

The Pulse

The Heartbeat of SHS

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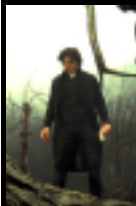
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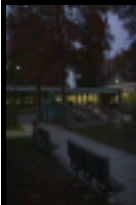
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The Pulse reviews the best and worst of the local pizza places.

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VICTORY!!!



SYOSSET ANNIHILATES PLAINVIEW 34-0

By Allison Hoyt

Syosset exploded for twenty one points in the second quarter of our Homecoming game this year, dealing a crushing blow to Plainview's JFK High School.

Matt Feinman, who ran for 58 yards on 12 carries, started the Syosset run with a touchdown. In that same quarter, Nino Othman ran for a 62 yard touchdown. Othman finished the game with 132 yards on 12 carries.

After an interception by Plainview, Syosset moved onto the defensive end. That only lasted a short time due to an amazing play by Ed Koziatek. Plainview fumbled the ball and Koziatek recovered it in the end zone for another Syosset touchdown. (Coincidentally, October 23rd is also Koziatek's birthday.)

Syosset went into halftime with a comfortable 21-0 lead. But that wasn't enough for the Braves. In the third quarter, Syosset scored thirteen more



points on a six-yard touchdown run by Matt Feinman. This was followed by a ten-yard touchdown run by Dan Mannix, who finished the game with 77 yards on six carries, and led the defense with ten tackles.

Plainview threatened in the fourth quarter, but all hope was lost when sophomore Oozi Othman sacked Plainview's quarterback.

Syosset's quarterback, Kevin Poulter, looked sharp the whole game and went 4 for 5 on extra point kick attempts. The final score of the game was Syosset 34, Plainview 0.

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(Top) The scoreboard near the end of the game -- yes, you're reading it right... 34-zip! (Second to Top) The cheerleaders getting the crowd riled up (Bottom Two) Sophomores Brandon Uy and Elliot Lee, and seniors Lauren Dresch and Melissa Freidman show their spirit.

the pulse

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SPACED OUT

BY MICHAEL KASS

Here's a look at what's happening in space today. From the new X-33 Spacecraft to the Chandra X-Ray Observatory, space is bustling with news. Here's a few of the top headlines for this month:

X-Series Spacecraft In The Works

Test flights and modeling of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) proposed X-Series of Spacecraft has begun. Recently, the X-38, a proposed escape vehicle for the now-under construction International Space Station, has undergone atmospheric crash testing. A scale model of the craft was dropped from under the wing of a B-52 from several thousand feet in the air. The ship impacted on the ground with little to no significant damage, and the test was deemed a success.

Space travel in the next century will take men to Mars and beyond, and the X-series craft will be instrumental in getting them there.

NASA and the Lockheed Martin Corporation are developing several X-Series spacecraft, starting with the X-33, including the X-34, X-35, X-38, and X-42. The X-33 is seen as the replacement of the current Space Shuttle. Many of these models use a sophisticated propulsion technology called an aerospike. Normal rockets use a parabolic nozzle to maintain the shape and direction of propellant flow. The aerospike uses a new design in which the air flow around the propellants keeps them shaped. Instead of having several cones of rockets like every spacecraft to date, the X-Series aerospike will make the entire back of the ship its propulsion, appearing similar to Star Wars' Millennium Falcon.

Other improvements to the reusable spacecraft the X-33 will bring include maneuverability. One of the chief problems with the Rockwell Space Shuttle is that it is about as aerodynamic as a brick with wings. Pilots get one chance at landing it, and crash if they miss. (A note, this has never happened.) The Shuttle is not capable of atmospheric flight, indeed the landing is actually described as a controlled crash. Because of the shape of the X-33 craft, they will be maneuverable in the atmosphere. Pilots will be able to perform precise maneuvering, and possibly make multiple,

controlled landing passes.

Like the Space Shuttle before it, the X-33 takes off vertically and lands horizontally, however unlike the Shuttle, the X-33 will take off under its own fuel. If you look at the shuttle, there are four components: the orbiter, which is the vessel in which the crew and cargo reside. It's the one that looks like an airplane. Below the orbiter is a large orange tank. This is

called the external tank (ET), and is filled with liquid hydrogen and oxygen to be used as propellant for the orbiter's engines during take-off. The two white cylinders attached to the sides of the ET are called Solid Rocket Boosters (SRBs), and provide the great majority of thrust during take-off. Once the fuel in the SRBs and ET is expired, the components are detached. The SRBs fall to the ocean and can be recycled up to seven times, and the ET burns up in the atmosphere, causing tremendous waste. As a result of the aerospike system, the X-33 will be able to take off without any booster (the first vessel capable of carrying humans to do so) and will be entirely one perpetually reusable piece.

The X-33 is an especially beneficial craft to NASA because of its significantly lower cost of operation compared to the Shuttle. Each pound sent up on the Shuttle costs \$10,000. A pound on the X-33 would cost slightly more than \$1,000, spelling more missions for NASA (up to one hundred per year). The X-33 also uses new, lighter materials and is smaller than the Shuttle, which means that more can be built. While only five working Shuttles (Columbia, Atlantis, Challenger, Discovery, and Endeavour) have been built, it has been suggested that it would be practical to build many more X-33s. This spells increased revenue for NASA, as it will be able to carry more experiments into space, experiments which NASA is paid to lift.

These new craft are not intended to replace the Shuttle just yet, but rather to compliment it. Current plans suggest that the X-33 will be flying within 5 years.

Mars Polar Missions Meet Disaster

The Mars Polar Orbiter, an automated probe sent to Mars to study its polar surface regions and to relay data from the up-

coming Mars Polar Lander mission was lost when it burned up in the Martian atmosphere. According to NASA, a US to Metric conversion was to blame. The craft entered the Martian atmosphere at too steep an angle and was thus unable to establish orbit. It therefore began descending through the atmosphere at incredible speed, and disintegrated as a result of the heat and pressure.

The Mars Polar Lander, scheduled to land on Mars' South Pole later this year, was designed to relay some of its studies to the Polar Orbiter. NASA will have to send the lander (which is already en route to Mars) new programming that would cause it to omit those experiments. Other aspects of the mission would be continued as planned, however.

The polar lander will look for traces of life frozen in the Martian ice cap. Instruments on board will search for traces of carbon compounds in the ice it collects, and a separate probe will be deployed during landing which will bury itself into the ground and study the subterranean soil there. With any luck, these craft will shed light on what life on Mars was like.

Based on surface features, it is highly probable that life once existed on Mars. The surface is covered with chasms which bear remarkable similarity to riverbeds. There is enough water in the Martian ice caps to fill these chasms and form a planetary water system. Though Mars does not have enough gravity to hold a thick enough atmosphere to create tolerable temperatures, it is theorized that at one time there may have been a thicker atmosphere which was slowly depleted. If this atmosphere existed, it may have kept the ice caps liquefied and sustained some vegetation as long as two billion years ago. Scientists hope that aquatic life may still be trapped in the ice caps.

