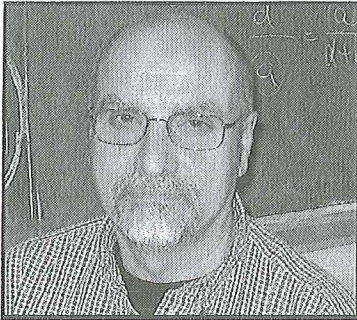


Pony Express



The Student-Newspaper of Blackstone-Millville Regional High School

APRIL 2007



MR. Z

March Teacher of the Month to retire after 34 years.

PAGE 2

MOVIE TIME

School votes
Saw I, II and III
best films ever.

PAGE 5



MR. BMR

In photos: Boys try their hardest to earn school crown.

PAGE 8

AIDE TO DEVAL PATRICK

■ Senior Chamberlin helped with campaign.

BY ANDREW BLANCHETTE
Reporter

Matthew Chamberlin, a senior at BMR, spent last summer working in the Massachusetts State House as an aide for State Representative Jennifer

Callahan. Interested in politics, Chamberlin sent an email to the State House, sent his resume and after an interview found himself within the walls of the State House.

As an aide to Callahan, Chamberlin attended meetings in her stead and worked to help state funds. Major talks that occurred in the State House included a convention on gay marriage.

While working in the State House,

See **POLITICS** - Page 3

BMR'S BROADWAY

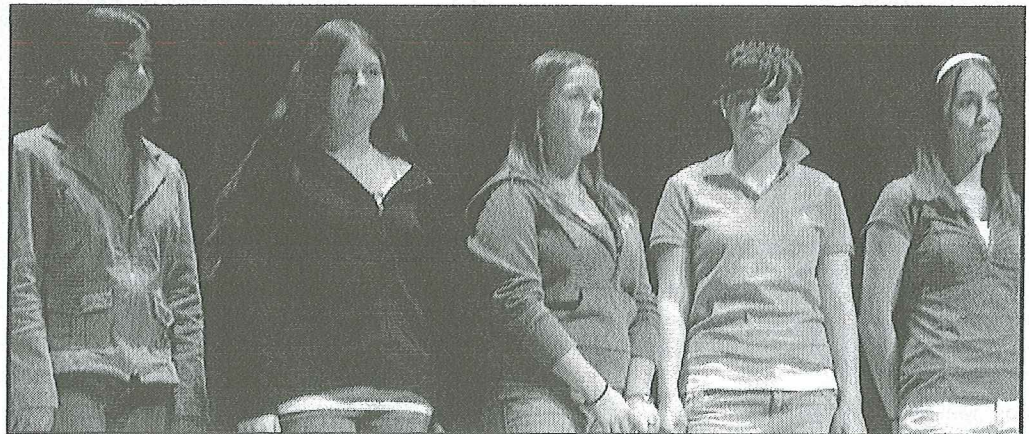


Photo by Matt Deryck

From left, Melissa Sagendorph, Allyce Hadley, April Giguere, Emilie Cardin and Danielle Buskey act in 'School Zone,' one of the two one-act plays drama club performed on March 30. For more picture from the night, turn to page 6.

Baseball team looking to rebound

BY TAYLOR LARSEN
Reporter

The beginning of the boys baseball season has started out rough. They have battled weather issues and injuries for the 2007 season, before they even playing their first game of the season. The boys team is coming off a tough end of the season, losing in the first round of the playoffs to Blackstone Valley Tech. The boys are led by a number of talented seniors, Bobby Farley, George Sergi, Taylor Larsen, Mason

Maltais, and Tom Sinsabaugh.

"I think that we can do a lot of damage this season, if we can stay healthy and be consistent" says senior Bobby "Mike, Juice" Farley. "All we have to do is stay focused and play as a team for the whole season and we can be successful."

This season the boys varsity baseball team is under a new manager, Mr. Mike Reynolds, and is ready to work harder than ever to become one of the top teams in the DVC.

See **BALL** - Page 7

Big Time for Big Z

THE STAFF



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Editor-in-Chief



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Editor



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CONTACTS

As a school newspaper, we are dedicated to providing a place to advertise school activities, give you the background on individuals in school, and allow students to express themselves. If you have a story or want a date of an event to appear in the newspaper, send it to the e-mail address below. Poetry, short stories and other writings may also be submitted and will be printed upon the editor's approval.

E-mail:

bmrponyexpress@yahoo.com

Araba Amonu interviewed Mr. George Zisiades, the Teacher of the Month for March, about his teaching career.

Q: How long have you been teaching at BMR?

A: I started teaching here at BMR in 1973. This would be my 34th year here.

Q: Which classes do you teach at BMR?

A: Currently my schedule has me teaching Integrated Math, Geometry and Intermediate Principles of Math.

Q: What made you want to become a teacher, more specifically at the high school level?

