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JUL 30 1999

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 2, NO. 38

50 CENTS

JULY 30, 1999



Retiring Police Captain Wayne Bowden

Bowden Retires After Three Decades of Service

Captain Wayne Bowden's last day on the job before his retirement was a busy one at South Plainfield Police Headquarters. As he sat at his desk last Friday in his near-empty office, the phone rang often. Coworkers stopped by to extend their congratulations on his retirement and wish him well. The walls were bare and a single box sat on the floor waiting to be removed. The hat on his desk was a visible reminder of a successful career.

Memories of nearly three decades revolved around big and little events, slow and hectic times. Simple stories seemed to shine brightest in his memory, like the call to which he successfully responded when a person who had not been breathing prior to his arrival, was alive when he departed.

On August 31, 1970, 21-year-old Wayne Bowden was appointed to the South Plainfield Police Department. Twenty-nine years later he is retiring as Commander of Service Division, head of the detectives. During 20 of those years he never missed a day of work.

During nearly three decades with the South Plainfield Police Department, he worked in almost all departments and under six different Chiefs of Police.

When asked about his promotions, he did not elaborate, but noted that most people have no idea how they are attained. None are automatic. Promotions require a lot of study and sacrifice on a police officer's part. This usually means six to eight months' preparation for each civil service test which will de-

termine if the promotion will be awarded.

In a reflective mood, Bowden recalled a vast number of cases in his years with the SPPD. Perhaps one of his favorite memories was that of the "jogger". In the late 70s and early 80s many departments were searching for the "jogger" but it was Bowden who was the lead detective at the time of the arrest.

Captain Bowden's career ended on a high note with the recent arrest of two men responsible for a string of burglaries throughout South Plainfield and the surrounding area. Chief Steve Merkler said, "Captain Bowden is a dedicated officer whom I have known for over 20 years. I will miss him and I wish him the best."

Bowden, a lifelong resident of South Plainfield, grew up on South Central Avenue. Due to shifts in the districts, he attended several grade schools—Grant, Franklin and Roosevelt. He played Pop Warner Football and baseball in high school.

A true son of South Plainfield, Bowden reminisced about the winters he spent playing hockey on Spring Lake. He lamented that a frozen lake where kids can skate and play hockey is something not seen in recent years.

He graduated from SPHS in 1967. Law enforcement has always interested Bowden, but he enjoyed his junior and senior years of high school so much, he decided he wanted a teaching career. He attended Seton Hall for two years, but when he turned 21, his desire to become a police

Continued on page 2

Attempted Abduction of 12-Year-Old Girl Reported

By Patricia Abbott

Summer time in South Plainfield means friends, fun and freedom from the confines of the classroom, long lazy summer days—a carefree, idyllic time in a child's life. Or are they? Last week a car pulled up to a 12-year-old Middle School girl and every mother's nightmare nearly became a reality. An Hispanic male in a two-door, older model, light blue car, asked the child her name and where she was going and offered to drive her. When she refused to respond, he demanded that she get in the car. Common sense prevailed and she ran and hid in a nearby backyard. When she felt it was safe, she ran to Franklin School and sought help from Principal Nancy Erickson who called the police. The incident occurred on Clinton Ave. near Elizabethtown Court at about 11:15 a.m. The terrified child was able to give police a good description of the car. A friend's father took her to his home to wait for her mother.

The girl's mother could not begin to describe her fear. When

the call came that someone had attempted to abduct her daughter, she was at work, close to an hour away. She said she was shaking while she made the seemingly endless drive home. The girl's mother related, "I won't let her out of my sight now."

The child had heard all the usual warnings over the years, but it was an odd coincidence that may have helped to save her. While at work with her mother the week before, she found a book on self-defense and began to read through it. She said she recalled the book said, "to get away fast". Both mother and daughter now live with the fear of how simple it could have been for the stranger to grab the child.

Years of repeating "Never talk to strangers" comes flooding to a parent's mind. We teach them all the rules our parents taught us and we feel reasonably assured, but there are no guarantees. Police Officer Joe Papa said constant repetition of the safety rules from a young age is important. As children get older, add more detail to the safety rules.

He said never respond to an abductor. Run in the opposite direction. Yell, scream, do anything to attract attention. A smart idea is to walk facing traffic so that you can see any cars that might be slowing down. If a car stops or slows to turn around, the car will have to turn around to approach you and this is very conspicuous.

Papa noted that children are taught to be respectful of adults, so they often take the few seconds to stop and listen to a stranger. Those seconds could mean the difference between safety and danger. A stranger does not need help from a child on the street and children need to remember that a stranger is just that, no matter what age.

This young girl was lucky. She kept a calm head and did the right thing. Both mother and daughter wanted this story told so that others will remember that these things DO happen, even right here in South Plainfield.

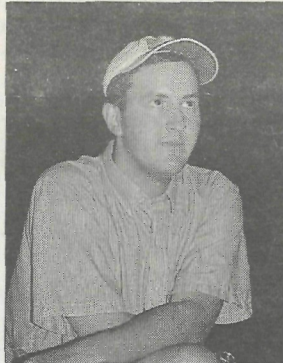
The mother noted that a detective had recently called her. They have been watching the area and there has been no further sighting of the car.

A Behind the Scenes Look at Summer Drama Workshop

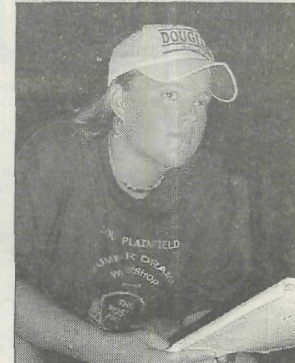
By Patricia Abbott

As the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SDW) enters its 28th season, rehearsals for "The Music Man" are well underway. The musical has the makings of yet another hit for the summer theater group.

Over the years hundreds of children have graced the SDW stage presenting South Plainfield with one hit after another. Behind each successful show there is also a talented staff of individuals who reach these youths theater arts—the basics and beyond of singing, dancing and acting. They often go unrecognized, but they truly deserve credit for the amazing work and incredible results they attain in



Director Shayne Miller



Prod. Stage Manager Kristen Pfeiffer

the span of about seven weeks. This year's staff is exceptional, nearly all are returning alumni of Summer Drama. Here is a glimpse of the dedicated professionals who bring SDW to life each year.

Director Shayne Miller is a senior theatre and music major at Kean University. He was last seen as Jack in *Into the Woods* and Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*. With a variety of theater groups, Shayne has performed in *Grease*, *Godspell*, *Starmites*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *The Bakers' Wife* and in SDW's *Anything Goes*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and as Curly in the SDW hit *Oklahoma!* Shayne starred as host of a

show at the Six Flags Theme Park and he also teaches private voice. He has directed many shows at SPHS including, *Godspell*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Guys & Dolls*. Shayne has had extensive training in all areas of technical theatre and hopes to pursue directing and musical direction in the future.

Music Director Joan Stasio has been an instrumental music teacher in South Plainfield for the past 15 years. Her love affair with musical theater began with her first musical production at age 13, Summer Drama's *Oklahoma!*

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In My Opinion

Letters

To the Editor,

A quiet event occurred this past week which I feel deserves mentioning. The South Plainfield Police Department bid farewell to Captain Wayne Bowden after 20+ years of dedicated service. There was no grand ceremony or party, he left much the way he lives his life—with dignity, professionalism and class.

This lifelong resident along with his wife Barbara have raised two fine young men and are now moving on to Florida for a much deserved retirement through hard work and dedication. Wayne's career went from Patrolman to Captain in the Detective Bureau and a more than worthy candidate for Chief of Police in 1997.

In addition, he gave countless hours to our youth as a coach and board member of the Junior Baseball Club. Wayne never lost sight of what he thought was important for this town and never wavered in his pursuit to achieve it.

He is a man with strong convictions and a fierce loyalty to his family and friends. I'm proud to be a part of his family and will miss him as he embarks on the next chapter of his life. South Plainfield was lucky to have you in their service, Good Luck.

JEFF MARCOUX

To the Editor,

Thank you so much for putting in the memorial bench dedicated to my late husband, Morris Vogel. The picture and the article covered it all. I do hope the park will get some good responses.

Please thank Susan and Nancy for their calls. I must tell you that I went to the beauty parlor in South Plainfield on Saturday. One of the customers insisted on going out and getting four copies of *The Observer* for me. In this day and age it's good to hear of these kind of courtesies!!

SINCERELY,
MILDRED L. VOGEL

Captain Bowden Retires

Continued from page 1

officer overruled his yearning to teach, so he applied and became a South Plainfield Police Officer.

Eventually he returned to school and graduated from Trenton State with a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice. It had taken him ten years of attending school at night to achieve his goal.

His wife, Barbara, is also a lifelong resident of South Plainfield. They have two sons, Robert, 23

and Jimmy, 25. Bowden recalled the years he spent supporting his sons' athletic teams. A typical sports dad, he volunteered for everything from T-ball to managing Junior Baseball.

Captain Bowden admitted that with luck and planning, the details of (his) retirement and move were perfected down to the minute. Retire on Friday; move to Florida on Saturday. He said he will miss South Plainfield, yet he won't. He explained the puzzling statement by admitting he and his wife have plans to return—frequently. While his sisters and brother live in Florida, the remainder of both their families reside in South Plainfield, so two or three trips back here per year are planned. Captain Bowden has no specific plans for his days in Florida, but he said they will not involve law enforcement.