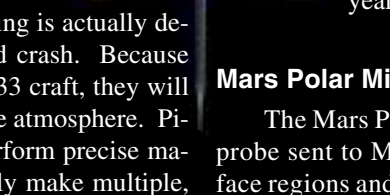
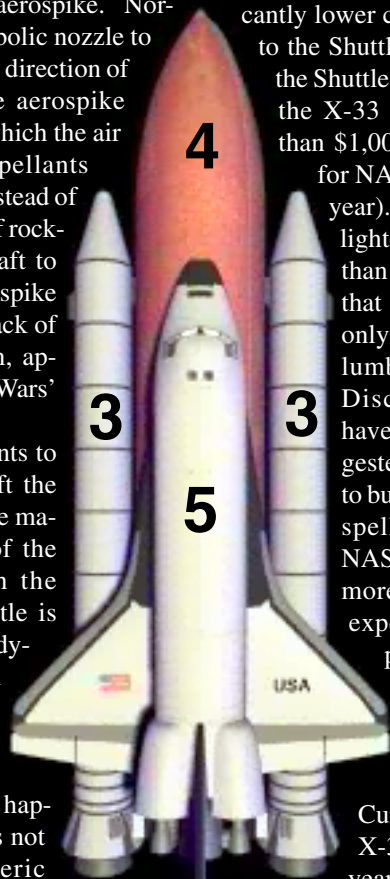
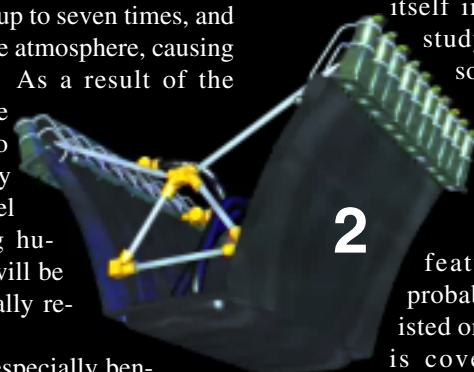
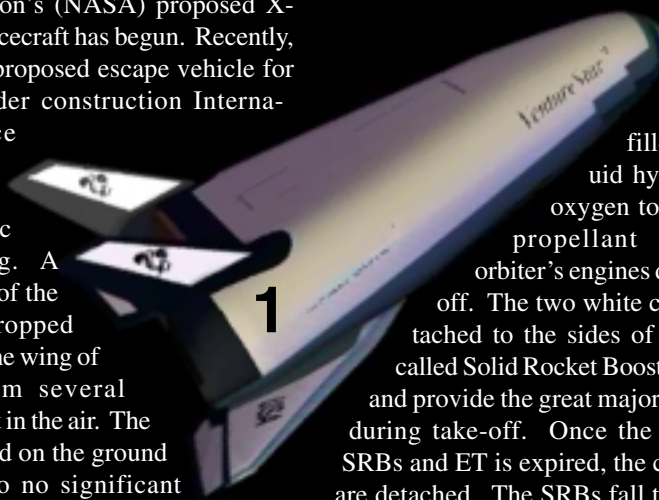
For more information on this and other missions, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov>

Illustrations

1. X-33.
2. Segment of an X-33 aerospike engine. The cylinders on the top right are the gas jets. The curved surface and air flow around the engine provide the shaping mechanism for the gas propellants.
3. Shuttle Solid Rocket Boosters.
4. Shuttle External Tank.
5. Shuttle Orbiter.

Illustrations from NASA's *Spaceflight: Past, Present, and Future*



news

Clean Lungs Pay Off Anti-Smoking Group Wins Award

By Yonit Lax and Ari Stern

High school students part of the Anti-Smoking club in Syosset, were honored at a dinner held at the Crest Hollow Country Club on September 29, 1999 by the American Lung Association. The dinner, which also honored students from other high schools, recognized all the work done by students last year, as well as their ongoing pursuit of tobacco awareness by students. The awards were presented at a time when the American Lung Association and groups associated with it are pulling out of shambles with the resignation of Vice President Lisa Fox.

Last year, Mrs. Fox established a teen advisory board at Syosset to see what new techniques could be used to better educate teenagers in the area. The group, which is comprised of Ms. Wolinsky and 16 students, worked on a documentary entitled "Breathe In and Out." It brings to light many new facts on the hazards of smoking, as well as the

experiences of different students and teachers with cigarettes - both bad and good. The documentary also features a man who has had his voice box removed due to smoking for over fifty years.

While all seemed well to the students who worked with Mrs. Fox, it turned out she was waging another war besides the one on smoking - that of anti-Semitism. Over the past few months, she has been receiving anti-Semitic letters, telling her to stop speaking out against smoking, or that "her fate would follow that of many Jews in the Holocaust." Even though Nassau County police have begun to

look for the culprits, Mrs. Fox has decided to step down as Vice President, not only protecting herself, but also her young children.

The group hopes to continue its efforts this year, going into health classes in the high school to show the video. If all is successful, they hope to expand its viewing to students at Thompson and South Woods.



SADD Chain of Life

By David Roseman

During the week of October 18, students of all grade levels signed links to create a Syosset High School Chain of Life. With over 1700 links, this chain represents pledges made by the students of Syosset High School not to do anything destructive that might cause the chain to break. The long chain, made of alternating red and white links, red for juniors and seniors, and white for freshmen and sophomores, was displayed before the pep rally, and stretched almost the length of the football field.

The chain symbolizes the Syosset High School family, and the connection between everyone in the school. By signing, students pledged to make appropriate decisions regarding alcohol, drugs, or anything else that might lead to be considered destructive. Prior to the start of the pep rally, SADD co-presidents Pam Fischer and Marissa Frankel addressed the assembled students and faculty, asking everyone to remember that they were a part of the chain, and to celebrate homecoming by making appropriate decisions.

Co-president Pam Fischer said that she "hoped everyone got the message and that the chain would be successful.

Hopefully everyone will remember the message not only for homecoming, but throughout the year, and the rest of their lives."

Mrs. Belanger said, "It was good to have all the students participate and make this pledge. I hope it is upheld."



The SADD Chain of Life which represents pledges made by students not to do anything destructive being displayed to the crowd at the Pep Rally

Gay and Straight Club

By Ettienn Townsend

For 3 years Ms. Wolinsky, Dr. Fazzio, and Mr. Fritz have worked together to achieve a type of support group for a delicate minority in the school — the homosexuals. Mr. Fritz says that they feel of all the minorities in the school, the gays are the hidden minority. No one really knows who's gay. Very few kids actually have the courage to admit it because when they do come out, they are often abused, both physically and emotionally. They hope to draw in a group of members that all agree on one idea — that prejudices and biases against gays and lesbians are hurtful and wrong.

The club was started because Ms. Wolinsky felt that there was a need within this building for this kind of recognition among all students. "Whether the students are gay or straight, everybody will come to a point some time in their life where they may know someone who's gay or even be gay themselves, and I think that it's important for all of us to talk about issues regarding homophobia violence and abuse ... Statistics show that 10% of any population are gay, and in a school of around 2000 people, that is a lot of kids," says Mr. Fritz. Not only 10% of the population, but Ms. Wolinsky says that violence in our nation against homosexual individuals is on the rise. Our school is not above all, and it needs to be educated as well.

Ms. Wolinsky started working on the idea of a Gay-Straight Alliance in 1996. It was her first year in Syosset High School, and she felt that there was a need for a group like this. With the help of Dr. Fazzio, they began researching the background for this kind of a support system and visited sites for ways of getting the

The chain will be displayed in the library for all to see.

club started. She was informed on starting a Gay-Straight Alliance and went to a workshop that taught her how to form the group, and what topics to talk about. "There's only one other school on Long Island with a group like this, and I'm very proud of it," Ms. Wolinsky said.

Ms. Wolinsky said that she had to speak to Dr. Schneider about the group before starting it and he was excited about the program. "No one ever stopped us from going forward with it. The reactions from people that I have spoken to were outstanding."

"There were few problems in forming the group, but there were still some people who were uncomfortable with the idea of this kind of a group," Ms. Wolinsky said, regarding the fliers that had been torn off the walls by students. She views them as scared and afraid because they aren't educated.

"They see the word gay and rip the posters down." Mr. Fritz views the group as an asylum for students in need of help. When they come out, they are often abused physically and have no place to go. It's a frightened minority and the group is to offer support and to say that it's wrong.

The group is focused on teaching its members about feeling safe, learning about sexual orientation, and learning how to educate the community and each other about students of all ages who have to deal with harassment. It's a place where students and teachers alike can come together and discuss the issues of homophobia. They want to communicate with the school district and help to create more groups like the Gay-Straight Alliance because there are very few support systems for this problem and issue.

