

High School of American Studies at Lehman College

# Common Sense

## Special Elections Issue

### More Presidential than the President:

Elizabeth Adams

On September 30, the first of three Presidential debates was held. Senator John Kerry and President George W. Bush debated issues of foreign policy, and according to the voters, John Kerry was the overwhelming victor. A poll by CNN showed that 77% of the viewers thought that Kerry won, as opposed to only 19% for Bush.

Sen. Kerry argued President Bush committed a "colossal error in judgment" by invading Iraq. He asserted that he would be strong and resolute in fighting terrorism, but also said "we also have to be smart... and smart means not diverting our attention from the war on terror and taking it off to Iraq." (continued p 12)

### In the Past Four Years

Stephanie Fox

Whether you are a Democrat, Republican, or an Independent, the upcoming election will be an important one, to all Americans, including the students at the High School of American Studies at Lehman College.

President Bush is a strong wartime leader. On September 11, 2001 our country was attacked. In order to protect ourselves the President and his administration introduced The American Patriot Act. Although much opposition was presented against it, the act allows the government to prosecute alleged terrorists with greater ease.

**Opinion**

In regards to the war in Iraq, President Bush believes that "If we see a threat, we must deal with it before it materializes. We saw a threat in Iraq." It was our duty as a great power in the world to protect ourselves and (continued p12)

### Election Winner, Nick Berkowitz

Elizabeth Borodkin

EB: Now that you won [election for freshman representative] how do you feel?

Nick: Currently I feel good. It was a great feeling to know that your peers believe in what you say.

EB: What are your plans, if you have any?

Nick: To get better soap for the bathroom, to make the swim program optional and more "good" sandwiches in the lunch room. Basically just to make sure my classmates are as happy as they can be. (continued p13)

### Surprisingly, HSAS is Undecided

Aleeza Halen

American Studies students with an opinion prefer John Kerry to George W. Bush, but almost a third are undecided. Over half of the student body was polled about its presidential preference at lunchtime on Monday October 18. (continued p13)

### Bush's Secret War on Women

Ilise Weinberg

In the 2000 campaign, Bush painted a "pro-woman," picture, however his policies have repeatedly gone against the fairer gender. It appears that W favors women: Elaine Chao is Secretary of Labor, Ann Veneman is at Agriculture, Gale Norton is at Interior and Condoleezza Rice is the National Security Advisor. But all of these women have a loyalty to a power greater than sisterhood - the corporate world. These women appointed by the Bush Administration have connections to foundations that directly or indirectly hurt women. And the ideology of the Bush administration, no matter how many women are in it, is anti-choice.

**Opinion**

Bush's female appointees have (continued p13)

## Alzheimer's Walk in Riverside Park

Stephanie Fox

On a chilly Sunday morning at about ten o'clock, hundreds of people including the school's Key Club walked in support of the New York chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Many walked in memory or in honor of loved ones who are afflicted with this terrible disease.



Alzheimer's Walkers in Riverside Park. Some warmed up after with hot chocolate. I. Weinberg

Over 4.5 million adults have Alzheimer's in the United States. If no cure is found, that number could triple in the next twenty years. The NYC Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association helps serve 200,000 people each year.

*Thank you to the walkers who were so generous with their time: Alicia Barnes, Robert Billena, Stephanie Fox, Jisun Kim, Maria Lopez (and her sister), Marlene Novo, Melissa Santiago, Maple Tran, Ilise Weinberg, Kristen Wallace, and Ms. Rice*

David Hyde Pierce of the sitcom Frasier spoke of the need for organizations that improve the lives of Alzheimer's patients. Also present were representatives from the Governor's and Mayor's offices. Congressman Jerrold Nadler spoke in favor of stem cell research to help Americans with Alzheimer's, and also in favor of accessible healthcare for them.



Congressman Nadler speaks to Walkers. I. Weinberg

The Wall of Remembrance stood at the entrance with names and messages for people who have passed on because of Alzheimer's disease. There was also information present for families of those with the disease.

The one mile and two mile walks were filled with encouragement and cheers from onlookers. Many walkers, including the Key Club and Ms. Rice, stayed after to help with the clean up. Those who contributed felt good, knowing that they were helping others. That's what makes it truly an even more memorable experience. •

*(To find out how to support your classmates who donated their time and effort, and how to support those with Alzheimer's, please see Ms. Rice)*

## The High School of American Studies...Senators

Eric Rodriguez

The American Studies school name is the Senators. This choice suits our school. It fits well because it has a political emphasis, which is what our school is all about. We are a school of American studies. It makes sense to name the school the SENATORS. We could have named it Rough Riders, Colonists or even Pioneers, but as a school we chose to show our love for this country by recognizing an element of our government that greatly affects this fair nation.