Reminiscing again, Captain Bowden smiled, "They were nice feelings... knowing that you may have saved a life," he said, referring to that long ago call to which he had responded.

Best wishes and God speed, Captain and Mrs. Bowden! You deserve both.

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From top clockwise: Technical crew members (first two photos) work on the library set. Vocal Director Jennifer Tyne-Dambeck, Choreographer Janna GaNun, Music Director Joan Stasio, Assistant Music Director Paul McCullen, Technical Coordinator Paul Leporino

Behind the Scenes at Summer Drama Workshop

Continued from page 1

Since then Joan has held the position of music director/conductor for many productions with Summer Drama, as well as a number of shows at North Plainfield's summer theater group, C.A.S.T., South Plainfield High School and various shows at Franklin and Riley Schools, where she is a teacher. Her show credits include *The Sound of Music*, *Mame*, *Lil' Abner*, *Annie* and *Gypsy* with Summer Drama. Joan has been an accompanist/pit musician for many shows throughout Central New Jersey, including Villagers Barn Theater, SPHS, Franklin High School, Middlesex County College and Kean College. She is a graduate of Douglass College with a degree in music education. She recently directed *George M. Cohan: Song and Dance Man* at Riley School. She enjoys sharing her love of musical theater with her students and is happy to see her former students involved with theater in Summer Drama and high school productions.

1999 SPHS graduate Kristin Pfeifer is "Music Man's" production stage manager. Kristin has been a part of Summer Drama for eight years. Her most recent SDW performance was as Auntie Em in *The Wizard of Oz*. She has also appeared in *Grease*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Oliver* and *Oklahoma!* This is her second year working on the technical aspects of the productions; last year she was the director's assistant and prop master. Kristin plans to attend Rutgers University and major in music therapy and minor in stage-managing.

Choreographer Janna GaNun will be graduating from Kutztown University in Pa. in December with a BFA in Related Arts (theater, music, dance.) Her most recent performance was her senior show, *The Clockwork of Life*. She also wrote, directed and choreographed the production. She has also appeared in many productions with Kutztown, as well as been involved in a wide variety of theater oriented groups. She was chosen to be a facilitator this summer for the school's orientation program. While a student at SPHS, Janna appeared in *Story Theatre*, *Starmites*, *Snow White*, *Charlie Brown* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. Last year she directed and choreographed Riley School's play *It's A Small World*. An alumni of Summer Drama,

she has appeared as Rizzo in the 1998 production of *Grease* and as Laurie in *Oklahoma!*

Assistant Vocal Director Lawrence Street has a long history with SDW. Larry appeared in seven productions including *Mame* and *Lil' Abner*. He went on to receive a BFA from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa. He performed in an Equity production of *Me and My Gal*, selected by Donna Drake, an original cast member of Broadway's *A Chorus Line*. Larry has performed in national tours of *City of Angels* and *Porgy and Bess* and recently performed in *The King and I* in Pennsylvania. He was a finalist in the Orlando Opera-sponsored Heinz Reiffuss Singer-Actor Competition. In September he will travel to London to perform in a new production of *Porgy and Bess* at Royal Albert Hall and then return to the USA to complete his assignment as a resident young artist with the DiCapo Opera in New York City.

Technical Coordinator Paul Emil Leporino is another alumni and no stranger to the SPHS stage. Paul is excited to be working in the very same place where he developed his own love of the theater. He was last seen on the SPHS stage in *Gypsy* and *Dolls* in 1988. He also appeared in *Mame*, *Annie* and *Lil' Abner* with Summer Drama. He teaches seventh and eighth grade at Hubbard Middle School in Plainfield, where he directs his own dramatics department and coaches a soccer team. Paul is currently pursuing a master's degree at Kean University and is a contributing writer for *NCTE's Language Arts*, a profes-

sional periodical, where he reviews educational publications.

A SPHS graduate, Assistant Music Director Paul McCullen has been involved with SDW for six years. He served as assistant music director for *Oklahoma!*, *Wizard of Oz* and *Gypsy* & *Dolls*. He is an accomplished clarinetist, majoring in music education at the College of New Jersey. He performs with a number of wind ensembles throughout Central New Jersey. Paul also arranges music for the SPHS chorus and orchestra.

New to Summer Drama this year is Jennifer Tyne-Dambeck. A life-long New Jersey resident, she grew up in East Windsor and graduated with a B.M.E. from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton. She has performed in Avery Fisher Hall and Carnegie Hall and recently made her off-Broadway debut in *So You Wanna Be on Broadway?* She has appeared in *Grand Hotel*, *Oliver!* and *Jesus Christ, Superstar* to name a few. She is a music teacher and chorus director at Walter C. Black School.

The staff list alone speaks volumes about the Summer Drama program's influence upon those who set foot on the stage. SDW memories remain strong as the once inexperienced youths return with experience and knowledge to share with the children who stand where they once stood. Hopefully, as Summer Drama continues, so will the circle of learning and in the coming years more students will return as adults to bring their experiences to the SDW stage for coming generations.

...Memories remain strong as the once inexperienced youths return with experience and knowledge to share with the children who stand where they once stood.

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South Plainfield's newest police officers, Sherlyn Courtney and Mark Hollain, are pictured with Chief Steven Merkler (center) at their graduation from Sea Girt Academy. The new officers are participating in field programs for 16 weeks, which includes riding with police officers to observe the various aspects of their duties.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Time to fit in one last column from the South Plainfield Library before July slips past us.

The Circuit Videos aren't available today, as we're between groups. They'll be back early next week.

There is no Friends of the Library meeting scheduled for August. They'll have their next meeting in September.

We'll have our usual roster of children's programs next week. The Summer Reading craft program is on Monday at 6:30 p.m. The Storytime programs for children ages three and over are on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen for details. Also, mark your calendars for the Summer Reading Club closing program on August 19. Details will follow soon.

We've made another change in our internal arrangement. Young Adult paperbacks, previously kept on the windowsill in the main room, then moved to the rotating rack by the main desk, are now located on the windowsill again. We'll let you know if anything else changes.

Here's are some questions for our patrons: What do you think of the Library? What are we doing right? What are we doing wrong? Do you think changes are in order? Now, before you start shouting out answers, there's another way to reply. We're taking another Patron Survey. You'll find

the forms at the main desk. Please take a few moments to fill one out and leave it for our attention. (Don't worry, we will read and consider them; we won't use them in lieu of paper towels.)

Here's a reminder: please do not lose the barcode and title cards that go with our Circuit items. We need those to quickly and efficiently check the items in and out. Losing them creates unnecessary problems for us. It also creates you a 25-cent fine per missing card. So please keep track of them; thanks very much.

Last week, we mentioned that we have a new group of Circuit CD's available. We've also added a bunch of CD's to our permanent collection. The new recordings include the soundtrack to "Star Wars-Episode I: The Phantom Menace" and a replacement copy of the Beatles' "White Album", as well as discs by Ricky Martin, Charlotte Church, the Backstreet Boys (two CD's from them) and Bruce Springsteen. As noted previously, compact discs can be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks.

Finally, we'd like to thank everyone for your understanding during our recent computer upgrade. Having the main system down was a big hassle, but by and large our patrons came through it OK. The system (including virtual librarian Elvis) is now working OK.

That just about does it for this column, this week and this month. We'll see you next column, next week, next month.

Garden Club Keeps Busy During Summer

By Mary Mazepa

Summertime is a busy time for garden clubbers. Not only do they have their own gardens to tend, but their service projects continue year round.

Terra Nova Garden Club members will visit Lyons VA Hospital on Friday, July 30 to make bedside arrangements for the residents. These little bouquets bring a smile to the veterans, especially those who are confined to their beds.

The Garden Club members also hold weekly workshops throughout the summer to prepare items to sell at the Metuchen Country Fair in October. This is the major fund raiser for the club's volunteer projects such as Garden Therapy, Civic Beautification. It also helps support Terra Nova Junior Garden Club projects as well as contributions to Garden Club of New Jersey and National Council of State Garden Clubs projects.

Now, if we could only get a little rain....

Community Pool Passes Available

Community Pool pass books will be available starting on July 26 and can be used starting August 1. The new passes are an effort by the pool to allow its members to bring more visitors to the Community Pool.

The 10-pass books can be purchased for \$50 by pool members and can be used for all guests. They will only be good for this season and only one book per member is allowed.

Members have complained that guest fees are too high this year. Fees for out-of-town guests are \$8 weekdays and \$10 weekends while residents pay \$10 weekdays and \$12 weekends. Members have complained that they would like to bring more guests, but the high fees have restricted them.



Pictured are Father Michael McGuire, Irene Landzwojczak, Thomas Stanczak, Joe and Anna Stanczak, Marianne and Todd, Michael and Kattie Northrop.

Sacred Heart Recognizes Deacon Joe Stanczak

Story and Photo by Bill Tuthill

Last Saturday evening Sacred Heart Parish held a double celebration.