A: It was my good fortune to have had two particularly outstanding teachers when I was a student in high school. One was an English teacher and the other a math teacher. They probably had the most influence on my decision to choose teaching as a career and also to teach at the high school level. Math or English? It was a difficult decision at the time.

Q: What is your favorite aspect or thing about teaching at BMR?

A: Without question the best part of teaching is the students. It is an easy job when students are motivated and ready to learn. It is most rewarding when students are

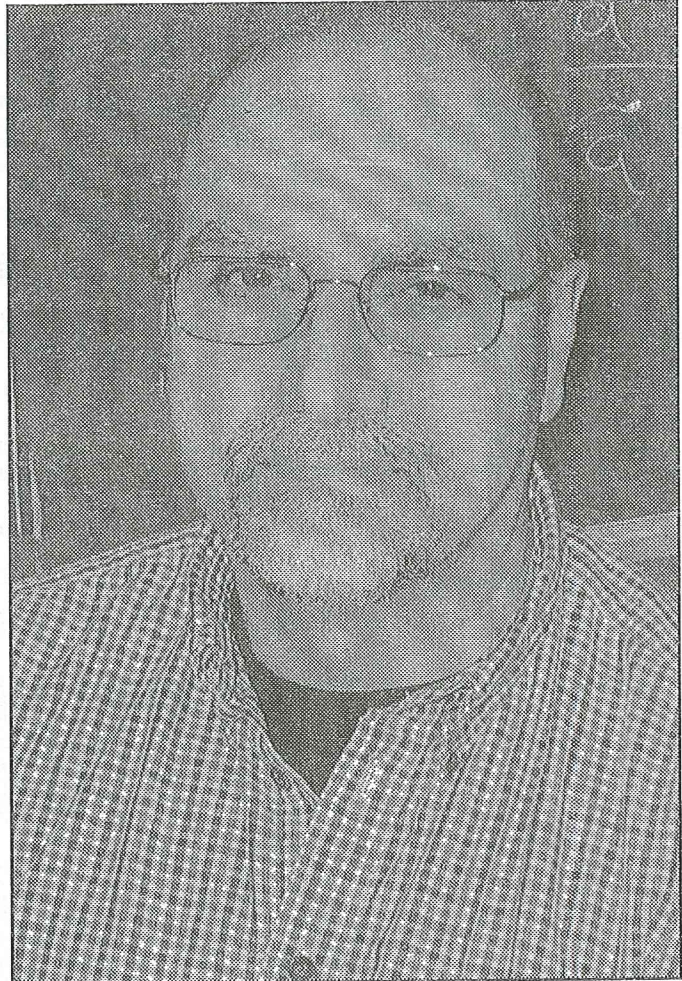


Photo By Mary Ambacher

Mr. George Zisiades, known to virtually everyone as Mr. Z, is teaching his 34th and final year at Blackstone-Millville. Mr. Z will retire after this school year.

less motivated and have not been particularly successful in school. As a teacher, if you are able to change the way they approach the subject and change the way they look at themselves, you may

change a life. I know that teachers can sometimes do this. My career here at BMR has also given me opportunity to meet some extraordinary people. I am grateful for all of it.

Student of the Month



April

MEGHAN EMIDY

Junior



Photo by Mary Ambacher

Mr. Tim Sullivan was a regional manager for an outsourcing company in New York and Chicago for 21 years before coming to BMR to be a permanent substitute teacher this year.

Sub Sullivan an English teacher in the making

BY ANDREW BLANCHETTE
Reporter

Mr. Tim Sullivan, one of three new and permanent substitutes at BMR this year, hopes to become an English Teacher in the future. Sullivan transferred from the business world into the quiet life of Blackstone.

Before finding his way to BMR, Sullivan worked 21 years as a regional manager for an outsourcing company in New York and Chicago.

After leaving the company, Sullivan began substituting in other schools in nearby districts, including Worcester, before finding his way here. He explains that the toughest part of the transition from the

business world to the educational field was that he had to deal strictly with adults compared to having to deal with younger students.

Of all the subjects he has substituted for, Sullivan finds his greatest interest is in English. He holds a degree in Liberal Arts and English Literature from Cambridge College in Massachusetts. He also attended Fordham College in New York.

Sullivan hopes that in the future he will have a career as an English teacher in BMR.

At the moment, Sullivan is proving to be a BMR sports fan.

He is a BMR baseball and basketball fan. He is trying to watch as many extra-curricular activities as possible.