Ms. Wolinsky doesn't want the group to rise to a national level just yet. She hopes that other schools may model our school so they plan on starting locally. I just want the program to expand in our school, the educate the students who are confused about the issue at hand. The students and members in the group might or might not be gay. Both Mr. Fritz and Ms. Wolinsky think that the point isn't to come out in the group. It's for students to come together to help others understand.

There are no specific reasons for beginning the club, but because Ms. Wolinsky is a guidance counselor, she sees a lot of students that need to be provided with a place where they can feel safe and no threatened. "As we all know," she begins, "kids can be cruel at times and I really believe that they don't mean it. They're intimidated by the subject so I think that gay and lesbian students are very vulnerable. There is a large percentage in teenage suicide among gay and lesbian kids and I just feel that there is a population in the building that really needs to be addressed."

news

Elections Go Down the Drain

By Etienne Townsend

On October 6, 1999, the freshmen class held their elections for student government. Unlike most years, where each of the four positions is sought by a few students, only the position of President was a true "race," in which Stacey Schneider ran against Jaime Friedman. Schneider proved to be the victor, with John Weintraut becoming Vice President, Lauren Offenber becoming Secretary, and Cory Post becoming Treasurer. The lack of candidates in the election has been attributed to the lack of enthusiasm by freshmen in the school.

The news of the elections was truly a surprise to many students. During the election, one freshman reportedly raised his hand and asked if he could run for president. Mr. Ray Gessner, advisor to the student government, said, "Freshmen tend to not respond to announcements over the P.A. system heard in the mornings. It was quite a shame to see that most of the freshmen class didn't even know about the elections until that day. It was even more of a disgrace that so few people ran."

Stu Implements Constitution

By Ari Stern

President Stu Katz has already begun making changes to the school, trying to enforce a part of the School Constitution which hasn't been implemented for the past five years. This section of the Constitution deals with each club sending a representative whom is responsible for attending Student Government meetings. This decision comes at a time when school spirit is at an all-time low, and student government is looking to give it a boost.

"I feel that Student Government needs to follow our school constitution," said President Stu Katz. "By implementing our constitution in our school, we will be able to show students that there are actual laws, and possibly raise students moral."

In order for students to better understand the Constitution, the government will be publishing copies for all students in the school. These copies should be coming out in the next few months.

HOMECOMING CARNIVAL

CARNIVAL A SUCCESS

By Anthony Fazio and Soren Gandhi

The weekend of October 22-24, 1999, was this year's Homecoming Carnival. The field of Syosset High School was populated with families, kids, and anyone else looking to have a good time. All of these people were surely not disappointed, since there were many rides and other activities to take part in.

From fun houses, to big slides, and your basic carnival games, individuals who attended the carnival were able to occupy themselves for hours. Throughout the weekend, there was the pleasant sight of jubilant children fleeing from one attraction to the next.

In regards to attendance, there was a healthy number of people throughout the three days. However, the number of attendees on Saturday was unmatched by the attendance of Friday or Sunday. This is understandable, since many students stayed to attend the carnival after the Syosset Braves football game. The freezing weather did not prevent children, adults, teenagers and teachers from all over from attending the carnival either. The rides attracted many people, even from Plainview.

This year's attractions included the Gravitron, Zipper, Haunted House, The Fun House and others. Games, ranging from darts to water pistols, gave away many prizes. Of course, there were a variety of foods offered. Fried dough, candy apples, hamburgers, and ice cream were just a few, but on Saturday and Sunday, the clubs of Syosset High School beat out Silver Dollar Shows in selling food. This year almost every club of the high school participated in the carnival. Interact had a 'pie in the face' booth, MLK painted hand or face tattoos, Model UN, DECA, the PULSE, and others sold bake goods. Brownies, cookies, donuts, pastries, croissants, cupcakes and more filled everyone's stomachs. The Science Club had its dart-throwing game and, finally, ACT held its first Bard-a-thon.

The money which the Carnival made goes into a fund raising account for charitable reasons. This year the \$3000 raised was \$1500 short of Syosset's income record. Mr. Gessner,

also one of the coordinators of the Carnival, thought it was "very good and one of the most successful carnivals ever." When asked if there should be any changes, he replied, "there shouldn't be changes, there should be additions." In a laughing manner, he included, "A spring carnival would be unbelievable with more rides and more food." For all those non-believers, we will see what happens next year.

However, in the meantime, the final carnival of the century was fantastic. Rajani Maret and Arpana Sood, who ran the MLK booth on Sunday didn't expect many people, but found themselves busy creating tattoos on many hands and faces. David Goldman who participated in the Bard-a-thon

found himself on many rides instead of reciting Shakespeare. "The Bard-a-thon was great, I saw many of my high school teachers get involved, but I also found many of my friends at the carnival." David later added, "It was great, fun and exciting all at the same time."

The Homecoming Carnival has become a tradition, and a very pleasant one. The carnival is an excellent source of diversion for both students and residents of Syosset. Hopefully in the future, Homecoming carnivals will have even more to offer than they do now, and perhaps more people will take part in this glorious festival as a result.



Among the attractions at the homecoming carnival was the House of Rock 'n' Roll

COMING Soon: The Pulse On the Web

Look for information in next month's issue. Questions? pulse@longisland.com

opinions

the students say...

by Carly Weinreb

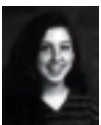
ARE FRESHMEN MAKING FRIENDS?

One of the most exciting things about being in high school as a freshman is all the new friends a person can make. However, is this really true? Are freshman really trying to make new friends, or are they just sticking with the friends they already have, forming a barrier between the two middle schools?



"No. They're still separated. It'll take some time to get into one mold."

KYRA SOVRONSKY,
SOUTHWOODS



"I think it'll take a bit longer for them to mix, but...they're doing a good job starting."

PIA FINNIGAN,
SOUTHWOODS



"I definitely think everyone is mixing now."

BILLY KELLY,
THOMPSON



"I don't think they're really making an effort. Maybe they're taking new friends as they come, but not making the effort to make new friends."

HARRIS BRENNER,
SOUTHWOODS

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Do you feel you have made many new friends since school began from the other middle school?

88% Yes
12% No

Do you feel kids from the other middle school are making an effort?

76% Yes
24% No

Overall it seems that the majority of the 9th grade is making new friends in the High School. Apparently, most amount of new friends are made during after-school activities.

Nacho Cheese

By Adam Taubman

This past week something struck me. I should have realized it years ago, when the cafeteria started serving mediocre pizza, tasty-looking-but-soggy fries, and fresh deli sandwiches with reheated bacon, but for some reason I didn't. I should have registered the thought when the unsalted popcorn and glowing fruit smoothies were being served at the snack stand, but for some reason I couldn't. No, I had this revelation just this week, when I found myself asking a food server if the nacho cheese in the little plastic cup was warm.

This question was not prompted by a pickiness on my part, nor by sheer curiosity, but rather by past experience. I had paid \$1.25 for nachos too many times to find the cheese in the little plastic cup cold and lumpy; I had paid this sum of money too many times to just

throw my half-eaten snack in the garbage. In interrogating the server, I was acting as an educated consumer. I was making sure my food was enjoyable and at the desired temperature.

When my friend finally remarked that I was behaving strangely, I realized that I had been driven to my condition by the cafeteria itself. In asking if the cheese was warm, I was also offering my opinion on the state of cafeteria food: the menu at Syosset High School is diluted with too many lunch items that can be considered satisfactory at best.

Don't confuse this complaint with your typical "lunch food stinks" comment; I've come to accept over the years that cafeteria food simply does not compare to eating out. Rather, I am arguing that the cafeteria service is offering an abundance of mediocre food when it can be offering a small selection of

quality meals. By selling items such as tacos, pizza, mozzarella sticks, and milk shakes, Syosset's servers are trying too hard to please the crowd, when paying a real pizza chef instead of two all-purpose cooks would make the student body much happier.