The first was a buffet supper to thank the many people who worked at the Parish "Funstival" and to report on the proceeds of the "Funstival". Father Michael McGuire said he was pleased with the number of volunteers that turned out to work the food and game booths and prepare all the food. He was also pleased with the monetary returns, especially since there were two nights of rain.

The second celebration was a surprise party held for Deacon Joe Stanczak to mark his sixteen years of service as a deacon. He was presented with gifts and a plaque.

The plaque contained a photo of Deacon Joe at his ordination in 1983. It is inscribed with the words, "In Grateful Appreciation to Deacon Joseph Stanczak—ordained in 1983. For 16 years he has diligently and successfully administered the sacraments for the sick and dying. Always faithful and

dedicated to his church and the Sacred Heart community. We acknowledge him, especially through our prayers and best wishes."

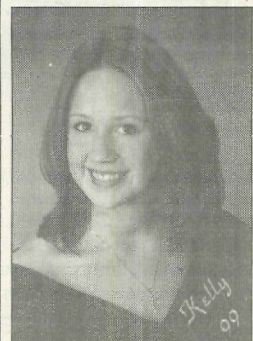
The biggest surprise for Deacon Joe was the arrival of his wife, Anna Stanczak, who has been confined to their house for over four years as a result of a stroke.

When he left his house for church services, Joe's family, along with Irene Landzwojczak, Ann's live-in health-care attendant, dressed Mrs. Stanczak and brought her to the celebration.

After the 5:45 mass, Stanczak family members joined Deacon Joe in the school cafeteria, including daughter Marianne Northrop and her husband Todd, with their children Michael and Kati and Joe's son Thomas.

Congratulations Kelly

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CLASS OF 1999



Love, Mom, Dad, Mike,
Kattie and Lauren

Historical Society Raffle Quilt on Display at Library

The South Plainfield Historical Society will be displaying the quilt for their annual Labor Day raffle starting Monday, August 1 in the Public Library. Members who would like to help with raffle ticket sales may call Mary Mazepa 754-3503 or Bill Tuthill 756-9654. Also on display will be some artifacts from the museum collection.

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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Adult School Seniors to Meet

The South Plainfield Adult School Seniors will hold their monthly meeting on August 6 at 10 a.m. in the Administration Building, Cromwell Place. After the general meeting coffee and cake will be served. Please call 754-1047 for transportation.

Trip to Radio City Christmas Show

The Recreation Department is planning a trip to the Radio City Christmas Show on Dec. 9. The tickets are \$50 per person. Purchase tickets at the PAL Building located on Maple Ave.

Sacred Heart Still Accepting Registrations

Sacred Heart School registration for kindergarten through grade 7 is still going on. Only a few seats are available in grades one through three and five through seven. Seats are available in grade four and kindergarten.

Requirements at registration are a health certificate, birth certificate, baptismal certificate, social security number, most recent report card and a recommendation from principal and homeroom teacher. Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before October 1, 1999. First graders must be six years old on or before October 1, 1999.

Sacred Heart School admits students of any creed, race, sex and nationality or ethnic origin. For more information, call 756-0632, 756-0631 or 756-0633.

SPHS Tigers to Host Fifth Annual Open

The South Plainfield Golf Association has announced plans to sponsor the South Plainfield Open on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at Bunker Hill Golf Course. This is the fifth annual golf outing held for the benefit of the South Plainfield High School Golf Team.

The entry fee of \$75 includes green fees, cart, prizes, food and beverages. There will be prizes for both men and women. All proceeds go to support the activities of the High School Golf Team. Registration deadline is July 25. Tee times are assigned on a first come basis. For more

information and tee times contact Coach Mike Kavka at 908-753-6578. To become a corporate sponsor or to donate prizes, call Dick DeAndrea 908-755-1700.

Business Association Cancels Meetings

The South Plainfield Business Association will not be meeting during July and August.

Their next scheduled meeting is Thursday, Sept. 16. A meeting notice, including the meeting topic of discussion and a guest speaker will be sent to members.

Single Parents Group to Meet

A newly formed Single Parents of Central New Jersey group will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month, 7:30-10:30 p.m. For information, call Sandra 732-283-1250 or e-mail snlprntnj@aol.com.

Polish National Home Flea Market

Polish National Home is seeking vendors for a June through November flea market to be held every Sunday at 312 New Market Ave. They are currently seeking vendors. Starting date to be announced. Call 908-668-9442.

Ladies' Auxiliary Plans Fashion Show

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies' Auxiliary is completing arrangements for their annual "Fashion Show" Brunch to be held on Sunday, October 24, at the Polish National Home on New Market Ave. Doors open at 12 noon. Women's and misses fashions will be presented by BJ's Dressing Room in Scotch Plains, the Answer Store in Menlo Park, and children's fashions will be coordinated by Fashion Bug.

The event will include the traditional Holiday Basket Raffle, plus many more exciting raffle prizes and door prizes. Ticket are \$27 and may be purchased by calling 908-754-8275 or from any auxiliary member.

Tickets will not be sold at the door. Proceeds from this annual fund raiser help the S.P. Rescue Squad defray the numerous expenses involved in their dedication to the people of South Plainfield.



Seyelle Monique Collier, Ashley Renee DeShields, Catherine Marie Krawiec, Korey Elizabeth Watson, Myisha Constance Drakeford and Cassandra Lee Vazquez performed at Flo's Piano Recital held on Father's Day.

As a pilot of over 24 years, and having over 1100 hours as pilot-in-

command flight time, I too followed JFK, Jr.'s tragic final flight with insight and sorrow. I'm not a fainting fan of the Kennedys, but I did admire this one. Though the decision-making, thinking and piloting skills involving his last flight were uncommonly poor, they were those of a common guy, just like you and me. He lived his life wanting to be like everyone else and it was such a common mistake that lead to his demise. He finally was one of us, but I have to condemn the handling of the weeklong event from the President's authorization of unlimited resources, to the global media coverage, for carrying him in death beyond what he wanted in life. There, now I've got my two cents worth in too!

In our last column, we noted the growing Internet was outpacing the ability of searching tools (search engines) to access the content that's out there. Our electronic librarians just aren't able to keep up with it all. Honestly, I don't think this situation is likely to improve soon, but by more skillfully using the tools we do have, better searches are possible. Since we're generally looking for the needles and not the haystacks, we should first recognize that specific searching tends to yield specific results. Sounds easy so far, but is it? Before we can plan a good search, we need to know how our electronic librarians do their jobs.

The various searching devices have (and sometimes share in) large databases of "indexed" webpages. These search engines consist of three parts: the spider, the index, and the search engine software itself. The spiders (crawlers or indexers) visit web pages and store text only versions of those pages in an index or catalog. Frequently repeated words are left out to reduce space, but methods exist to replace them

INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

By Briggs Longbothum

with special characters to enable advanced functions like phrase searches. The search engine software looks through the index or catalog to match the words or search terms you have selected. Their ordering or ranking usually involves the location, frequency, or relevancy of your terms.

Note that there are search engines (AltaVista-Excite-HotBot-InfoSeek, etc.) which do their work on their own; and directories (About.com-LookSmart-Magellan-Yahoo, etc.) which are collections of sites classified by humans. Meta-search engines query several other engines simultaneously (DogPile-Mamma-SavvySearch, etc.).

Here are some savvy searching tips: 1) If your subject is broad (like: politics, genealogy, etc.)

start with a directory and drill down through the subcategory.

2) If your subject is narrow (like a specific hotel, place, etc.) use a search engine first. 3) Try using meta searches for more comprehensive results. 4) be sure to read and use the instructions that accompany all search features for help and insight. They are all not the same. Learn the intricacies of one or two favorites. 5) phrases enclosed by quotation marks will treat the terms as a single term. 6) use several key words not just one or two. Use "+" to mean include and "-" to mean exclude. (ie; +George Washington -state -D.C. -university will return most info about the man.) 7) **double check your spelling!** (this is most helpful.)

If you have any tips or searching advice, please share it with the rest of us. In this area, we need all the help we can get. See you next time. Briggs Longbothum, cd. (Bruggo@home.com).

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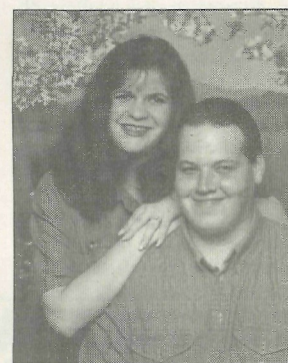
Tracy Constantino and Jonathan Scott Set to Wed

Karen and Vincent Costantino, of South Plainfield, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Tracy Anne, to Mr. Jonathan M. Scott of Dunellen. Mr. Scott is the son of Denise Rofael of Dunellen and Dale Scott of Middlesex.

Ms. Costantino is a graduate of South Plainfield High School and a licensed cosmetologist. She is employed by Bridgewater Manor as an accounts receivable bookkeeper.

Mr. Scott is a graduate of Dunellen High School and is currently attending DeVry Technical Institute. He is employed by Orchard Hill of Warren.

A May 13, 2000 wedding is



Tracy Anne Constantino and Jonathan M. Scott

planned at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in South Plainfield.

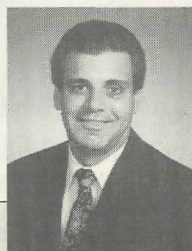
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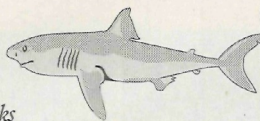
South Plainfield Observer

have relocated to 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield.