■ POLITICS

(FROM PAGE 1)

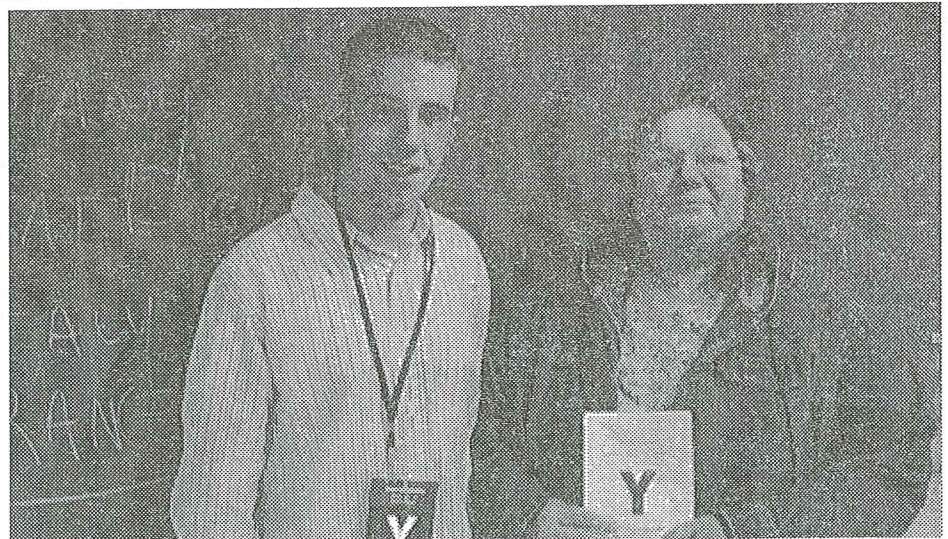
While working in the State House, Chamberlain met some influential political figures such as Senator Edward Kennedy. He also had a conversation with ex-Governor Mitt Romney in his office and eventually he found his way to Deval Patrick.

Though still working for Callahan, Chamberlain began helping Deval Patrick with his recent election to become governor.

Under Deval Patrick, Chamberlain phoned thousands of citizens in the Blackstone-Valley area and talked with voters about the campaign. He also stood with signs for Deval Patrick, and on election day, he traveled to different polling areas to ensure everything was running smoothly.

"Working with Deval Patrick has solidified my stance with going into the public system," said Chamberlain.

Chamberlain has a strong interest in joining politics in the future. He says that working with Deval Patrick was a great starting point for his career because it all



Submitted Photo

Matt Chamberlain and Mrs. Sharon Cusack both attended Governor Deval Patrick's inauguration in January. Chamberlain, who was an aide to State Representative Jennifer Callahan and worked on the Patrick campaign last year, hopes to go into politics himself someday.

comes down to "who you know."

Matthew Chamberlain plans on returning to the State House this year and already has a job waiting for him when he graduates from high school. He hopes

some day to work his way into a high political position himself in Massachusetts, but he also sees himself working for the Federal Government in Washington D.C.

Pope's calendar change made some 'fools'

BY VERONICA ARIEL
Editor

How did April 1st become April Fool's Day? April Fool's Day, sometimes called All Fool's Day, is one of the most light-hearted days of the year.

Although the holiday's origin is uncertain, one idea is that it began around 1582 when Pope Gregory XVIII ordered the Julian Calendar be replaced with the Gregorian Calendar, and New Year's Day was moved from March 25 - April 1 (new year's week) to January 1. That year, France adopted that calendar, but many people either refused to accept the new date or did not learn about it and continued to celebrate New Year's on April 1st.

These people were labeled "fools" by the general populace, were subject to ridicule and sent on "fool errands." Some were sent invitations to nonexistent parties, and had other practical jokes played upon them. The tradition eventually spread to Britain and Scotland in the 18th century, and was introduced to the American colonies by the English and the French. Because of the spread to other countries, April Fool's Day has taken on an international flavor with each country celebrating the holiday in its own way.

INTERESTING APRIL DATES

- April 1, 1960:** First weather satellite, TIROS 1, launched by the United States
- April 2, 1792:** Congress establishes the US Mint to coin American money
- April 3, 1860:** In the United States, the Pony Express mail delivery system starts its service
- April 3, 1933:** First flight over Mount

Everest

April 4, 1581: Frances Drake completes circumnavigation of the world, proving the earth is not flat

April 4, 1818: Congress decided US flag will have 13 red and white stripes and 20 stars

April 4, 1968: Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee.

April 5, 1951: Julius and Ethel Rosenberg sentenced to death for allegedly giving American atomic secrets to the USSR

April 6, 1896: First modern Olympic games begin in Athens, Greece

April 6, 1909: The North Pole reached for the first time, by Americans Robert Peary & Matthew Hensen

April 6, 1917: The United States enters World War I

April 7, 1906: Italian volcano 'Versuvius' erupts

April 8, 1946: United Nations assemble for first time

April 9, 1667: First ever public art exhibition opens in Paris

April 11, 1970: The American Apollo 13 spacecraft launched to the Moon

April 14, 1865: President Abraham Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth, at Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C., while watching a performance of Our American Cousin

April 14, 1912: The liner 'Titanic' strikes an iceberg at 11:40 pm, and begins to sink

April 16, 1981: The first American space shuttle, Columbia, returns safely to Earth

April 17, 1790: American inventor, writer, & Patriot Benjamin Franklin died

April 17, 1970: Apollo 13 astronauts splashed down safely.