If the cafeteria staff focused its resources on single projects at a time—even one specific meal a day—our lunch period experience could be significantly better. If each server practiced to specialize in just one type of food, whether it be pizza, French fries, or cheese steaks, we would be seeing much more inviting menus on the walls of the serving area. I know that if efforts were concentrated on what truly mattered, and if the unnecessary menu items were paid no attention, some day my nacho cheese would be consistently warm. I dream for that day. And I hope you do too.

SAT Review Courses- Are They Worth It?

By Daniel Greenfield

Unfortunately it's that crazy time of the year again when juniors and seniors across the nation are diligently preparing for the dreaded SATs. In the past, the test hasn't been as big of a deal as it is today. Now, many students are shelling out hundreds of dollars to spend 10-12 weeks taking SAT review courses in hopes of substantially improving their scores.

There are two main questions we have to deal with when determining whether or not it's worth taking these SAT review courses. One is "Will it actually improve my scores?" and the other is "Is it worth the time and money to improve my scores?" After speaking with many students taking a variety of SAT review courses from the Princeton Review to Kaplan, I have discovered that the answer to the first question is "yes." Nearly everyone I have spoken to has said that their scores have improved more than 80 points since taking a SAT review course.

The answer to the second question is a bit more abstract. Students usually spend 3-8 hours a week taking the course. This time may be well spent considering chances are it will significantly improve one's score, but every decision has its consequence. This can also be time that can be spent studying and doing homework for school. Therefore, although one's SAT score may improve which will look good for college, the time taken out of studying and doing homework for school to take the SAT review course may hurt one's grade which, to the contrary, will not look good for college.

The review course may not be worth

the money as well. An improved SAT score does not necessarily mean getting into the college of one's choice. Therefore, the average Joe may be spending up to a \$1000 for nothing.

I guess it's up to you to decide whether or not it's worth taking one of these SAT review courses. The question isn't whether or not they work, but rather how high you place a good SAT

score on your values list. If you think a good SAT score will significantly raise your chances of getting into the college of your choice, then I say "Go for it." If you think however that your SAT score won't be a significant factor in determining whether or not the college of your choice accepts you, then don't bother.

WTF

INSANITY

BY JED EVANS

PLEA

For three and a half years an underground research team at the Pulse has been searching for the answer to the Greatest Mystery of the World. No, it's not "Will Growing Pains ever return to network television?" It's "How is it possible to ace the SATs with a lack of initiative, and most importantly, a lack of knowledge?" Originally the project was scheduled to end in June 2002. However, due to a lack of funding and the fact that a large portion of highly qualified scientists have recently left the project to start their own independent "Knitting Magazine" the findings will be released early. It should be noted that since the project was cut short, it is very likely that these results may have side effects including dry mouth and nausea.

Top 12 Ways to Ace the SAT's Without Really Trying:

12. Wear high magnification contact lenses and smuggle in microdots on your Disneyland souvenir see-through visor.
11. Put a very smart little man {or woman} in your pocket.
10. Ask a sponge for spiritual guidance.
9. Sleep with a review book under your pillow for 7.2 hours in the lotus position.
8. Hot wire your calculator to a global information satellite network.
7. Smile a lot in hopes that the proctor will give you the answers.
6. Wear a convenient metal cast which doubles equally as conveniently as a mirror.
5. Write the answers on your arm in invisible ink {nobody will know your secret!}
4. Put the answers to song-a very long song.
3. Volunteer yourself to be the first human to ever receive a brain transplant.
2. Bring in a set of personalized pencils {okay, so that's only 400 points} ...and the number one way to ace the SAT's without really trying is...
1. Cheat!

opinions

Broke and Bored in Syosset

By Rachel Wolther

What is there to do in our lovely town? Most people would quickly answer "nothing, we are a pretty pathetic little community," but that's just scratching the surface. If you use your imagination, there are plenty of recreational activities. For instance, we have a wonderful CVS (open 24 hours. Oooh!). You can go and browse their wonderful literature section, for only two easy payments of absolutley nothing. And how about the enchanting Syosset-Woodbury Park? Besides the many athletic activities going on, there is a miniature golf in the summer and ice skating in the winter. Both are located in the same arena, so if you keep mini-golfing everyday for a year eventually you are going to end up on the ice.

Sick of games? There is a new fifties theme place right in the center of town, called Dels. Ok, so theme restaraunts usually suck, but hey, do you have anything else to do on Saturday? Actually, don't go there -- they charge you over three bucks for a milkshake. Will someone stop the insanity?? Instead of that crappy place, go to Yogurt N' Such. There, you can taste every flavor of yogurt twice and still not have to buy anything. My favorite is the Chocolate Mousse Glace. Or got to Dano's on Robbins Lane for some cheap



Ken Spector is down and out in Syosset.

pizza. But before you order, read over the entire menu. Supposedly, they have more than pizza. If you can afford it, I want you to find out if they really serve shrimp cocktail. Bon appetite!

Another suprisingly fun place is Borders. They have a little coffee shop (since technically there is no Starbucks in Syosset) and every other Monday is open mike night. You can begin your musical career; just make sure no one has a camera. Or why not sit and read books on the Spanish Inquisition written by a guy named Smith? Either way, it's free. Then go to Blockbuster. If you can scrape up 3 bucks, you can rent that movie you were kicked out of

in the movie theaters six months ago, for 5 dollars cheaper! I do not even know the point of going to the movies anymore, especially since they recently raised the price another quarter! I am outraged. Boycott the Broadway Mall!!!!

For you out there who have money and a car: *why are you reading this?* Now, that it's just us chickens, how 'bout going to a party? If you are not getting invited to any, have your own. Just getting your parents to agree to one will give you a use for lots of free time. Finally, as a last result, stay home and murder your parents' phone bill with crank calls to the entire student body. Just make sure you skip my house.

Yes Sir: No Ma'am

By Shari Gamm

A new Louisiana law requires students to address teachers and school employees as "sir" or "ma'am" when answering questions or participating in day-to-day conversations. This is silly! Does anyone really believe that courtesy should be legislated? Teachers deserve respect and should be addressed properly, using their last name as in Syosset, but making courtesy a law is absurd. And what is the penalty? Fifty lashes, cleaning the toilets, or writing "sir" or "ma'am" 500 times on the blackboard. Can you imagine a student suspended simply because they did not respond properly?!

I believe that this is a weak attempt to control students while not addressing the more important issue of violence in schools. This legislation is part of the backlash from the tragedy at Columbine High School. While it is reasonable to search for answers, it is unreasonable to expect mere salutations to materially affect school life. Instead of instituting stronger gun controls in the state of Louisiana, or closely monitoring troubled students, legislators believed that they could affect student behavior with this naïve law. Chances are that it will only cause resentment, not a shift in behavior.

Maybe this is just the first of additional laws to come. Next month they may require students to wear uniforms and salute while they are calling their teachers "sir" or "ma'am". If this happens, it will no longer be a school that these students are attending to learn, but the army.

Letters

Dear Editor,

I would like to first congratulate the entire staff for publishing a terrific school newspaper and circulating it around Syosset High School. When I first entered the ninth grade, I began reading *The Pulse*, and still read it to day as a Senior. Even though the newspaper is good, there is always room for improvement. Better coverage on school events is mandatory. For any school event taking place there should be both a photographer and a writer. There also needs to be a better incentive to join the newspaper staff. The lack of participation creates a situation where current staff members have to write too many articles per person.

New ideas to include in the newspaper are advertisements, opinion polls, and restaurant reviews. I would like to see more articles uncovering information about the people I don't already know about. Articles must be interesting — that is essential. I realize it is not easy to create a newspaper, but improvements must be made to maximize performance and enjoyment.