If you would like to contact us, please call 908-668-0010, or visit us at our new location.

Tiger Shark Swimmers Win Two More this Week

The South Plainfield Tiger Shark swim team won two more meets this week bringing their record to eight wins and one loss for the 1999 summer season. This week, the Tiger Sharks defeated Frog Hollow Swim Club, So. Amboy at home 144-122. Following are the highlights:



Event	Time	Name	Place
Boys 100 IM 10 & Under	1:54.59	LeDet, Matt	2
	1:56.04	Luzny, Philip	3
Girls 100 Free 10 & Under	1:30.02	Konops, Leah	1
	1:47.62	Boyle, Megan	3
Boys 100 IM 11-12	1:35.09	Smiley, Calvin John	1
	1:47.68	Moates, Billy	2
	1:49.88	Reed, Chris	3
Girls 100 Free 11-12	1:15.97	Kaczka, Katherine	1
	1:20.42	Jones, Natalie	2
Boys 200 IM 13-18	3:09.19	Bostick, Jon	2
Girls 200 Free 13-18	2:40.09	Banas, Jen	2
Boys 25 Fly 8 & Under	28.00	LeDet, Drew	1
Girls 25 Breast 8 & Under	29.46	Gunasekara, Talya	1
	31.89	Atcachunas, Danielle	3
Boys 50 Fly 9-10	57.91	LeDet, Matt	2
	59.28	Moates, Matthew	3
Girls Event 50 Breast 9-10	56.14	Keller, Becky	2
	58.11	Konops, Leah	3
Boys 50 Fly 11-12	45.43	Gunasekara, Devin	1
	48.92	Moates, Billy	2
	55.42	Reed, Chris	3
Girls 50 Breast 11-12	46.30	Jones, Natalie	1
	49.64	Byard, Nina	3
Boys 100 Fly 11-14	2:04.02	Keller, Timmy	1
Girls 100 Breast 13-14	1:36.83	Reed, Lauren	1
Boys 100 Fly 15-18	1:38.52	Dec, Josh	2
Girls 100 Breast 15-18	1:35.82	Dabrio, Shannon	2
	1:45.08	Blessing, Sarah	3
Boys 25 Free 8 & Under	23.45	Boyle, Michael	1
Girls 25 Back 8 & Under	28.08	Gunasekara, Talya	1
Boys 50 Free 9-10	45.56	Luzny, Philip	2
Girls 50 Back 9-10	57.63	Dougherty, Julia	1
	1:00	Boyle, Megan	3
Boys 50 Free 11-12	37.38	Smiley, Calvin John	1
	39.77	Egan, Chris	2
	42.46	Gunasekara, Devin	3
Girls 50 Back 11-12	40.59	Kaczka, Katherine	1
	44.09	Byard, Nina	3
Boys 100 Free 13-14	1:29.63	Keller, Timmy	1
Girls 100 Back 13-14	1:23.00	Reed, Lauren	1
Boys 100 Free 15-18	1:12.85	Bostick, Jon	2
Girls 100 Back 15-18	1:29.93	Banas, Jen	2
	1:33.73	Dabrio, Shannon	3

The Tiger Sharks had a very decisive win over the Gran Centurians Swim Club from Clark, 174-100 at home on Saturday, July 24. Highlights from the meet were as follows:

Girls 100 IM 10 & Under	1:54.18	Konops, Leah	1
	2:09.97	Boyle, Megan	2
Boys 100 Free 10 & Under	1:39.13	Luzny, Philip	1
	1:40.90	LeDet, Matt	2
Girls 100 IM 11-12	1:29.37	Jones, Natalie	1
	1:35.64	Byard, Nina	2
	1:49.12	Manning, Jessica	3
Boys 100 Free 11-12	1:27.87	Smiley, Calvin John	1
	1:38.43	Gunasekara, Devin	2
Girls 200 IM 13-18	3:09.03	Banas, Jen	2
	3:13.23	Dabrio, Shannon	3
Boys 200 Free 13-18	2:38.20	Bostick, Jon	2
Girls 25 Fly 8 & Under	22.98	Atcachunas, Danielle	1
	26.52	Gunasekara, Talya	2
Boys 25 Breast 8 & Under	30.00	LeDet, Drew	1
Girls 50 Fly 9-10	56.01	Konops, Leah	1
Boys 50 Breast 9-10	1:00.23	Luzny, Philip	1
	1:03.70	Moates, Matthew	2
Girls 50 Fly 11-12	38.73	Jones, Natalie	1
	41.39	Kaczka, Katherine	2
Boys 50 Breast 11-12	54.30	Reed, Chris	1
	5.43	Egan, Chris	2
Girls 100 Fly 13-14	1:22.16	Reed, Lauren	1
	1:44.75	Londono, Nathalie	3
Boys 100 Breast 11-14	2:18.13	Revolinski, Matthew	2
Girls 100 Fly 15-18	1:33.38	Blessing, Sarah	3
Girls 25 Free 8 & Under	23.10	Gunasekara, Talya	2
	23.67	Atcachunas, Danielle	3
Boys 25 Back 8 & Under	28.36	LeDet, Drew	2
	30.79	Boyle, Michael	3
Girls 50 Free 9-10	49.38	Boyle, Megan	1
Boys 50 Back 9-10	57.79	LeDet, Matt	1
	1:02.98	Moates, Matthew	2
	1:06.11	Egan, Ryan	3
Girls 50 Free 11-12	34.91	Kaczka, Katherine	1
	41.17	Byard, Nina	2
	41.97	Primavera, Lisa	3
Boys 50 Back 11-12	43.31	Smiley, Calvin John	1
	51.07	Gunasekara, Devin	2
Girls 100 Free 13-14	1:14.22	Reed, Lauren	1
	1:22.63	Kaczka, Lauren	2
Girls 100 Free 15-18	1:14.15	Banas, Jen	2
	1:19.99	Dabrio, Shannon	3
Boys 100 Back 15-18	1:28.60	Bostick, Jon	2

Tiger Sharks Diving Team Results

Boys 8 and Under	
1st Stephen Kelly	38.95
2nd Darren Campbell	35.95
2nd Tim Lester	35.30
3rd Philip Longo	25.90
Girls 8 and Under	
3rd Michele Kobilis	42.70
4th Katie Baldaree	39.00
5th Danielle Ranger	37.35
6th Emily Pickarski	29.10
Gracie Pickarski	26.80
Kelly McCormack	25.65
Boys 9 and 10	
1st Greg Caruso	58.65
Girls 9 and 10	
1st Ashley Chosnay	92.60
2nd Clare Kelly	67.05
3rd Julia Zappi	51.55
4th Shern Donato	47.20
Boys 11 and 12	
1st Kyle Bostick	88.95
4th Vinny Donato	69.50
Girls 11 and 12	
1st Nina Byard	84.35
3rd Marianna Sansone	66.15
4th Carla Zappi	58.85
5th Tarryn Carlton	58.20
Girls 16+	
1st Kellew Werrlein	137.35
2nd Theresa Vitelli	136.10



Seated: Nicolette Hanley, Kneeling: Taylor Curtis, Michael Maiorino, Nick Jeglinski, Nick Levendusky, Dominic Papa; Standing: Steven Wiczorek, AJ Kunie, Brian Hanley, Michael Niemczyk, Michael Dezmin, Michael Muglia, and Jose Charneco.

Eight-Year-Old Traveling All Stars Finish Season 4-6

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club 8-year-old traveling all-stars recently completed their season. This years players were Brian Hanley, Dominic Papa, Michael Muglia, Jose Charneco, AJ Kunie, Nick Levendusky, Michael Maiorino, Steven Wiczorek, Taylor Curtis, Michael Niemczyk, Nick Jeglinski and Michael Dezmin. The team was

managed by Frank Hanley assisted by coaches Pat Muglia, Dominic Papa, and Jim Charneco, with additional help from batgirl Nicolette Hanley.

The team participated in three tournaments this year traveling to North Edison and Colonia, and played host at the annual SPJBC tournament. They finished with a record of 4-6.

River Bandits 12-year-olds Compete in Cooperstown

The Readington River Bandits are a newly formed 12-year-old baseball team consisting of players from around the area. Players from South Plainfield were Michael Benak, Billy Merkler, Andrew Miller, Kurt Maglaque and Robbie Maistickle. The Bandits were coached by Don Panzarella with assistant coaches Mark Bistis, Frank Benak and Bob Merkler.

The team entered four tournaments and won three: Montgomery Township Tournament Champions, South County (Delaware Township) Tournament Champions and Flemington-Raritan Tournament Champions. They are still competing in the Readington Junior Baseball League Tournament (currently 3-0-1). The team's record is 24-0-1.

The Readington River Bandits competed in an invitational tournament at Cooperstown Dreams Park on July 17-23 in Cooperstown, NY, playing against teams from across the country. The Dreams Park hosts weekly tournaments for 12-year-olds and under nationwide. Approximately 50 teams per week compete.