You may ask "why the Senators?" The answer is quite simple. Herbert H. Lehman (1878-1963) was a New York governor and senator. At the High School of American Studies at Lehman College, we honor him by naming our school the Senators. Lehman's legacy includes, fighting as a captain in World War I and later being issued the rank of colonel; serving as Lieutenant Governor then Governor (1933-42); and being elected Senator in 1949, and serving in that seat until 1957. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on January 28, 1964. This is an award given to those who have made outstanding contributions to the security or national interest of the United States, to world peace, or to those who have made a significant public or private accomplishment. Lehman was given this award by President John F. Kennedy.

This name is an excellent choice. We will now be known as The High School of American Studies Senators (HSAS Senators). There have been

remarks made against it but the fact is that this is our school name and it is here to stay. So appreciate this name, if not for yourself then for the legacy of Mr. Herbert H. Lehman. ▪

## Drama Seminar/Club Coverage

By Amber Rodriguez

Once again the drama seminar is steadily working its way towards another performance. Last semester's performance, "12 Angry Jurors", took a lot of hard work and determination to complete, but it all paid off when we saw how much the student body enjoyed it.

This semester, the drama seminar is planning on performing a play called "Waiting for Lefty", which takes place during the depression amongst a group of taxi drivers. What is unique about this play is that the audience will be portrayed as the cab drivers, while the performers onstage will act as their bosses.

Since the drama seminar was extremely crowded this time around, there will be two sets of actors, with different people playing the same parts during different performances.

We are looking forward to working with Nick Garr once again, the talented director of last year's acts. Ms. Rice is also working with us and ensuring a fun and active drama experience. While a set performance date has not been decided, the drama club is looking forward to providing everyone with an enjoyable performance! ▪

## Philadelphia

Kristen White

On Friday October 8, 2004 the sophomore class went to Philadelphia for their first trip of the school year.

The bus ride to Philadelphia was filled with music, food, cards, paper ball fights, and Mr. Mansdorf's comical bus tour guide routine. As we entered Philadelphia it looked more like a New York City ghetto instead of a historical city until Mr. Mansdorf directed us to look at the beautiful Philadelphia skyline.

Our first stop was the Constitution Center where we saw the "Freedom Rising Show", which everyone seemed to enjoy. After the show we had to use the exhibits in the Constitution

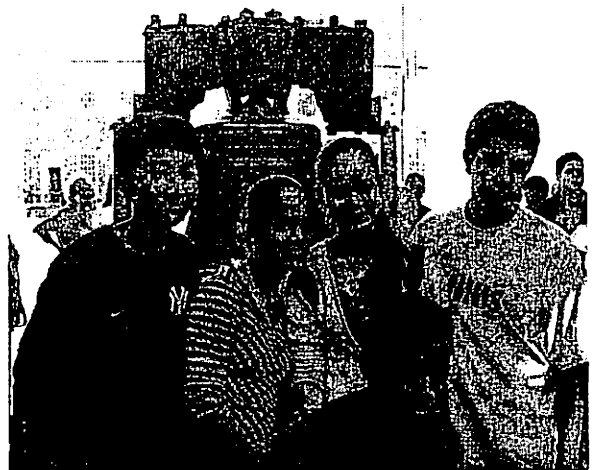
Center to answer questions on a worksheet, which very few people enjoyed. Students agreed that the best part of the Constitution Center was posing with the Bronze Statues. Our next destination was Independence Hall where we saw the Liberty Bell.



Maddie, Jennifer, Adam, Sandra. "We went through metal detectors just to see a bell!" G Mazlina

Some students thought the Liberty Bell was "...very boring." While most students had the same thing to say as Jennifer Adler, "We went through metal detectors just to see a bell!"

After the Liberty we had a small tour through some courthouses by the local Philadelphia Rangers.



Turn around guys. There's a big bell behind you... Qiu Ming, Juani, Allyson, Robert, Evan. G. Mazlina

All in all, the trip was an educational one. Some say the best part was the Philly Cheese steaks, others say that seeing history in three dimensions, was the best part. But all agree that we are looking forward to our next trip. ▪

More Philadelphia pics are on pages 6 and 11.

## Music

### A Different Beat

Steven Zapata

What's in your music collection? Allow me to shed light on some new, different, and popular music. This is some of the music that I like and personally recommend.