—Brett Muney,
Class of 2000

Dear Editor,

Ever since I came up to the high school, I always picked up the newspaper, *The Pulse*, and felt that this is the worst paper I have ever read in my whole life,

Now the paper is different. When I hear that the paper is coming out, I get excited. So I keep an open eye to get my paws on one, just so I can be the first to read it. I read the non-sports section first— you know, the boring part. I only read that section to see what's going on. Ohhh baby! It's time to read the sports section. Whether it's my team or not, I am stuck to it like glue. The world could pass me by, and I would not even notice, nor will I care — just as long as I finish reading it.

I just wanted to say what an excellent job that you have done on the latest edition of *The Pulse*. Keep up the good work!

—Rosario Cracchiolo,
Class of 2000

Dear Editor,

Segregation is a big issue in Syosset High School. Students are segregated based on their status, culture, appearance, and intelligence. I dislike the fact that students judge each other based on these aspects.

Syosset High School is known for being one of the best schools on Long Island. Therefore, we should represent our school, not only academically, but also socially. We should appreciate each other on our characteristics and individuality. We should not have to act or look a certain way in order to fit in, because in God's eyes we are all equal.

—Kathrina Tapuro,
Class of 2000

Dear Editor,

I am writing in regard to the story "The Tenth Grade Void" in *The Pulse*. The article discusses the fact that in tenth grade there is nothing that relates to them, except for the class trip to Boston. The writer continues to compare sophomore year to the other years in high school. He says that freshmen have the fact that they are new and that they don't always feel completely comfortable, juniors have the SAT, and seniors have all that college stuff.

I totally disagree. I am currently a senior and I have attended Syosset High School since freshman year. I feel that sophomore year was good because it didn't have the stress that the other grades have. In my opinion, if you don't have the stress why would you complain about it and want to have something?

—Lauren Dresch,
Class of 2000

CD Review of the Month

By Jonathan Maisel

Antipop (Primus)- Primus has been touring all around the world for the past decade to a mainly underground audience. This is their sixth full-length album and hopefully it will bring their unique sound to a bigger audience. Their sound can best be described as a combination of experimental guitar with funk infused base lines and interesting lyrics that are full of great imagery. This time around Primus enlisted a whole bunch of guest producers to try and liven up their sound. Tom Morello from Rage Against the Machine is credited as a producer for two tracks, as well as playing guitar on three tracks. Fred Durst from Limp Bizkit and South Park creator Matt Stone are also each credited as producing a track. Some standout tracks from the new album are Electric Uncle Sam, The Antipop, Greet The Sacred Cow and Dirty Drowning Man. This has been their best album to date, and they still have their signature sound that long time fans of the band enjoy. You can visit their official website at www.primus.sucks.com for more information on them.

Pour On The Pep!

By Staff Writer

It was an extremely cold day on Friday, October 22, 1999, nevertheless Syosset High School celebrated its annual pep rally. The support for this event was fantastic! The bleachers were packed with Syosset High School students, who were cheering away at their athletic teams, the marching band, and their fellow classmates. Practically the entire Syosset High School staff and their families were at the pep rally, showing their support for our school. The cheerleaders kept the crowd energized and very noisy, the klinders did their great routine, and the marching band played away. Senior class president Stu Katz did a great job introducing the Varsity team captains. This was a great opportunity for the student body at Syosset High School to get informed about the status of their sports teams. The fact that the majority of Syosset's sports teams are doing well also helped keep the crowd in good spirits.

The pep rally concluded with the introduction of the Braves Varsity football team members, who came running onto the field in an organized fashion. The tremendous amount of people who showed up at the Homecoming game proved this year's pep rally a success! Can it be that school spirit is finally returning to Syosset High School?

reviews

A Moment With Spector: *The Pulse* Movie Reviews

By Ken Spector

Man. I gotta tell ya! What happened to Halloween? Come on! Now I know we are generous, decent, civilized spoiled brats, {what with our Hilfiger cologne and DKNY shoelaces}but our maturity is warping the children's minds! Not only do little kids believe they are forced to get every single Pokémon at Burger King, but also they think they are too cool to go trick or treating. Who here didn't have a surprisingly low amount of tykes slamming at their door this year? It's a crying shame! I think about how Halloween was my favorite day of the year. And as my teeth slowly rot in my mouth, I hope you pray for the candy that was never consumed. Even though Halloween is long gone I figured I should do something about it, so here are my Post-Halloween Movie Reviews! How informative. Oh well, lets take a look at the Spectroscale!

SPECTROSCALE

- A: Better than your average bear
- B: Your regular movie
- C: Typical crap fest
- Z: Almost as bad as Jerry Springers: RingMaster

House On Haunted Hill
MPAA Rating: R
Spectroscale Rating: C+



Okay! For anyone who saw "The Haunting"... This...is... pretty much the same movie. One major difference I would like to point out which saved this movie was that it did have some scary, or at least disturbing parts that seemed realistic. Instead of thinking "Wow! What great special effects!" You would think "Wow! That was pretty cool!" It had more of a human side to it. Still the house in "The Haunting" was better. If you're the type of person who actually listens to the dialogue you will notice that every line consists of sarcasm. That gets old very quick. Everyone had a slick comeback that makes you want to punch them in the face. However, The beginning amusement park scene was extremely entertaining.

BASIS: Somehow, an evil haunted

house sends invitations for people to come and visit and then kills them.

The Story of Us
MPAA Rating: PG-13
Spectroscale Rating: B-



I am shocked and appalled! Those are two words that go great together. So good in fact I shall repeat it a second time. "I am shocked and appalled." Hollywood dupes us again with another case of great preview, bad movie. In fact the preview wasn't even edited. They just took one big scene of flashbacks right from the movie! The only thing that was new was the "Coming this fall" part. The Story Of Us was depressing, highly annoying and never went anywhere. Every minute was filled with arguments and uneasiness followed by an assortment of laughs. Bruce Willis didn't even have to act for this movie; all he had to do was think unhappy thoughts. And for an even bigger insult this movie had nothing to do with Halloween at all!

BASIS: A couple fakes a happy marriage for their kids.

Bats
MPAA Rating: PG-13
Spectroscale Rating: C-



You could give a hotdog and a piece of paper to a monkey and get a better script than this! This is your honest to goodness right down to the bone "B" movie. For those who don't know what a "B" movie is, it's something that is just pure garbage for example: Fat Guy Goes Nutzoid. That's a real movie! Here is the overused plot line: an idiot scientist experiments on animals that become mutants and escape, then come back and kill everyone in town. It's up to the heroes to blow them up. The End. Doesn't that sound fantastic! They don't even look like bats.

Have you ever seen a bat that crawls? I think someone should have had their night vision checked.

BASIS: Super-intelligent giant bats contain a virus that could infect the world's bat population turning them into carnivores.

Soon To Be In Theaters

I am extremely excited this month for my two most awaited films of the year both come out at the same time.

Sleepy Hollow Tim Burton's {Beetlejuice, Batman} newest piece starring Johnny Depp and Christina Ricci. The story of Ichabod Crane and



Johnny Depp takes a closer look in Tim Burton's Sleepy Hollow

the Headless Horseman with a Tim Burton Twist.

Dogma Kevin Smith's {Clerks, Mallrats, Chasing Amy} fourth film which was delayed for five years due to protestors, about fallen angels who find a way to get back into heaven. Starring Chris Rock, Matt Damon, Ben

Affleck and the unforgettable duo, Jay and Silent Bob! I think we all owe Kevin the right to go see this movie after he had so much trouble with distribution. Everyone who goes to see this movie will get five bucks from their parents and a pat on the back from...someone who pats you on the back. {Five dollars void in USA}

Movies To Come

Man on the Moon — Jim Carrey portrays comedian Andy Kaufman living out his life. December 99

Bicentennial Man — Robin Williams is a robot who develops human emotions. December 99

Tigger: The Movie — Everyone's favorite tail bouncer gets his own movie. February 00.