The Bandits opened the week against the West Palm Beach Hurricanes, with a 5-4 loss. Michael Benak of South Plainfield went 2 for 2 and a walk. They came back with a big 18-8 win over the Wheaton Lazars of Ill., with Bryce Liskovec of Readington, singling in 2 RBI's and Robbie Maistickle of South Plainfield hitting a solo homerun and a grand slam homerun. The Bandits next game was exciting and close against the British Columbian "Victoria Dream Team" from Canada. The Bandits were losing 9-2 in the third inning and came back to tie the game and go into extra innings. In the bottom of the 8th with 2 outs, the Canadians hit a homerun to win the game 12-11. The Bandits went on to win the next 2 games. Kurt Maglaque of South Plainfield and A.J. Rad of Readington both went 2 for 2, with a double and a single against the California Stars. The Bandits won 21-4. They won their next game against the Boynton Baracudas of Fla. 9-1.

With a 3-2 record going in to the



Reading River Bandits: Nick Panzarella, Mark Bistis, Kevin Bostory, A.J. Rad, Bryce Liskovec from Readington; Michael Benak, Billy Merkler, Andrew Miller, Kurt Maglaque and Robbie Maistickle from South Plainfield; Robert Rose and Matt Voliva from Piscataway and Batboys Brian Bistis and Mark Benak. Head coach Dan Panzarella, assistant coaches Mark Bistis, Frank Benak, Bob Merkler.

sixth game, Matt Voliva of Piscataway, pitched a perfect game for the Bandits against the Annapolis Hurricanes of Md., with a big 20-0 win! Mark Bistis of Readington Township had a game-saving catch in right field, sliding on his knees, making a shoestring catch to save the perfect game for Matt. The team went on to win the next game against Lower Merion, Pa., 4-3. Kevin Bostory of Readington had a solo homerun, along with a double and 2 RBI's. Andrew Miller of South Plainfield showed sparkling defense with a 4-4-3 double play to end the game. The Bandits moved into the first playoff round ranked 14 out of 47 teams with a 5-2 record. They were also ranked a 4th out of 47 for most runs scored, with 88.

The first round of the play-offs they faced the Elmhurst Cougars of Ill., and the Bandits came out on top. Nick Panzarella of Readington set the tone for the game by throwing out the third batter at first base with a throw from centerfield. Billy Merkler of South Plainfield had the game winning hit and RBI in the top of the sixth inning to help the Bandits post a 2-1 win and advance into the second round of the playoffs.

The Crescent City Cannons of New Orleans, were the next team they faced. It was a tough game against a 6'2"-235 lb. 12-year-old pitcher named Robert Bruno. The Bandits were winning through 3 innings by a score of 2-1 and then the Cannons broke the game open

Continued on page 8

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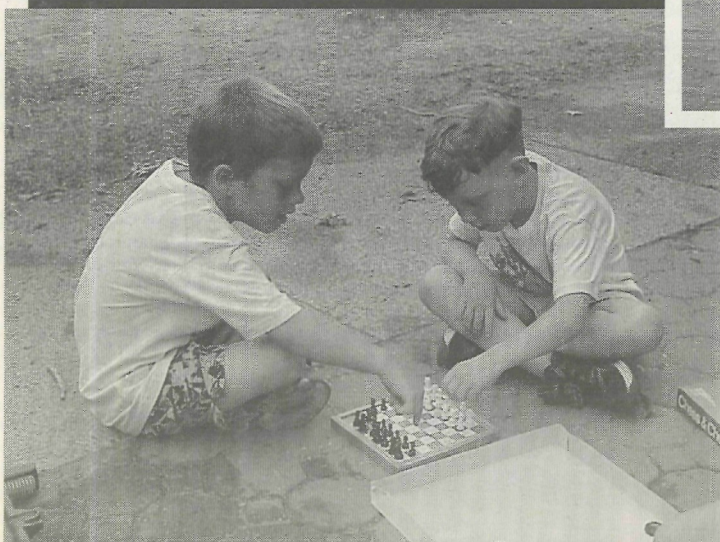


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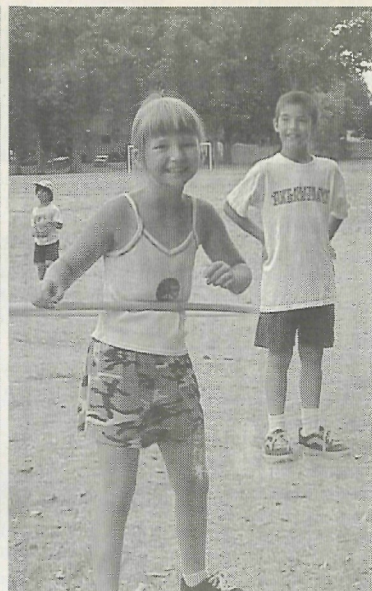
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The Summer Recreation program is a free "summer camp" available to children in grades one through seven who are residents of South Plainfield. Recreation Director Mike English estimates that the program has been running for over forty years. He also noted that the program has been totally revamped this summer. For the first time in three years all four of the grade schools are being used and there is the addition of a new recreation program for members of the Community Pool. Arts and crafts are available every day at no charge. In previous years there was a fee for the once-a-week craft. Other changes include a Mini Field day. Each Wednesday the children have the opportunity to travel to a designated school and compete against the other grade schools in obstacle courses and games.

On Fridays, the students visit the Community Pool from 12:30-3:30 p.m., yet another chance to meet kids from all over town. A unique new feature is the reading program. Each student is required to bring a book to camp spend 45 minutes before lunch reading.

There are six counselors at each school, who range in age from high school to college and older. A new ruling requires that the counselors live in South Plainfield. Recreation runs from June 30-August 13, 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Children must leave for the lunch hour.



SPHS Tiger Times

The following articles were excerpted from *Tiger Times*,
South Plainfield High School newspaper



Bernie Bruswetter, A South Plainfield Celebrity

By Mark Skrzypczak

South Plainfield is a quiet little town in the state of New Jersey. A place where families can raise their children safely, a small town where nothing earth-shattering really happens. Many residents do not know that there is a celebrity walking among them.

Bernie Bruswetter, a.k.a. B. B., frontman of the blues rock group called B. B. and the Stingers, is South Plainfield's celebrity. Bruswetter is a tall man with grey hair and blue eyes in his early forties. One of his most recognizable features, next to his size, is the black cap he wears backwards on his head.

From years of practice and the study of music, Bruswetter has earned the title as the best blues rock guitarist in the state of New Jersey.

Bernie has been playing guitar since the age of ten, when he began taking lessons from a jazz guitar teacher.

Bernie attended South Plainfield High School and graduated in the class of 1973. "I was in the jazz band and in the performance band in high school," said Bruswetter.

While in high school Bruswetter was in a funk band called 'Underground Funk'. The band played in a club in Plainfield called Mr. C's.

"When I was playing at Mr. C's, I met the likes of George Clinton and the rest of the Funkadelic. I remember the guitar player from the Funkadelic fooling around with the guitar. I don't remember how he did it. It looked like he wasn't even playing," said Bruswetter.

Bruswetter has come a long way since his days in Underground Funk. His current band, B.B. and the Stingers, is a three-piece blues rock band.

The Stingers play at clubs and bars in the New Jersey area and New York City.

Along the way Bruswetter has met many other famous musicians and groups. "I once opened for Kenny Wayne Sheppard. He was a really nice kid," said Bruswetter.

"Back in the '70s I remember playing in New Brunswick and then crossing the street to see Springsteen and George Thorogood for 50 cents. It was just before they got big," said Bruswetter.

Being in a band nowadays does not mean riches. In his spare time, Bruswetter teaches guitar lessons in the basement of his South Plainfield home. His fans and people who think they have not learned enough come to him for lessons. Students have said Bernie has showed them things that they did not think were possible.

Bruswetter still has the dream that he had back in high school: to be a famous guitarist. "I know I have the talent. I just need the right people to notice what I've got," he said.

Going to Gettysburg—Jerseyan Club Trip

By Dina Diaz

Last April, after almost a year of planning, members of the SPHS Jerseyan Club set out on a two-night, three-day trip to Gettysburg.

The Jerseyans stopped in Philadelphia to visit the Philadelphia Mint, the Liberty Bell, Ben Franklin's grave and other historical sites. After spending a few hours there, they headed for Gettysburg, where they spent two days and nights.

The Jerseyans toured Gettysburg and its battlefield, where they experienced step-by-step a re-enactment of the actual battle, including pretending to load guns and charging up the field. This re-enactment allowed students to learn about the battle first hand.

The trip home included a stop in the Amish Country. Jerseyan advisor and history teacher Ms. Flannery said, "I think the trip to Philadelphia, Gettysburg and the Amish Country was one of the best trips

the Jerseyan Club has ever taken. It was a great learning experience and great fun. Students had the opportunity to learn history without sitting in a classroom."

Students who attended the trip were: Melinda Agostino, Melissa Anderson, Jennifer Basile, Amanda Bertrand, James Borgese, Joshua Dec, Michael DeMatos, Kelly Doerr, Michael Edgecomb, Torry Hunt, Paul Israel, Eric Jackson, Leann Jankoski, Matthew Kravetsky, Michael Lammi, Edward Lowe, Stephanie MacDougall, Evan Magura, Eric Mercurio, Lindsey Noonan, Alan Peck, Rebecca Perez, Prachi Rastogi, Shannon Regan, Anthony Rowlands, Carol Scrago, Joseph Scott, Julyn Stay, Robin Stayvas, Amanda Stirling, Jillian Stokes, Ryan Szybel, Eric Toth, Michael Tudor, Judy Wang and Riza Ysla. Chaperones for the trip were Mr. Barca, Ms. Flannery, Mr. Helmstetter and Mrs. Timko.