#### Freezepop

A trio of robot pop pioneers with a unique sense of style and an even more unique sense of music. Their music is classified as Synthpop. It sounds like a funky, cool, danceable pop robot sound. Synthpop involves a lot of synthesizers in every song. The synthesizer used looks like a game boy and is called a QY-70.

The first hit, "Science Genius Girl", was released on the music game Frequency for Playstation 2. This song gained them their popularity but I still think their more recent music is so much better. They made a song called "Freezepop Forever". This song describes each member and their likes in a great song, with a catchy chorus. They also sang in Japanese and in French for two songs. Their lead singer Liz "Enthusiasm" made all their videos on Macromedia so their videos are colorful cartoons. Liz "Enthusiasm" has a great sense of style and she's also great animator. The other members are Sean T Drinkwater (who was mysteriously replaced) who plays a synthesizer and bass. The Duke Of Belgian Waffles is the QY-70 player and the creator of this band. Their third Album "Funky Ultra Fresh" was released on July 2004. To hear some of their songs go to [www.freezepop.com](http://www.freezepop.com). Here you can view journals, pictures, tour dates, and some of their videos. You can even download a whole bunch of their songs for free. This is what happens when you're an Indie band. ■

#### LadyTron

Two guys plus two girls equals really great music. Ladytron is the other sound: dark and edgy, truthful and honest, real and awesome. Ladytron is made up of Mira Aroyo the lead singer; Reuben Wu who plays synthesizers, Helen Marnie who does additional voices and drums, and Daniel Hunt who does turn tables and other electronic sounds. Their songs are about a bad friend, bad party, bad feeling or bad society. They have thought provoking songs that make you think about what they are actually

saying. It's just what you need to relax when you are doing so much homework or when you are walking in the dark. There's another language they speak that you hear every now and then but I'm not sure what it is. It's either German, Russian or Dutch. I found out about them while I was on the Internet. You can also check them out on [www.MTV.com](http://www.MTV.com). If you want to listen to Ladytron go to their website [www.ladytron.com](http://www.ladytron.com). Their albums are on iTunes also. It's rather difficult to explain what they sound like exactly so you should check them out on their website. Their first album "604" got re-released and has three live recordings plus a remix. Their second album is titled "Light & Magic" and they're planning a third album. ■

#### Utada

Utada was born in Manhattan but her parents are Japanese. She crossed back and forth between Japan and New York and has the Guinness record for the most CDs sold ever. She started in Japan and now has 15 singles and four albums and she's only 21! She has a huge fan base in Japan and here in the US. Her first English album "Exodus'04" was being released on October 5. Big top producers like Timbaland got in on this album. Jake Nava directed her first English video, "Easy Breezy". Utada's music is a dance and pop mix but she has also performed ballads on her Japanese albums. She was featured in MTV's Direct Effect and had a MTV Unplugged in Japan. Her first English song was in the Squaresoft game Kingdom Hearts. The song was called "Simple And Clean." You can listen and see her video at [www.utada.com](http://www.utada.com) or if you want a Japanese version, [www.utada.jp](http://www.utada.jp). If your interested in her Japanese music, google "Utada Hikaru" (it's the first link). You'll definitely be hearing more from her soon. ■

#### Zap's Top Ten Songs

1. "Duct Tape My Heart" Freezepop
  2. "Easy Breezy" Utada
  3. "Devil Inside" Utada
  4. "Slow Hands" Interpol
  5. "Light & Magic" Ladytron
  6. "Unreachable" Ashlee Simpson
  7. "Secret Club" Lifestyles
  8. "Wax" Garbage
  9. "Somebody Told Me" The Killers
  10. "Float On" Modest Mouse
- 

*(more Music on the bottom of the facing page)*

## Sports

### Game Three: The Boston Massacre

Angelo Labate

On October 16th the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox played game three of the American League Championship Series (ALCS).

In the first inning the Yankees took a three run lead. Then in the second Boston took a 4-3 lead. In the fourth the Yankees exploded scoring five impressive runs to go up 11-6. They scored twice more in the sixth. After three long, scoreless innings, Boston scored two runs, but that wasn't enough - the Yankees led 17-8. In the top of the ninth the Yankees scored two more runs, making the final score of the game 19-8. ▪

### Games 4, 5 and 6 of the ALCS

Angelo Labate

On Sunday October 17th the New York Yankees and The Boston Red Sox began game four of the ALCS. The Yankees secured a small one run lead through the bottom of the ninth. With three outs left Mariano Rivera faltered. The Red Sox tied the game. Boston won the game in the bottom of the twelfth inning with a score of 6-4. In an unexpected win for Boston, the dreams of the Yankees sweeping were crushed for good.