So, to sum everything up. Halloween should be preserved at any cost. If we are going to eradicate a holiday, why not Christmas? It's just an excuse for the Hallmark company to sell cards and ornaments! Please keep in mind that Halloween is a joyous occasion celebrated by creatures and misfits all around the world. And if it wasn't for Halloween we wouldn't have...Well, we wouldn't have something. Anyway, I'm all out of room for now. So keep watching the classics and avoid the popcorn.

Fat Guy goes Nutzoid Information was supplied by VideoHound's Complete Guide To Cult Flicks and Trash Pics. All of the information is true. Otherwise it would just be a waste of time.

I Should Have Seen Ricky Martin Instead

A Review of Type O Negative

By Dave Anderson

Some bands just can't perform live. Usually this is found out the hard way by fans who spend their hard earned or parent given money to see the band that they spend so much time listening to at home. I found this out the hard way on October 29 when I saw Type O Negative at The Roseland.

You know that you've been at a bad show when the opening band is better than the main act. A band called Puya was much more exciting than Type O Negative. They were a Brazilian heavy metal band which was pretty weird. Imagine four guys with long hair jumping around with a bongo player in the background. The best part was when they did a very fast punk type version of Pink Floyd's "Another Brick in the Wall."

Enough about Puya. The main act was Type O Negative. They played the dullest set that I've ever heard. They might take it as a compliment, but the show felt like a funeral. Everyone was just standing still with blank stares. This might sound like fun to old people and a few kids, but

not at a show that is supposed to be lively. Even if you don't personally want to mosh, it's still more fun to be at a place where people are having a good time and jumping around.

The first song, "My Girlfriend's Girlfriend" was pretty good, but after that it went downhill. Song after song was slow and monotonous. Half the time I couldn't distinguish between when the last song ended and the next song began. Some of the breaks between songs were better than the songs themselves. It was funny when in between songs bass player/singer Peter Steele made fun of people in the audience. That was the only thing that kept me awake at some points.

It should have been a tip-off when before Type O Negative went on, the crowd started chanting, "You Suck!" This is a longstanding tradition at Type O shows, but it is very realistic. If I had been paying attention at the end of the show, I would have been yelling the same thing. So to sum this up: if I had sat down at all while Type O played, I would have fallen asleep.

features

Phone-A-Thon a Success

By Sunjay Kelkar

Did you know that Cystic Fibrosis is the number-one genetic killer of children and young adults in the United States today? Cystic Fibrosis is a disease that causes the body to produce a thick, sticky mucus clogs the lungs. This abnormal mucus interferes with digestion and leads to chronic lung infections and fatal lung damage. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation was founded in 1955 to battle this horrific and debilitating disease.

Vansise Farms, and Madeline Schuster for the great food.

The money that was raised will be sent to the Long Island chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation to fund research to find a cure.

When the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation was founded in 1955, very few children with Cystic Fibrosis lived to attend elementary school. Today, the median age of survival for an individual with Cystic Fibrosis is 31 years. Currently, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation supports landmark



The Cystic Fibrosis Phone-A-Thon team

In support of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Syosset High School held its annual phone-a-thon fund-raiser on October 26 & 27. The fund raiser was run by Ilene Zelnicker (the liaison between Syosset High School and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation), Jessica Fogler and Sandra Merrill. This year's grand total was \$12,630, breaking last year's record by over \$2,600. Kudos to Rob Zelnicker for getting over \$1,000 in donations. Participants in the phone-a-thon included volunteers from PAL, PAL Seminar, Student Government, and other SHS students.

With all these people there at dinner time, we had to rely on the generosity of local restaurants to supply the necessary nourishment. The rumor that teenagers are always hungry is hardly a joke. We would like to thank Woodbury Pizza, Umberto's, Bagel Boss, Prime Time Butcher,

human gene therapy studies which are evaluating several gene delivery strategies in people with Cystic Fibrosis. In addition to conducting gene therapy studies, many clinical trials on new drug treatments are being conducted. These trials will determine the best treatment to alleviate Cystic Fibrosis-related problems and improve the length and quality of life for people with Cystic Fibrosis.

All in all, the money raised was put to work supporting a network of multidisciplinary research and gene therapy centers at major universities across the United States, research grants for top investigations, fellowships for basic research and clinical research, and a nationwide network of 113 specialty care centers dedicated to treating Cystic Fibrosis.

What's the first 4-letter word you think of?



If it's not
S-A-F-E
maybe you
should
think again...



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The Leaves Are A' Blowin'

By Caryn Lewi

The leaves crunch beneath your feet as you walk from the bus to your house. The sunlight is a glinting spectacle of gold, and the wind lightly plays in the gorgeous multi-colored trees. As you put your key in the door, you look around and realize that after the initial shock of school wears off, autumn is a truly beautiful thing that should be appreciated as much as possible.

Fall has always had the negative connotation of being associated with the start of the school year. As summer dies down, we are faced with a sense of dread, rarely excitement. Seldom do we look forward to fall, no matter what kind of changes and rejuvenation the change of season might bring. What we don't realize is that while we are stressed with thoughts of new teachers, schedules, and the pressures of the upcoming year as a whole,

we tend to undervalue the seasonal alteration.

Autumn goes quietly. It's a gentle let-down from summer, and with the other things going on inside our heads, few look around and actually notice it. Winter gets in our faces and gives us frostbite. Spring is the joyous celebration of the second semester, giving us a light at the end of the tunnel. And then there's summer...ahh, summer. A great, crisp bell of freedom, singing in the heat for all to hear and revel in! Autumn appears to just slip into the background, being a disappointing, but at the same time, a strikingly beautiful time of year.

Halloween seems to be the lavish expression of fall for everyone. It's also a time of mischief and uncertainty for teenagers. At what age is it considered too old for trick-or-treating? A magical, squealing experience, there are some who will never give it up, despite some funny and untrusting looks from mothers and elderly folk alike as they open the door.

Hopefully, more of us will see autumn this year. The unpopular sister of summer has her good points too, and we should all try to see them, although covered with spider webs and schoolbooks.

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features

Cabaret Night 1999: Cabaret Takes Manhattan

By Sunjay Kelkar

Cabaret Night '99 was a smashing success. The line-up for the night was excellent. It included choral and dance classes at Syosset High School, different out-of-school groups such as Odyssey (James Anucci, Justin Starr, and Evan Shyer), and Y-ZE (Dave Mann, Jesse Prince, Larry Kwartowitz, and Ari Winters), as well as many diverse solo acts, ranging from Seth Nadler's excellent Operatic piece, to the more Broadway-esque piece Mr. Cellophane by Jeff Stern, to the more popular piece "From this Moment" by Robin Brausa. Preparation for this event began on November 3rd by the Decorations committee headed by Rachel Leventhal and Jamie Rogg. Their efforts, along with those of the other volunteers' produced amazing results on Monday night. The placement of the decorations began eighth period Monday, and went on until 6:00 that evening. Kudos to Sunjay Kelkar and Chris Wendelken for doing an excellent job hanging up the back drop, and to Jamie Rog, Jamie Lee Palaganas, and Sunjay Kelkar for an amazing balloon arch. It looked great! All in all, Cabaret Night had a successful turnout with a large audience and top notch performances.



Clockwise from top-left: Holly Bender and Dr. Schneider as the Phantom of the Opera; Chorale waves to the audience after singing Lullabye of Broadway; Stacey Daniel sings Angel; Beth Howard, Holly Bender, and Robyn Brausa sing Don't Tell Mama

What If They Threw A Party And Nobody Came?