April 18, 1775: Midnight ride of Paul Revere & William Dawes in Boston, Massachusetts.

April 18, 1906: An earthquake, followed by fire, destroys most of San Francisco, killing 3000 people

April 19, 1775: The American Revolutionary War began with the battles of Lexington & Concord.

April 19, 1995: A truck bomb exploded outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Bldg., in

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, killing 168 and injuring 500

April 22, 1994: Former President Richard M. Nixon died

April 23, 1984: The United States announces the discovery of the AIDS virus

April 24, 1990: Space shuttle Discovery blasted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, carrying the \$1.5 billion Hubble Telescope, 1990

April 25, 1859: Work begins on the Suez Canal, Egypt

April 26, 1937: German-made planes destroy the town of Guernica in Spain. The massacre is later painted by Picasso

April 26, 1986: The world's worst nuclear accident occurred at the Chernobyl plant in the Soviet Union

April 30, 1789: George Washington becomes the first US President

Famous Birthdays

April 2, 1805: Hans Christian Andersen, Danish author of fairy tales

April 4, 1899: Duke Ellington, American musician/band leader

April 4, 1928: Maya Angelou, American poet

April 6, 1874: Harry Houdini, Famous escape artist

April 6, 1928: James Watson, American scientist who helped discover DNA structure

April 8, 1884: Harry S. Truman, Former American President

April 13, 1743: Thomas Jefferson, Former American President

April 15, 1492: Leonardo da Vinci, Italian Renaissance painter

April 16, 1867: Wilbur Wright, American aviation pioneer

April 16, 1889: Charlie Chaplin, American silent film actor and director

April 21, 1816: Charlotte Bronte, British writer

April 21, 1926: Elizabeth II, British Queen

April 23, 1564: William Shakespeare, English playwright

April 23, 1791: President James Buchanan

April 25, 1874: Guglielmo Marconi, radio pioneer

April 25, 1918: Ella Fitzgerald, US jazz singer

April 27, 1791: Samuel Morse, inventor of the telegraph and Morse Code, was born in Charlestown, Mass.

April 27, 1822: President Ulysses S. Grant

April 28, 1758: President James Monroe

April 28, 1926: Harper Lee, American author

SOURCES:

- <http://www.tnl.net/when/4/>
- <http://www.aboutfamouspeople.com/article1216.html>
- <http://www.april-fools.us/history-april-fools.htm>
- <http://www.infoplease.com/spot/april-fools1.html>

GREAT CLASS!



Reid McMullin gives the thumbs up during an interesting moment of a class here at BMR.

Photo by Dana Biron

Book Review: "I Don't Want To Be Crazy"

BY LIZ DECASSE

Editor-in-Chief

"I am in a house.
I am in one room
and my anxiety is in another.
It's close.
I can feel it.
I can go to it.
But I won't."

I Don't Want To Be Crazy is the title of the newest literary craze: poetry memoirs. I'm not talking confusing metaphors, complicated topics, etc. In her memoir, Samantha Schutz takes you through her journey. Her college adventure is plagued by a disease new to her: Anxiety.

Starting college has thrown her into a loop; after years of being controlled by her parents, the independence is bewildering. After being an outcast in high school, Sam finds herself suddenly blending into the environment twenty times larger than her past homes.

Schutz takes you through her panic attacks: the shaking, the sweating, the dizziness, the claustrophobia of it all... She walks you through her own stroll through therapy, through all of the different treatments, and through her eventual accept-

ance. Schutz straps you into the roller coaster of her college experience: the highs, the lows, and the dull stretches of nothingness.

If you enjoy *I Don't Want To Be Crazy*, you may also enjoy *Cut, Speak*, and other books by PUSH.

Chicago band "OK Go" is AOK

BY BRIAN COTNOIR

Music Columnist

My band of the month, in my opinion, is the most underrated band of today. The bands name is "OK Go."

OK Go formed in Chicago back in 1998, and now resides in Los Angeles. OK Go consists of Damian Kulash (guitar/lead vocals), Tim Nordwind (bass/vocals), Dan Konapka (drums), and Andy Ross (keyboard/guitar). Andy Ross joined the band in 2005 after the departure of original keyboardist Andrew Duncan. OK Go has written a lot of

good songs. There two most popular being "Don't ask me" which came off their self titled album "OKGO" (2003), and the more familiar "Here It Goes Again," which is on their album "Oh No" (2005). Here It goes again which some of may know is the song played to the video of OK Go dancing on treadmills. "Here it Goes Again," won OK Go a Grammy award in 2007, for the Best Short Form Music Video, for the Video Here It Goes Again.

