two new Macintosh computers.

Mrs. Thibert is the advisor of the Key Club. The Key Club has plenty of expectations for this year, including an annual Christmas food basket drive, a Spring donation to the Rose Hawthorne Home in memory of Jay Sullivan, a candy sale in November, and a bowl-a-thon. Mrs. Thibert is pleased with the number of student interest in the Key Club.

Mrs. Burns is the leader of three clubs at Diman. One of the clubs is new this year, and that is the Diverstiy Networking Group. Mrs. Burns' main goal for this group is, "that everyone respects each person in the group." She also says, "considering the group is just starting out, I am pleased with the turnout in students." Some events scheduled is a youth Congress, a mini workshop, and a walk-a-thon.

One of the other major groups that Mrs. Burns is in charge of is Peer Mediation. The main objective of this organization is to solve students' conflicts in a non-violent way. The "enthusiastic" students will visit local elementary and middle schools sending this message around. Students from this group are chosen every other year.

The third group that Mrs. Burns leads is Peer Leadership. The Peer Leadership group is to let youths help other youths with problems, and to educate youths about issues such as smoking, pregnancy, relationships, drugs, and alcohol. The group will do activities like a bake sale, an Irish student's tour, and they will go to a non-user's conference.

The Explorers Post is headed by Mrs. Mullen. The main objective of this club is to have fun and to explore. They will do activities like fishing, skiing, white water rafting, and camping. This year they have 60 members.