Homecoming Dance 1999

By Rachel Stanton

On Saturday, October 16, 1999, Syosset High School held its Second Annual Homecoming Dance. The courtyard was beautifully decorated with lights, and there were many bags of chips and bottles of soda just waiting to be devoured by the student body. Many teachers were there as chaperones to make sure that the party did not get out of hand. There was even a real live DJ. Only one thing was missing that would have made this night a success—STUDENTS!

Out of Syosset High School's student body of almost 1800, only about 30 students attended this dance, and 30 is just an approximation. It is hard to know the exact number of students who were there because people kept walking into the dance, turning around and walking right out. Not even all the members of the Student Government made an appearance. The dance floor



An empty courtyard, a familiar sight to an unfortunate few;; it was the site of this year's under-attended homecoming dance

was virtually empty the whole night. In fact, there were so few people in the courtyard that, although the dance was not scheduled to end until 11:00, at 9:00 the DJ began packing up his equipment, and by 9:30 the chaperones had called it a night.

The feelings of the students who were still present at this time were summed up by Junior Lisa Sinatra. "This party sucks!" she declared, disgusted. Substitute English Teacher Mr. Fasso, a chaperone, was slightly nicer about the dance.

He stated, "Although my expectations for the student population were higher, I enjoyed the time I spent conversing with the students who were there."

Last year, Syosset High School held its first

ever homecoming dance. The courtyard was filled with over two hundred students dancing and enjoying themselves, and the dance was deemed a success.

This year the dance was definitely not successful. According to a member of the Student Council, the school lost between four and five hundred dollars. Many factors helped contribute to this disheartening lack of school spirit. Because the PSAT's were given on the morning of

Saturday 16, the dance was held not on a Friday night as it had been in 1998, but on a Saturday night. This considerably lessened student interest in the dance.

Perhaps the greatest reason for the dance's failure was the lack of advertising and planning by the Student Council. Fliers were not posted until Wednesday, and they were not particularly inspiring. In fact, few students even knew when the dance was being held. In order to avoid conflicting with the carnival, the Homecoming Dance was held the weekend before Homecoming. This confused many students. Although a late effort was made to alert the students through their social studies classes, many students never even knew there was a Homecoming Dance.

This is not to say that the members of the Student Council did a poor job. Many Student Council members put a lot of work into the dance, such as Junior Class Vice President Brad Glick who arrived at the dance at 6:00, an hour in advance, in order to decorate the courtyard.

Whatever the reason, this year's Homecoming Dance was a failure. When asked about the dance, Junior Jamie Rog made the following statement: "This is just pathetic and sad. The only reason I'm here is so that the writer of this article has someone to talk to."

Halloween

By Kathy Miu

Halloween. It's the time of the year when little children, and some high school seniors, go about the neighborhood, stick out their greedy hands, and somehow end up with bags full of free candy, not to mention the occasional nickels, raisins, and coupons. The typical American Holiday. But of course, Halloween did not actually originate here. What contributed to the development of this day of fright and foolery?

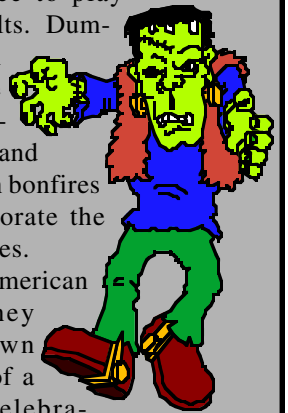
Well, I'll tell you of my own free will (not at all because my editor Ken Spector told me to).

Halloween's predecessor, Samhain, was a festival marking the Celtic New Year on November first. On that day, the evil disembodied spirits of those who were deceased were granted access to the living. Their only hope for afterlife would be to search for living bodies to possess for the New Year. Those people who were thought to be possessed were then burnt at the stake.

In England, On November 5, 1606, Guy Fawkes was apprehended and hanged for having blown up the British Houses of Parliament. Following this, the eve of November 5th has been known as Mischief Night, when children were free to play pranks on adults. Dum-mies, known as Guys, were made by English children and were burned in bonfires to commemorate the death of Fawkes.

In Latin American countries they have their own unique form of a Halloween celebration. The first and second of November mark the days of the dead, or Los Dias de los Muertos. The evening of October 31 is the beginning of the Day of the Dead Children, followed by the Day of Dead Adults. The primary symbol of these days is the skull, which can be seen on statues, toys, candy, and decorations.

Even though Halloween is not an official holiday (we still don't receive a day off from school), it is one of the most widely celebrated holidays on the American calendar. People just seem to celebrate for the candy, and maybe, just maybe, an excuse to cross-dress. For more information on Halloween, Check out The Encyclopedia of Occultism and Parapsychology



features

Who Has Syosset's Best Pizza?

By Chase Jaycox

With Michael Kass & Brett Muney

As everybody knows, there are a multitude of pizza places in Syosset and its surrounding areas. For years people have been engulfed in a conundrum that they could not find an answer to- where can I buy the best slice? Well, don't worry. In this article, all of your questions will be answered (well, actually, just the one about the pizza.)

The places reviewed were Cardinali Uno, on Jackson Avenue, Cousin's Pizza, on the corner of Jackson Avenue and Railroad Avenue, La Venezia in the Syosset Plaza on Jericho Turnpike, Woodbury Pizza in Woodbury Village on Jericho Turnpike, and Mario's Pizza, on Jericho Turnpike in the Blockbuster complex.

My first stop on my pizza journey was Cousins. For years my family and I have gone here and I am always satisfied. Although the interior is not dazzling- just a typical pizza place-the pizza here is very good. They have achieved harmony between the sauce and the cheese, a perfect ratio. The sauce on my slice was a little too sweet for my liking, but the cheese was perfect, melted into a delectable treat that you are sure to enjoy. The crust was v e r y

crunchy, a plus on my list. They have great non-pizza foods, stromboli, calzones, and the like, but I highly recommend their spinach or pepperoni wheel as a side to your pizza. Cousins was number four on my list. Although the pizza was good, there was not a wide enough selection of drinks.

My second stop was the highly overrated Mario's. The place is always overrun with the families of Syosset. Why, I do not understand. After you slave on a line for 15 minutes, you re-

ceive a large, mediocre slice of pizza. Although it is very big, there is not enough sauce on it. They rely on their borderline decent cheese to carry the show, and it doesn't do the job. The crust was too flexible, seemed moist, and the dough was not cooked enough, probably because they rush the production in order to accommodate the lines. Although the interior is nice, it is crowded and noisy, and does not allow you to enjoy your pizza to the fullest. This is the worst pizza you can buy in Syosset, and I do not recommend Mario's to anybody. The bottom line is: long wait big, bad slice.

La Venezia makes an excellent all-around pie. They're a little thin, but they're cooked to perfection. There's a perfect balance between cheese and sauce, and the crust is quite tasty. Never have I seen a burnt pie there, but you can order it well-done if you desire. The other food there is delectable. There's a great variety of pizza, pasta, Italian dishes, and beverages to choose from.

I had found what was closest to p e r f e c t i o n . Cardinali Uno, on Jackson Avenue, is one of the best around. Thier pizza was, quite simply, delicious. They had exactly enough sauce (and great sauce it was) the per-

fect amount of perfect cheese, and their crust was crunchy, but not so crunchy that you would have to bite hard. They also had a wide selection of beverages, from Coke, to Snapple, to the hard to find Nantucket Nectars. Cardinali's has a wonderful interior, not too fancy, but nice enough. I found the staff to be helpful, and very courteous as well. Their eggplant pizza is a highly recommended treat as well.