To find more about the Band OK GO, you can go to Okgo.net to browse info on the band and watch all their music videos. OK Go is without a doubt the most underrated band today.

School poll picks best/worst films

BY BRIAN COTNOIR

Movie Columnist

These are the results of the school poll in last month's Pony Express.

School

Worst Movie of all time- Gili
Best Movie of all time- Saw I, II, and III
Worst Horror Movie- Sleep Away Camp
Best Horror Movie- Saw I, II, and III
Best Movie Genre- Horror
Worst Movie of Last Year (2006) - Stranger than Fiction
Best Movie Actor/Actress- Jake Gyllenhall & Tom Hanks
Worst Movie Actor - Ben Affleck

& Jennifer Lopez

Brian

Worst Movie of all time- From Dusk till Dawn
Best Movie of all Time- 300
Worst Horror - From Dusk till Dawn
Best Horror Movie- Bram Stokers Dracula
Best Movie Genre- Horror & Gladiator
Best Movie Last Year (2006) - Borat
Worst Movie Last Year (2006) - Stranger than Fiction
Best Movie Actor/Actress- Jake Gyllenhall/Reese Witherspoon
Worst Movie Actor/Actress- Leonardo Dicaprio/Julia Roberts

The Kuiper belt a wonder in astronomy

BY DOTTIE HETHERINGTON

Astronomy Columnist

On the outer reaches of our solar system there are a series of rocks, planets, and moons that is called the Kuiper belt. In modern times science has taught us much about this region such as the fact that the belt is strongly influenced by Neptune and Jupiter especially during the time of its creation.

The two respective people to suggest the existence of this wonder of space were Frederick C. Leonard and Kenneth E. Edgeworth, in 1930 and 1943, respectively. The term trans-Neptunian object (TNO) is the preferred name of the region. Over 800 Kuiper belt objects

(KBOs) have been discovered in the belt, almost all of them since 1992, a result of advances in computer software. The largest are Pluto and Charon, but only since the year 2000 were other large objects that approached and even exceeded their size were identified. Quaoar, discovered in 2002 and is a KBO, is half the size of Pluto and is larger than the largest asteroid, Ceres.

The asteroids of the Kuiper belt fairly different from the asteroids of the asteroid belt. The largest recent discovery is Eris, which is actually larger than Pluto. This led scientists to question the definition of the term "planet," as it is larger than Pluto and was often called a tenth planet by some sources.