In Game 5, The New York Yankees, for the second time in a row lost to their rivals the Boston Red Sox. The Yankees and the Red Sox switched the lead back and forth and the Yanks just couldn't keep up.

On Tuesday October 19th, the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox played game number six of the ALCS in the Bronx. There was plenty of action – in the stands. Disgruntled fans decided that the umpires' calls weren't fair and began to throw balls and garbage onto the field. This caused the umpires to call the head of security who brought out police officers dressed in riot gear. This stopped all of violence in the stands and the riot control officers left the field. But what really mattered was that the Red Sox had won their third game while facing elimination, and had forced a Game Seven. ▪

### Game 7

Julia Dimitrova

Everyone knows what happened in Game 7. Do we really need to write about it? ▪

## Football

Angelo Labate

The New York Jets made an amazing recovery during Sunday October 17th's game. In the first half they were losing to San Francisco 14-3. Then in the second half of the game the Jets scored 19 unanswered points to win the game 22-14.

10/10 Giants 26 Cowboys 10; Jets 16 Bills 14;  
10/17 Jets 22 49ers 14 Giants bye;  
10/24 Lions 28 Giants 13; Patriots 13 Jets 7 ▪

### Lehman College Basketball

*(adapted from the Lehman College website)*

After a season in which the men's basketball team captured the first CUNY championship in twenty-five years, Coach Steve Schulman and his squad look forward to the upcoming season.

"Our guys are really motivated by last year's title," said Schulman. "Winning last season gave our guys a feeling that wants to carry over to this upcoming season."

The women's team, after a season in which they struggled, will look to return to the form that took them to the 2001 CUNY championship game.

"...we are very excited to start practice," said women's basketball coach Eric Harrison. "We have a great group of players this year ... I think the fans will begin to see the brand of basketball that they are accustomed to at Lehman." ▪

Are you a junior?

Do you take photographs?

Common Sense needs you!

## Music

*(Continued from previous page)*

### Also check out...

- Modest Mouse
- Keane
- The Killers
- Black Eyed Peas
- Secret Machines
- Lifestyles ▪

*If you want to respond to Steven Zapata or if you want me to check out a certain band/group you can leave him a note in the Common Sense box in the Main Office, or email him at [garbagefan2424@yahoo.com](mailto:garbagefan2424@yahoo.com)*



An, Diona, Maple, Zorlexie and Nicky in front of the Liberty Bell.

G Mazlina



Alicia, Gloria, Jonelle (back), Elissa, Maria and Rosaly (front).

G Mazlina

### Sophomore Trip – October 8, 2004

# Philadelphia



Uncle Sam? No. Aunt Maple, Ashley, Sharon, and, of course Aunt Maria.

G Mazlina



Marc, Amber, Robert, Jisun, Kristen and Qiu Ming on the paper fight bus.

G Mazlina



Julia, Rachel, Alec and Aaron.

G Mazlina



Jared and Nicky posing.

G Mazlina

# Common Sense Literary Supplement

## Simply Me

It's not easy  
Being me.  
To strive in this world,  
Conquering defeats.  
It's hard to maintain myself,  
To be just me.  
Through thick and thin  
Going through the problems of this nation.  
It's not easy...  
It's not easy...

Being me  
Staying me  
Yet in this place,  
I will win  
I will be victorious  
I will be  
Simply me

Anonymous

## **Announcing the Common Sense Literary Supplement Steven Zapata, CSLS editor**

Do you want to submit some of your own personal work? How about poems, short stories, jokes, recipes, catch phrases, lyrics of a song or whatever? Well here's your chance. We at *Common Sense* have added a Literary Supplement, a Creative Writing Section. You can submit your writing via email; send it to [garbagefan2424@yahoo.com](mailto:garbagefan2424@yahoo.com). Make sure to include in the subject section that it is for creative writing. You can remain anonymous if you choose, but I encourage you not to because - hey it's your writing, be proud! Or if the Internet is too high-tech for you, you can submit it to me or any other editor of *Common Sense* or drop it off in the *Common Sense* mailbox.