Finally, saving the best for last, is Woodbury Pizza. This lunch stop, re-



Eight slices o' cheese and sauce: The food in question

cently redone, attracts loyal customers daily to enjoy pizza, pasta, salads, and hero sandwiches. They offer a variety of gourmet pizza by the slice such as Chicken Marsala, Foccacia, and salad slice, and margarita. Their regular pizza speaks for itself. They also make these outrageous pepperoni chips that they sell by the half dozen. A favorite for all, Woodbury Pizza definitely takes the

gold in our survey of local pizzerias. Reasonably priced and very convenient for both lunch and dinner. Stop by and try Woodbury Pizza as soon as possible.

So, to sum it up, Mario's is overall bad, Cousins is good, Cardinali's is great but Woodbury Pizza is the best. Stop in for lunch, you'll usually be accompanied by most of the students and staff from school. Enjoy!

Final Ratings

Woodbury Pizza	★★★★
Cardinali Uno	★★★★ ¹ / ₂
La Venezia	★★★★ ¹ / ₂
Cousin's Pizza	★★
Mario's Pizza	★



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features

Event Calendar: November 15 - December 24

Thanks to Mrs. Beverly Gross for her contributions.

<p>November 15 Guidance Parent Workshop ACT Rehearsal</p> <p>November 17 Blood Drive (7AM - 2 PM) Sara Lawrence College in Guidance Center (1:00)</p> <p>November 18 Career Day</p> <p>November 18 – 20 <i>The Crucible</i></p> <p>November 19 <i>The World Is Not Enough</i> and <i>Sleepy Hollow</i> Released</p> <p>November 22 Girls' Soccer Pot Luck Dinner</p> <p>November 25 – 26 Thanksgiving: No School</p>	<p>November 30 Underclass Make Up Pictures Western New England College in Guidance Center (9:00)</p> <p>December 1 Fall Sports Award Night</p> <p>December 3 Hannukah Starts</p> <p>December 4 SAT I & II</p> <p>December 22 National Honors Society Induction</p> <p>December 24 Christmas Eve Winter Recess Begins</p> <p>December 25 Christmas Day</p>
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sports

Boys' Varsity Soccer Kicks

By Erin Connolly

The Boys Varsity Soccer team is in the midst of another great season in Division I. As defending Nassau County Class A Champions, the team is hungrier than ever for a repeat title as they enter playoffs. Under the leadership of senior co-captains Peter Barkoff, Ian Herrick, and Jason Popik, the guidance of Head Coach Larry Rose and Assistant Michael Bora, and the combined efforts of returning players and rookies, the team ended its regular season with a record of five wins, five losses, and two ties. Returning players include Eric Gutflais, Paolo Luizio, Chong Han, Chris Ruppman, Justin Miller, Doug Moliterno, Rob Vida, and Adam Isaac while Jared Strauss, Brett Maslin, and Bryan Jonas are rookies. Goalies Brian Kochasarli and Mike Boutis solidify the defense. Congratulations to the boys for a successful season and best of luck to them in the playoffs!

Hockey, Hockey, Hockey, Joy, Joy, Joy

By James Bullock

The School Braves Varsity Ice Hockey team has a strong reputation to uphold based on last season's Nassau County Championship and third place win in the New York State Championship the previous year. Returning seniors James Bullock, Josh Green, Jonathan Henrich, Jared Kaplan, Paul Massie, Matthew Romas, Eric Sukoff, and Casey Tremblay promise that, with the help of Scott Bernstein, Matthew Porcu, Joseph Cursio, Aaron Ross, Adam Michael, Justin Rabinowitz, Logan McAuley, Josh Rubin, and Josh Faber, this year will be as exciting as the previous one. Although the State Championships are still months away, the undefeated team is off to a great start.

Home games are at Iceworks on Underhill Blvd. in Syosset. Check the schedule, dress warmly and come cheer the team to victory.

Girls' Varsity Soccer: 33-0-3

By Karen Zelenka

After nine seniors graduated last season, many doubted the Girls Varsity Soccer team could replicate the accomplishments of the previous two seasons in Division II. After the team suffered numerous injuries to key players early in the season, forcing the team to play with only two subs in the beginning of the season, those doubts only grew. However, the Lady Braves refused to lose, and defied all odds to complete an undefeated regular season.

Under the leadership of co-captains Abby Levine, Kristy Maugeri, Diana Pettigrew, and with the experience of Sam Alexander, Andrea Fasano, Karen Zelenka, Erin Connolly, Lisa Fasano, Melissa Kline, Sarah Milo, Sue McAleavey, and rookies Anna Tan, Brianna Langstaff, Marsha Gee, Danielle Immundo, Laura Nieder, Danielle Siegel, Melissa Weinstein, Francesca Obrien, Lauren Blaker, and Jessica Mannix, the Lady Braves accepted the challenge and secured their third consecutive undefeated season! In twelve league games, the defense only allowed 126 shots on goal, with senior keeper Andrea Fasano saving 120 of them. On the attack, the Lady Braves scored 29 goals on 149 attempts against their opponents. Therefore, the girls scored roughly 20% of their shots, while giving up only 5%.

Besides sheer determination, the team accredited much of its success to the hours of Assistant Coach Diane McLoughlin's fitness drills. When asked about her team's amazing accomplishments this year, Coach of the Year, Diane Alleva replied, "I'm proud that our team has accepted the challenge of Division II and has remained focused to accomplish their goal of moving up to Division I next year."

When the regular season ended, the Lady Braves had only one remaining goal; to return to Mitchell Field to win

Girls' Swimming Ends With A Splash

By Shari Gamm

The Girls' Varsity Swim Team ended another great season. Led by coaches Grodin and Boernsen, the team worked hard everyday, beginning in the end of August. All were pleased when the team was victorious in the Homecoming meet.

Captains Dina Ismail, Kara Langhamer, and Christina Shim led the team through the season with high sprits and continued to encourage the team even through its losses. Also valuable to the team were juniors Sue Lee and Cathy Serpico, who helped lead the team to victories. Although it was her first year on the varsity team, freshman Elizabeth LaBarbera helped earn the team many points as a diver. She represented the true spirit of the team, which is perseverance. It was a fun season for all involved and everyone is looking forward to All-County selections.

Captain Dina Ismail said, "Despite our times of loss, this team has definitely had the most fun because we have a lot of heart. It is the most enjoyable team I've seen in my high school swimming career."

a County Championship. After missing it last year by one goal in a hard fought loss in the semifinals, sending three girls to the hospital, two via ambulance along the way, the Lady Braves were determined to seek revenge this year against Valley Stream Central during the first round of the playoffs. Unfortunately, the team suffered a heartbreaking loss in their quarterfinal match and was unable to advance to their final goal. However nothing can take away from the amazing accomplishment of a remarkable three straight undefeated regular seasons.

Girls' Varsity Cheerleading Off To A Spirited Start

By Elissa Jacobs

The 1999-2000 Varsity Cheerleading squad is finishing up the first half of their double season. Their season began in June when many of the girls on the team attended cheerleading camp. There, they learned new techniques and challenging stunts that Coach Sloan is now incorporating into their routines.

The squad this year is composed of fifteen girls. Led by senior co-captains Layne Roistacher, Nicole Hershman, Adrianna Vasquez, and seniors Elissa Jacobs, Gillian Jabes, and Alana Ugell, the girls have cheered the Varsity Football team to victory at home and on the road. Homecoming was a huge success for the team, as they led the

pep rally, and then did 34 pushups to match the teams point total at the game.

Coach Sloan is now focusing the girls' attention on upcoming competitions. For the first time ever, the cheerleaders are competing against other schools this year. With the help of a choreographer, the cheerleaders plan to dominate in the three minute routine that includes dance, cheers and stunt.

Despite all the time the squad spent preparing for Homecoming, the cheerleaders still found time to participate in the Annual Breast Cancer Walk on October 18. After walking five miles, the varsity and junior varsity combined to raise over \$2000. Way to go Braves!



Syosset Cheerleaders at their Homecoming Carnival booth

SPORTS WRITERS WANTED

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The Pulse

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