Genshiken Book Club seeks readers

BY KATELYN MCCALL

Special to the Pony Express

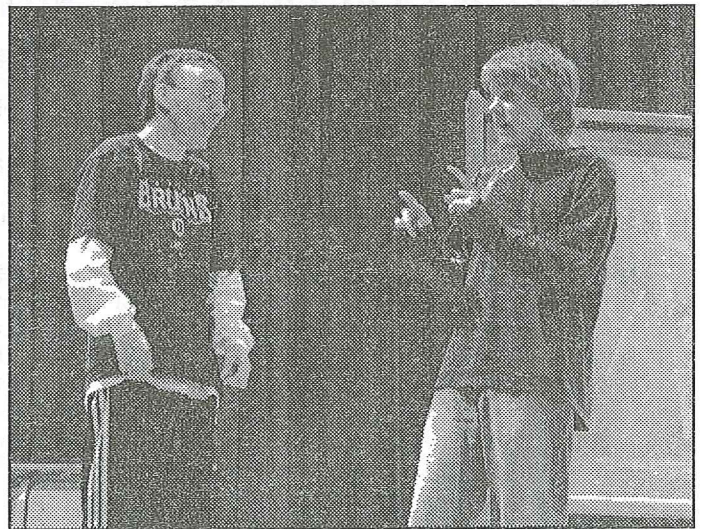
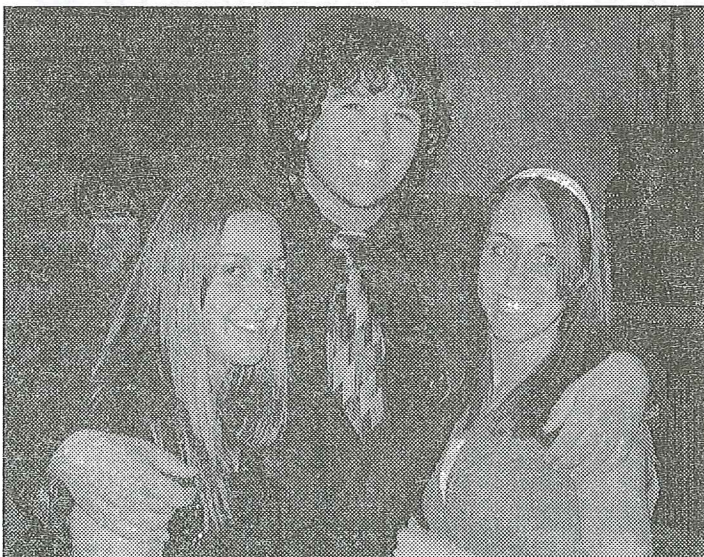
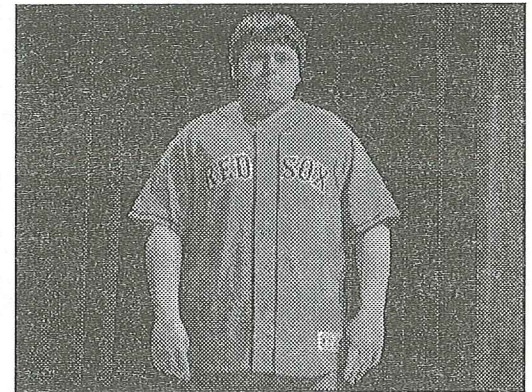
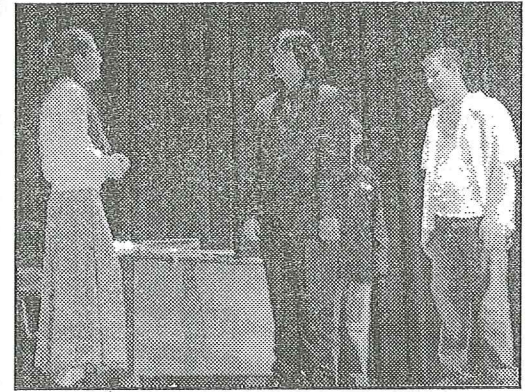
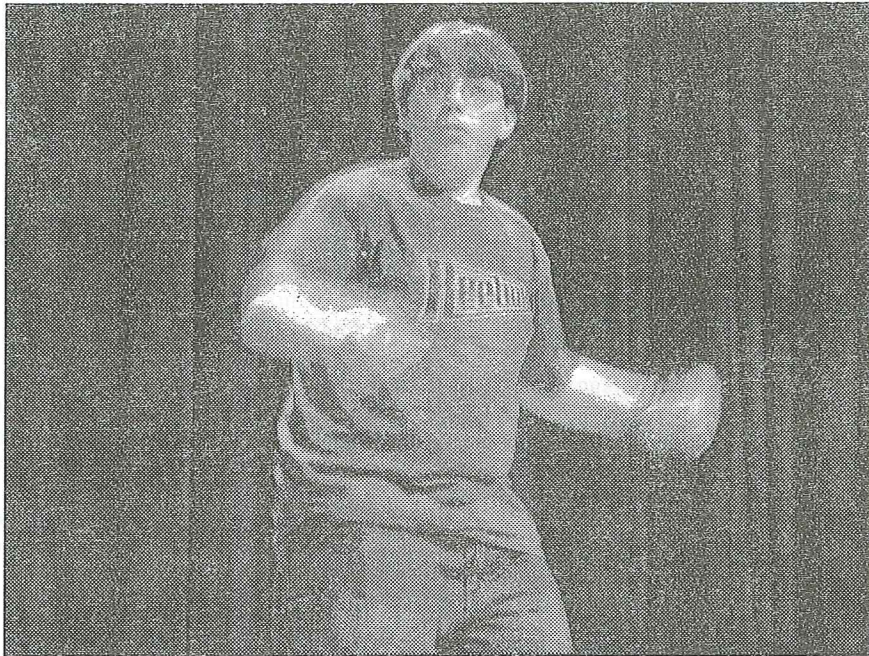
Genshiken Book Club. This is the name of the new and improved club that will be held at the Blackstone Library.

Have you ever seen people going around school or in general with books in hand but they look more like comics to you? This type of book is or reading is called MANGA.

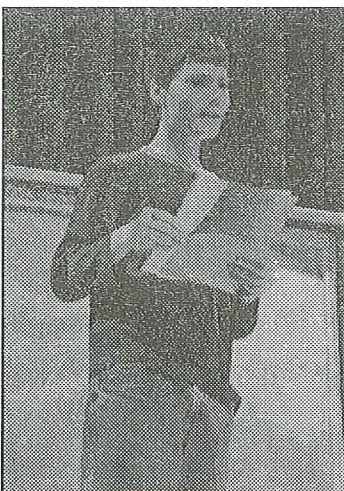
Manga is a Japanese style of comic books or animated cartoons, often very violent or erotic. But for this club it is not only going to just read, but also it will look at the animation itself, how the chapters are drawn differently from culture to culture and from person to person. We would be looking at how the gaming industry is leading the way into the new age of people's viewing different things. Also we would be learning how to speak Japanese, the different meanings there are in how we speak and on how they speak. There is a lot more to this club than just reading Manga now so come and be a part of the revolution that is soon to be called Genshiken. We might also be going to different place kind on "field trips."

If you have any questions, please e-mail me at tigger9182003@yahoo.com and look out for the time and date on of the official opening of the Genshiken club. Or you could just ask me Katelynn McCall.