Kathleen Zoda Donates Kidney to Her Brother

By Adrienne Parks

Former SPHS English teacher and current math teacher Kathleen Zoda has been teaching for 19 years. She graduated from Hofstra University earning her Bachelor's degree in 1979 and her Masters degree in 1985.

She is married and the mother of two children, a six-and-a-half year old son, T.J. and a two-and-a-half year old daughter, Taylor-Rae.

Last year Zoda got a call from her brother Kevin asking her for a kidney. Years ago, Kevin became a quadriplegic after a pole-vaulting accident. This also compromised his whole system, leading

to initial kidney failure. Back in 1990, his mother, Carol, gave him her kidney as well.

Because of immuno-suppressant drugs, Kevin developed Guillian Barre syndrome, which damaged the kidney given to him by his mother. In the fall of 1997, he contracted a rare deadly virus that destroyed the kidney and to this day doctors can not identify the virus.

All five of Zoda's siblings were willing to donate the lifesaving kidney. Even though they all matched positively, Kevin asked his sister. "I don't know why he asked me, but I felt honored," said Zoda.

The surgery took place at Westchester Medical Center in New York, where head surgeon Dr. Butt performed the surgery. Zoda was allowed to have therapy that required a head set with a hypnotizing tape inside. Throughout the 4 1/2-5 1/2 hours of surgery, the tape kept playing encouraging words as she listened.

Zoda quickly recovered and was released within three days. "My brother is doing wonderfully well," said Zoda. According to insurance statistics, chances for her living a long, happy life are better than normal and she is very healthy. "I don't consider myself a hero, because I would do anything for my family," said Zoda.

Student Writers Are Published

By Justin Woo

Several students from SPHS were recently published in the *High School Writer*, a nationwide literary journal. The journal consists of fiction, non-fiction, essays and poetry. Over three thousand pieces were selected and published by the *High School Writer* editorial staff throughout the course of the year.

Recent graduates Lenora Lynne Zerbian, Melanie Carmon, Brianne Morrison, Erin Walter, Dina Pasco and Rachel Denno were all published in the *High School Writer*. Coincidentally, they were all enrolled in the senior honors English class.

The topics of the published stories were widely varied. Some stories are about life as a teenager, some were the five minutes of a teenage rite of passage. Other stories were about humorous events in life.

Good writing skills are an essential ingredient in the recipe for success and the teachers at SPHS strive to ensure their students are equipped with these important skills, according to representatives at the *High School Writer*. By writing their stories, these students are better prepared for life after high school.

Year To Remember... Seniors Reminisce

By Diana Algoe

The school year is over. The seniors have graduated and are moving on with their lives. The seniors recently reminisced about favorite parts of their last year at South Plainfield High School.

Whether it was just spending time with friends all year, meeting new people, being with your high school sweetheart, or even being dedicated to a certain sport, every senior has a favorite moment to reflect upon. From basketball, soccer, track, tennis, bowling, golf, to cheerleading, students have really put their hearts out for SPHS. For some seniors, just being part of the '99 graduating class is memory enough.

There were several new faces at SPHS. Whether they came in during their senior year or maybe even their junior year, they will have great memories of SPHS. Not only have many students built a closer relationship with one another, but many will miss their teachers as well. Here are a few of the comments from graduat-

ing seniors.

• "The favorite part of my senior year had to be getting to chill with my friends every day. Knowing that we get the respect that we receive from underclassman as well as the administration was also pretty flattering."—*Amy Akef*.

• "My favorite memory of being a senior would have to be being on the track team and making it to the state finals. That made me feel really proud that four years of hard practice really paid off in the long run."—*Gloria Osley*.

• "Making it to the football playoffs was the best! It felt really good!"—*Danny Devens*.

• "Being a part of the cheerleading squad and getting to really know the girls as well as being with all my friends had to be the best part of my senior year."—*Kelly Conrad*.

• "My senior year was a lot of fun and I will never forget it, or the crazy class of '99."—*Cathy Jimenez*.

• "My senior year has been off the hook. I have had a lot of good

and bad, fun and sad moments, but all these memories will always remain in my heart. Good luck to the class of '99. I will miss all of you!"—*Rocio Escalante*.

• "I would have to say that the best part of my senior year was getting to know my friends a lot better. I have been in this school for two years and really didn't give anybody the opportunity to get to know me, but this year I did and I am glad I did. It taught me a lot and I hope it is a word of advice to any new students entering SPHS."—*Jareel Armstrong*.

• "The best part of my senior year would have had to be the time Mr. Novak took me to the batting cages to get my swing back. I will really miss him."—*Senior Pat Sarullo*.

Whether your favorite memory is sitting behind your favorite crush all year, getting into the college of your dreams, or breaking a school sports record, it will always be a memory to have forever.

Good luck, Senior Class of 1999.

Summer Sports

By Pam Russo

After summer vacation, when school starts again, the new year opens with new teachers, new subjects and new sports teams.

The teams always seem to know what they are doing, even though it is only the first week of school. How do they learn so quickly? They sacrifice their own summer vacation time just to train for the next season.

Some of the sports that practice during the summer are cheerleading, football and wrestling.

The cheerleaders have tryouts for September in early May. After the squads are formed, they practice every Wednesday, throughout summer. On the last week of August, they practice every day of the week and they participate in the Labor Day parade. The competi-

tion squad also goes through camp during the summer.

Cheerleading coach Leanne Roudi said, "We have the girls and guys practice during the summer so that they know what's going on for the new season. We don't want to cram them with new stuff the first week of school, so they learn it over the summer, which gives them time to perfect what they know. Also, they have to prepare for the Labor Day Parade."

Another sport, football, has captain's practices and camp during the summer. Also, many members of the team go to the weight room daily all through the summer.

"I think that it's definitely worth it to practice over the summer. We learn to work better together and

cooperate as a team. Plus, going to the weight room makes us better conditioned and stronger than our opponents," said varsity football player Dave Friedland, also known as "The Big Easy From the Former Band The Friedland Five."

Football coach Brian Bilal said, "We have the team practice the last weeks of summer so that they work well as a team and are both physically and mentally prepared for the new football season."

Wrestlers can also be seen from time to time upstairs in the gym practicing for next year's season.

Varsity wrestler Jason Stokes said, "Practicing over the summer is worth it, because you gain more experience and you get to work on your technique so you are better and ready for the regular season."

SPORTS

Junior Baseball Small Fry A



SEATTLE MARINERS—Coaches: Tony Bakazan and Dan Kenny
Players: Joseph Agrillo, Chris Bakazan, Daniel Bayak, Adam Bianchi, James Charneco, Nicholas Grego, Brandon Kane, Ryan Kenny, Brian Murtagh, Connor O'Brien and Ryan Taylor.

Junior Baseball Small Fry B



DETROIT TIGERS—Coaches Mike Whalen and Gary Huffsmith
Players: Tommy Deschaine, Harrison Donahue, Justin Huffsmith, Matt Jeglinski, Justin Kelly, Robert Mathis, Brett Morris, Harmeet Puar, Daniel Sambat, Steven Tangorra, John Weiser and Thomas Whalen.



SEATTLE MARINERS—Coaches Tom McCreesh and Bill Ashnault
Players: Billy Ashnault, Chris Bizup, Timothy Brainard, Joseph Bundy, Zachary Gray, Brian Kelly, Devin Kile, Jonathan Kuhlken, Daniel McCreesh, Bryan Milicia, Jonathan O'Connor and Thomas Pryor.

Junior Baseball Pony A League

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

Managers: John Rayho and John Stallone

Players: Gary Carney, Mario DeSantis, David Jacobs, Timothy Keller, Gary LaFontaine, Jeffrey McKnight, Matthew McKnight, Steven Porcelli, John Rayho, Daniel Stallone, Justin Toth and John Wiecekowski.



ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Managers: Dave Hartpence and Ken Haus

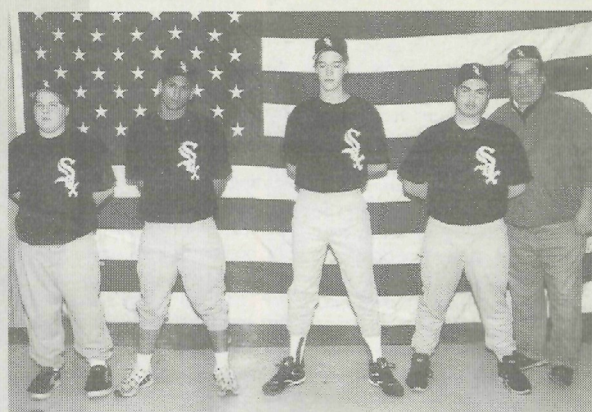
Players: Jason Basile, Michael Buck, Philip DeGennaro, Philip DeRosa, Martin Diamant, Michael Espin, Matthew Hartpence, Tommy Haus, David Kupcho, Kyle Prendergast, Karl Schuetz and James Stoeckel.