SCHOOL ZONE & TEN-PENNY TRAGEDY



Photos by Matthew Deryck



These are some scenes from the school plays performed by the Drama Club last month. Top left, Drew Dobeck says his line. Top right, Epiphany Holmstolk, Gabe Zecher and Brian Cotnoir are in a scene together. Middle left, April Giguere, Zecher and Danielle Buskey share a moment after the plays. Middle right, Seth Leblanc shows off his Red Sox 'costume.' Bottom right, Justin O'Connell and Brian Archambault act. Bottom left, Matt Moran performs for the audience.



Pony Express



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Girls' softball looking for strong year

■ Squad aims to defend its Dual Valley crown.

BY HANNAH MORIGGI
Sports Editor

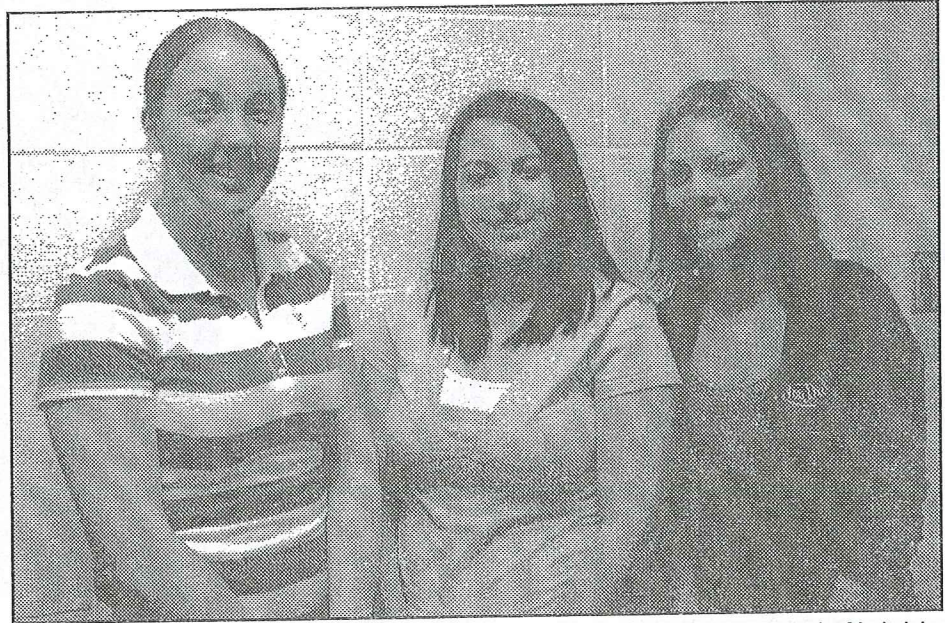
The Spring Season is now upon us and although the dreary weather does not demonstrate this, the re-emergence of the BMR Varsity Girls Softball team sure does! Coming off a league championship and district qualification in the 2006 season, the girls are back in action and ready for more.

"We are looking to win our second straight league championship after losing three starters from last year," comments senior co-captain Tricia Breault, who adds that the team is looking promising this season.

The roster was decided by returning coach Miss Katie Bowen totaling 13 girls from a mixture of classes - three seniors, four juniors, three sophomores, one freshman and two eighth graders.

"We have a great group of girls this year," proclaims senior Mary Ambacher, "And I cannot wait to see what we can do against rivals like Nipmuc and Hopedale later in the season."

The girls began their season on April 3 without having seen live pitching yet this season. They suffered a 8-0 deficit early on to Div. 1 Notre Dame Academy, but battled back to tie it up in the home opener, eventually losing 12-9.



Photos by Mark Juba

The three seniors on the girls softball team this year are, from left, Tricia Breault, Sam Pine and Mary Ambacher. The team, which won the DVC title a year ago, hopes for another good year on the diamond.

"We proved we could come back to a good team," says junior Abby Walsh. "Having heart is important to us and today we showed that we got it."

The Softball Squad commences their league play on April 11 traveling to the field of the Nipmuc Warriors to begin the quest for the DVC Crown yet again. BMR beat Nipmuc, 41.

Can the girls repeat and win the DVC

crown? Only time will tell, but if you ask the girls, they will tell you "You Bet!"

Others on the team include senior co-captain Sam Pine, Juniors Emily Morin, Shannon Dunton and Hannah Moriggi, sophomores Becca Lewis, Ashley Carroll and Jordan Godin, freshman Shannon Fitzgerald, and eighth graders Michaela Farrell and Alycia Dery.



Photo by Mark Juba

From left, seniors Bobby Farley, Bubba Larsen and George Sergi expect big things from the baseball team this year.

■ BALL

(FROM PAGE 1)

"I believe that our team will, and can be successful if we stick to what Coach Reynolds has been drilling into our talented brains, like playing tough, and smart defense and doing

what we do with the bats," says starting right fielder Lee "Felipe Rodriguez" Tympanick.