CHICAGO WHITE SOX

Managers: Gene Massaro and Mike Kurilew

Players: Nick Bloodgood, Jesse Brown, Jonathan Fredericks, Paul Gross, Matthew Kurilew, Jesse Larsen, Michael Lehman, Joseph Maglaque, Socrates Morilla, Harry Mowrey, Joe Nappe and Brian Patrushevich.



River Bandits Compete in Cooperstown Cont. from page 5

with a two run homer, then a three run homer, followed by a solo home-run from Bruno. The final score was 8-2. Piscataway's Nick Panzarella and Robert Rose had the only two hits for the Bandits. The Cannons won two more games and ended up in the championship game against the Miami Marlins on Thursday, the final evening of tournament play.

The Readington River Bandits finished their week at the Dreams

Park Tournament with a 6-3 record, ranking 10th out of 47 teams. They also finished with a ranking of third out of 47, for highest number of runs scored, totalling 92 runs in 9 games. The Bandits had outstanding pitching from Matt Voliva, Robert Rose, Billy Merkler, Michael Benak and Nick Panzarella. It was an amazing week for the Bandits, whose team picture, along with the baseball from Matt Voliva's perfect game, will be

forever enshrined into the American Youth Baseball Hall of Fame, which will be built on site by the year 2001. The team gets to keep their uniforms and caps, along with a Hall of Fame Ring (by Josten's) that each player receives. The week was a wonderful experience that each of the boys and coaches will cherish for the rest of their lives.

—Submitted by Valerie Panzarella

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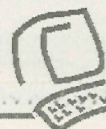
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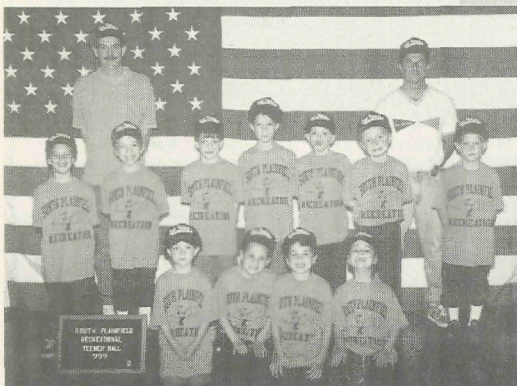
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Players: Kyle Freuler, Matthew Miceli, Kyle Sangiuliano, Nicholas Smith, Frank Licato, Frank DeBiase, Lenny Casiero, Mark Brindley, Douglas Porzio, Jonathan Schurr and Christopher Zwatschka.



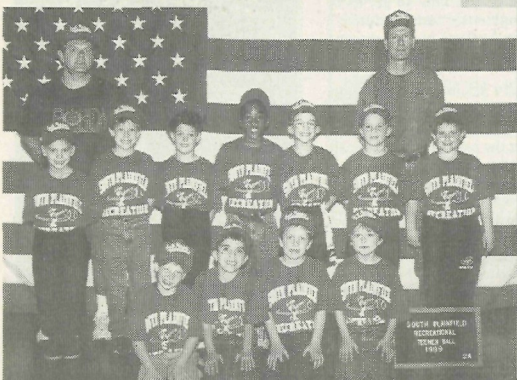
TWINS

Manager: Jay Griffith
Michael Griffith, Timothy Ratti, Mathew Santos, Logan Green, Kevin Coffey, Kyle Kaczka, Christopher Oprysk, Raj Patel, Jason Gray, Nicholas Whitney and Ethan Ockay.



MARINERS

Manager: Lee Flanagan
Ryan Flanagan, Jimmy Bijlani, Kyle Hughes, Manraj Singh, Ray Coletta, Alberto Miranda, Lee Stranzenbach, Matthew Franzson, Richard Szeliga, Tyler Whalen and Darrec Fonti.



EXPOS

Manager: Peter Goitiandia
Lucas Goitiandia, Eddie Sullivan, Brian Ream, Tommy Loalbo, Dontae Johnson, Zachary Haupt, Michael Simone, Christopher Hoagland, Ricky Harzula, Stephen Coppi and Ian Collins.



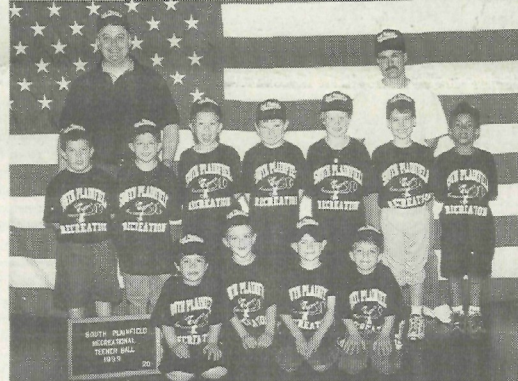
ASTROS

Manager: Mike Downes
Brandon Downes, Timmy Moskal, Shawn Mack, Dylan Medici, Anthony Cianfrocca, Kevin Smith, Patrick Foy, Mikey Pryor, Joseph Vetusch, Lee Aboosamara and Mark Sprenger.



PIRATES

Manager: Andrew McGee
Andrew McGee, Zachary Sikanowicz, John Donnelly, John Wyllam, Michael Wagner, Connor Dubasak, Gerry Pinto, Jeremy Brown, Stephen Balzer, Scot Bishop and Daniel Whalen.



DODGERS

Manager: Anthony Romano
Michael Romano, David Stogoski, Jonathan Sukenik, Carlos Ruiz, Michael McHugh, Freddy Almanzar, Ryan Sacco, Danny Smith, Paul Namotka, Stephen Wagner and Bobby Sacks.



PHILLIES

Manager: Dave Zushma
Paul Zushma, Michael Jefferys, Shane Melanson, Zachary Melanson, Alex Horn, Patrick Landy, Ryan Harrington, Tyler Driscoll, Steven Grzenda, Stephen Garry and Andrew Staynings.

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Obituaries

Eric Holt Baldwin, Jr.

Six day old infant Eric Holt Baldwin, Jr., born on July 9 at Pocono Medical Center in Stroudsburg, Pa., died on Friday, July 16 at St. Luke's Hospital in Bethlehem, Pa.

Born to Eric and Nicole (Mendel) Baldwin, Eric Jr. is also survived by his maternal grandparents Donald Mendel of Gilbert, Pa. and Marie (Bayles) Mendel of Sailorsburg, Pa.; his paternal grandfather and former mayor of South Plainfield, Robert M. Baldwin, now of Sailorsburg, Pa. and his sisters, Alice Mary Mendel and Samantha Rose Mendel, both of Kunkletown, Pa.

Graveside services were held in the Hillside Cemetery of Sarnptown, South Plainfield. Local arrangements are under the direction of the McCrisky Home For Funerals.

Thien Nguyen, 69

Thien Nguyen of South Plainfield died on Wednesday, July 21 at his home.

He was born in Nghe An, Vietnam and came to live in South Plainfield in 1992.

Mr. Nguyen was a communicant of Sacred Heart R.C. Church in South Plainfield.

He was predeceased by his wife, Hue T. Hoang, who died in 1994.

He is survived by a son, Duc Nguyen of South Plainfield; four daughters, Nguyet Lavelle of Edison, Thu Nguyen and Thuy Nguyen, both of South Plainfield and Trang Nguyen of Vietnam. He is also survived by three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Paul R. Moon, 64

Paul R. Moon died Tuesday, July 20 at Father Hudson House in Elizabeth.

Born in Plainfield, he had lived in South Plainfield since 1964.

A longtime carpenter, Mr. Moon had worked for Engo Co. in South Plainfield for the past 20 years. He was a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters Local #155 in Plainfield and Local #821 in Kenilworth, United Covenant Methodist Church in North Plainfield and was a past elder in the Church. He also served as a Specialist Third Class in the US Army from 1954 to 1957.

He is survived by his wife, Joan Cartwright Moon; his mother, Theresa Moon; a son, Jay Moon; two daughters, Jill Page and Jennifer Moon Karl; a brother, Kenneth Moon; a sister, Dolores Hill

and two grandchildren.

His son, Richard, died in 1959. Funeral services were held at Memorial Funeral Home in Fanwood.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Fr. Hudson House, 111 DeHart Pl., Elizabeth, NJ 07202.

Margaret J. Campbell, 83

Margaret J. Campbell died on Wednesday, July 21 in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Newark, she had resided in Irvington before moving to South Plainfield in 1972.

She had been employed as an assembler for Dilly Manufacturing of South Plainfield for 13 years before retiring in 1984.

She was a member of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and the South Plainfield Senior Citizens.

Her husband Vincent and son, William, have both predeceased her.

Surviving are a daughter, Patricia A. Marsh of South Plainfield; and a brother, Edward Koehler of Edison. Also surviving are two grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Services were held at McCrisky Home For Funerals.

Elma Randolph Diana, 96

Elma Randolph Diana of Manasquan, formerly of South Plainfield, died on Friday, July 23 at the Claremont Center in Point Pleasant.

She was born in South Plainfield where she lived all her life before moving to Manasquan three years ago. Her family was one of the original founding families of South Plainfield. The Randolph Family settled in a section of Piscataway in 1690 which later became South Plainfield.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church in South Plainfield and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the General Society of the Mayflower Descendants, both formerly of Plainfield and the South Plainfield Senior Citizens.