This team was built from the ground up and all 15 of the players, including the coach, believe that they can be very successful for the 2007 Varsity Baseball Season.

Reynolds to lead baseballers

BY BRIAN COTNOIR
Reporter

Mr. Mike Reynolds is all set for his first season as coach of the BMR Boys Varsity Baseball team. When asked about how he felt he was not hesitant to say that he was, "Very excited. I coached girls' indoor track last year and I enjoyed it, but baseball is my first love."

Mr. Reynolds played shortstop at Georgia Tech.

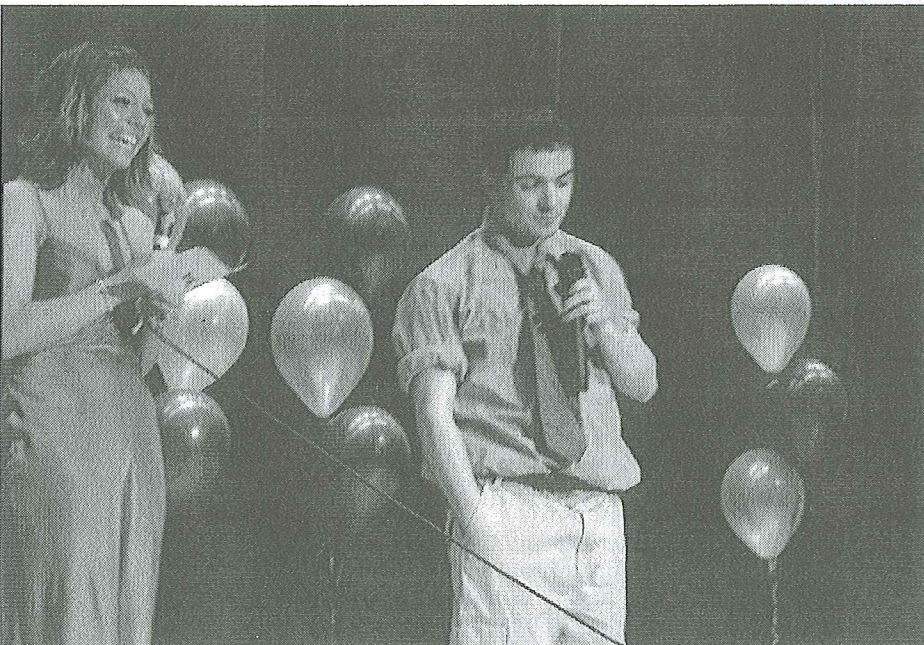
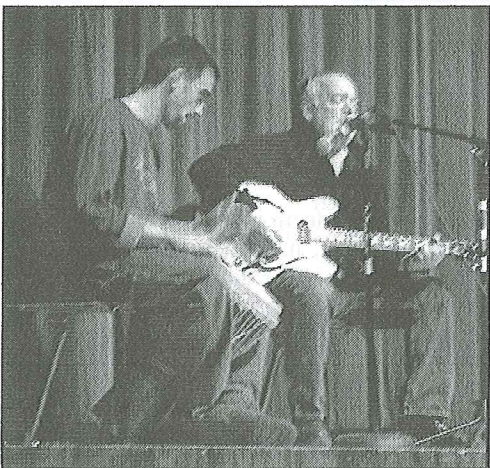
This is not Mr. Reynolds first coaching job, as he worked at the New Hampshire College (now Southern New Hampshire University) as an infield coach. His father, Ken Reynolds, played professional baseball for the Phillies, Brewers, Cardinals, and Padres in the early 1970's.

The team's goals are to, "Play the game the right way, run every ball hard, and don't make mental mistakes."

Mr. Reynolds also added that the team will hit and run a lot, will be very aggressive on the bases, and that most guys on the team run "fairly well."

This year's varsity team features seniors Bobby Farley, Bubba Larsen, Mason Maltais, George Sergi, Tom Sinsabaugh, and Lee Tympanick, juniors, Dylan Dalton, Nick Panu, Tom Rondeau, Cory Tetreault, Tom Levitre, sophomores, Adam Bourgerly, Shane Saillant, Ethan Peloquin, and the lone freshman Josh Simard.

BOYS BATTLE FOR CROWN



Photos by Dana Biron

Here are some scenes from the Mr. BMR pageant held last month. Top left, The boys open to "Ain't No Mountain High Enough." Top right, Mr. BMR himself, Jeff Bielat, performs as King Kiss-A-Lot. Middle left, Mr. Ethan Roe and Mr. William Marrocco are shown performing. Directly in the middle, Peter Bensko-Tarsitano does his skit. Middle right, Nick Ensko tries his hand as a stand-up comedian. Bottom, Mary Ambacher interviews Ryan Griffin as Mr. Arruda.