She was predeceased by her husband, Frank A. Diana, who died in 1969 and her son, L. Donald Diana, who died in 1995.

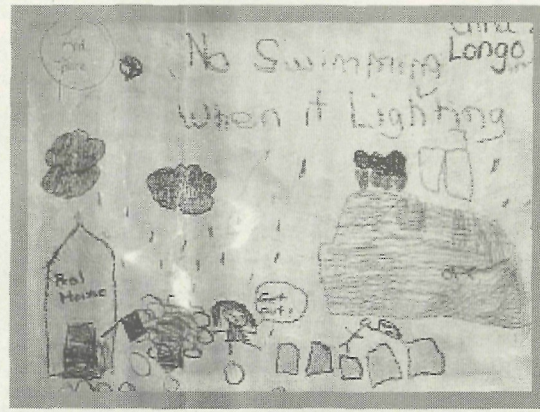
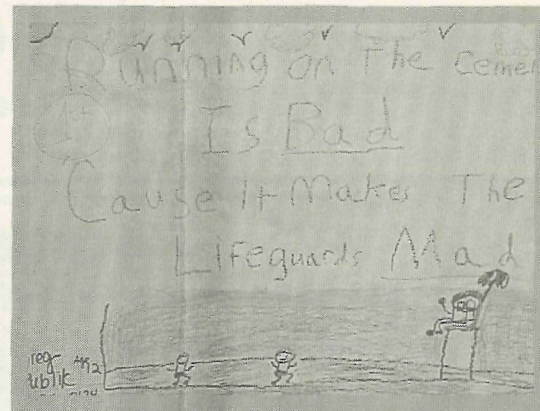
She is survived by two sons, Frank B. Diana and G. Russell Diana, both of Manasquan; eight grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Poster Contest Held at Pool

On Friday, July 16, the Community Pool and the Recreation Department held a "Pool Safety" poster contest for participants ranging in age from as young as four to age twelve.

Winners of the contest are First Place, Greg Public, age 12, "Running on the cement is bad because it makes the lifeguards mad"; Second Place, Sherrie Donato, age 9, "Always Respect Life Guards"; and Gina Longo, age 4½, "No Swimming during Lightning" third place.



By Cyrus n Moon

Weekly Horoscope 7/30-8/05

LEO 7/23-8/22 A sun/Pluto trine on Saturday puts you in a good position to take up any investigation or study. In contacts with people you can, if you chose, express yourself forcefully and with considerable impact. This is a good time to make an impression on someone. But don't use this energy for ruthless or selfish purposes.

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 A Mercury/Jupiter trine on during the week puts you in a good position for making future plans. Especially in the business and commercial fields. This is a good time to sign a contract or conclude a deal. But remember these things do not happen by luck, but by an effort on your part.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 A Venus/Jupiter trine around Wednesday this is a good time to have friends over. Or go out to a tavern to talk to friends and make new friends. You could meet someone now that can be of great service to you later on. This is also a good time to start a vacation. Have fun!

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 On a moon/Pluto trine around Monday you might here that someone in your life has been unfaithful. But were you really surprised? Before accepting an intriguing invitation for the weekend ask who else will be there. You are in demand this week. Blue is your color.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 A moon/Ju-

piter sextile has you almost having your own way with people. This is a good transit to persuade others, as in sales or public relations. Happy dreams you been having, has a good chance of becoming reality. Also someone new will enter your life.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 With a moon/Saturn combination, now is a good time to take care of any business matters concerning your home and personal life, such as buying or selling real estate, making home repairs, reorganizing your finances and making provisions for the future. Listen to older people.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 A moon/Uranus combination this week means you will demand more emotional satisfaction in your relationships. If you're partner can not supply this, then it's time for you to move on. Do something in your home at this time...Put in a wood burning stove for the winter.

PISCES 2/19-3/20 A moon sextile Neptune will have you daydreaming. You may wish to be by yourself but remember there is nothing wrong with this. To get away with your thoughts and sort your priorities, you can make some of your dreams a reality. You may get a called for a charitable event.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 A moon in opposition to mars will have you walking on pins and needles around Wednesday. Be wary of arguing just for the sake of arguing. Small things like quirks in other people's personality or little things they do can irritate you. Take a deep breath and wait another day to discuss a problem.

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 A moon/Jupiter combination has you feeling good. Try to be in familiar surroundings or at home. Family will be up most in your mind. And why not, they will have a way to recharge your energy. Someone may be seeking you out in the business world. Take a second to hear what they have to say.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 A casual midweek introduction looks as though it may develop into a romance. Do not rush it, go with the flow. If a friend, and it could be a new friend, comes to you with a proposition be sure to think it out. Do not rush into

an immediate answer. Take a small trip this weekend.

CANCER 6/21-7/22 A moon/Mercury sextile with have you being the social butterfly this week. In all likelihood you will be spending a lot of time talking to friends, acquaintances and neighbors. This talk can affect you all in the same way. Now is the time to be writing letters and sending e-mail and you will receive the same.

QUOTE: Life is like a watercolor painting of existence, as the colors intermingle, so do our lives.

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POLICE REPORT

• A Daniel St. resident reported the theft of a duffle bag of hunting equipment from the rear of her vehicle. The back door was open at the time of the theft. There are no known witnesses.

• A Plainfield resident reported the theft of his car stereo from a parking lot across from Ferrero Foods on Hadley Road. When he returned to the car from work, he found driver's side window smashed.

• A Murray Ave. resident reported the theft of a purple mountain bike from the front lawn. The bike was unattended and not locked at the time of the theft.

• An Elliot Place resident reported station markers in the Highland Ave. Preserve had been damaged.

• An Arlington Ave. resident reported the theft of a moped from an open canopy enclosure. There are no suspects.

• A Spicer Ave. resident reported a number of items stolen from the garage which is adjoined to the house. The homeowner stated that she exited via the garage leaving the door open. When she realized the

door had been left open and she closed it, the door locks automatically upon closing. It was not till later that items were noticed missing.

• Six adults with children left Red Lobster last Saturday without paying their bill of \$58.93. The group was with a party of 18 that had been broken into three tables. The make of the car and plate number were noted.

• A Plainfield resident reported to police that someone was using his social security number. When the victim and his wife tried to open a checking account at Summit Bank they were informed that a resident of Scotch Plains was using that social security number. The victim stated that a contractor by that name was supposed to do some work for him. The victim contacted Scotch Plains police and was informed that the person was known to them.

• A Dunellen resident was stabbed and beaten in a robbery attempt while at the pay phone at Exxon located at Clinton and 7th. While on the phone he was approached by three suspects, two black males and one female. They de-

manded money and when he said he had none, one of the males pulled out what appeared to be a pocket knife and stabbed the victim in the shoulder. The second male then hit him with a baseball bat. The victim began to fight back and was bitten on the arm by the female. He was able to get to this truck and drive away. He drove to Mulenburg Hospital and called police.

• An Edison resident reported the passenger window of his car smashed. The vehicle was parked in the State Farm parking lot while the victim attended a movie with his girlfriend at Regal Cinema. The suspects attempted to remove the stereo but were unable to do so. The glove box had been pulled out but nothing taken. The girlfriend's purse was left untouched.

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Jo-Ann's Dance Studio-The Performing Arts Centre and Feigley's School of Gymnastics presented their first Variety du Soleil show of the season. Variety du Soleil is an exciting, unique summer camp experience in its second year. The camp combines dance and theater with gymnastics. The students learn character and theater dance, singing and acting along with basic gymnastics. This year's performance, held at Feigley's, was based on the hit musical *Annie*. Approximately 35 students were enrolled and were greeted with a full audience. The second session of Variety du Soleil began on Monday and will conclude with a performance on August 13.

Cast of Orphans: Anneliese Arold, Kelly Backus, D'Kota Barrias, Hailey Bein, Suzanne Bleich, Samantha Bonaduce, Shelby Cadmus, Kimberly Carlomango, Rachel Cohen, Nicole Dennis, Courtney Flint, Jasmine, Gilmore, Camille Hutt, Michelle Hutt, Kelsey Kirchner, Nicole Listorti, Nicole McDonough, Lauren McMahon, Saybin Medler, Rebecca Meng, Caitlin Miller, Jenny Mintz, Phylisha Monroe, Felicia Mulhearn, Lindsey Nakonecky, Valerie Ody, Elena Ostergren, Katie Pasternak, Julia Penamon, Paul Penamon, Jessica Perrella, Rachel Pinto, Selene Rayho, Keri Jo Steele and Gabriella Sweet.

There was also a special performance by the Bridgettes and Phantoms Gymnastics teams, Jill Dean, Megan Donnelly, Jason Douglas, Elizabeth Edwards, Chris Glowicki, Tim Goetz, Jenna Hamer, John McCary, Kaitlyn McGirl, Amanda Monaghan, Jamie Mundy, Jahni Stasil, Larissa Stuckey, Laurinda Sutphen.



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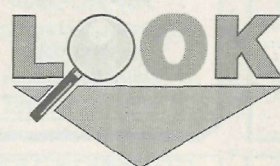
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