## Dark

It's dark in here  
I can't really see  
It feels so good  
I feel so free

No one around  
To tell me what to do  
For just a while  
I'm not black or blue

No light shining  
To make my every move visible  
You can't see me  
Finally I'm individual

When I'm in the dark  
So much time can elapse  
It feels so great  
I can't collapse

When you can see me  
You can earn the right to judge me  
It drives me crazy  
I just can't budge

In the light  
I'm capable of a fall  
In the dark  
There's a huge wall

I'm leaning against it  
With my spine so straight  
Finally my heart's beating  
At a normal rate

I can think so freely  
Now that you're gone  
Deeply and so open  
'Till the crack of dawn

It's my way of escaping  
From all the trouble  
Within the light  
I'm buried in rubble

In the dark  
I'm oh so blind  
I can just let go  
And clear my mind

I can erase every thought  
Put into my head  
I'm in the dark  
I'm in my bed

I lie there awake  
It's one big blur  
At least there's no scandal  
"Oh he's with her"

Why is the dark?  
Only a few hours  
You can't ever relax  
And have any power

The nine hours it's dark  
Just aren't enough  
But they're better than nothing  
'Cause it's not so rough

Anonymous

## Trip to Sturbridge

Rinda Ko, Ester Lee, Yoojin Park

On October 8th, the freshmen of the High School of American Studies went on their first trip of the year to Sturbridge Massachusetts. The freshmen departed from the school at 7:00 a.m. and arrived in Sturbridge at around 11:30 a.m.



Linus, Justine, Sarima, Angelo and Matt. On the road. I. Weinberg

Once there, the freshmen groups divided and went their own way. A few of the stops that they went to were the blacksmith's cottage, the



Angelo and some toys. I. Weinberg

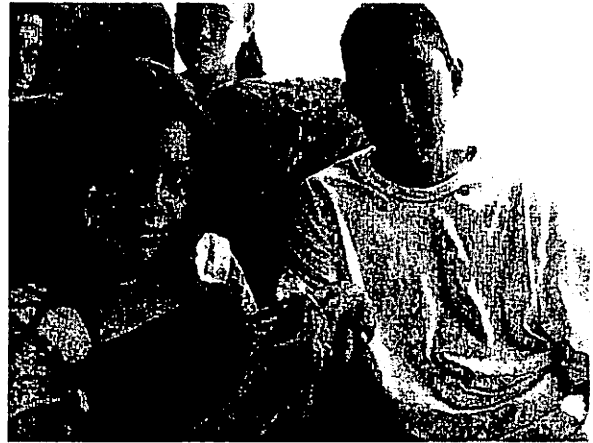
silversmith, and the general store. The freshmen also interviewed some of the farmers, tradesmen, and shopkeepers in the village. At 2:30p.m., the whole freshmen group participated



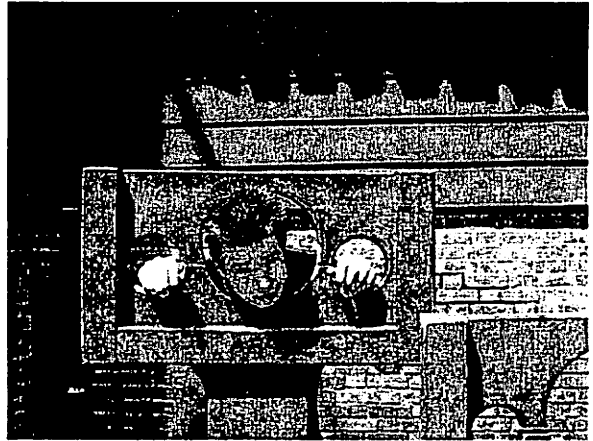
Collette walking into the Town Meeting. What will she vote for? I. Weinberg

in a town meeting to discuss what was to be done for the poor during the wintertime. After much debating, the freshmen finally came to the decision to buy a poor farm for the poor of the village.. In general, the freshmen had a lot of fun and exciting time on their first trip.

The freshmen spring trip is to **Boston**. Here are some previously unpublished photos from last year's trip



Why is Jonathan making that face? A Fabunan



Brent's punishment in Salem. A Fabunan



Most other freshmen walked. A Fabunan

## TV Reviews and Summaries

Did you have so much homework that you had to miss a show? (Or watched the show and missed homework?) Well that's why some Common Sense entertainment writers will make sure to watch some of the most popular shows so that you don't feel behind schedule when you're finally able to watch your favorite programs (if your homework isn't already piled on top of, in front of, and completely around your television).

### **Gilmore Girls**

**Steven Zapata**

**Gilmore Girls – Episode #4 Season 4 – First Aired Tuesday October 5, 2004, WB 11 at 8 PM.**

In the beginning, Rory (Lorelei's mom who is separated from her father) is complaining about how much time Lorelei's father gets.

Lorelei and Luke are finally in a relationship (it took them eight years/ four seasons) and they want to be quiet about it. When Luke began to flirt it was more awkward and funny than it was romantic. They planned out a date after which they ended up in bed. After a scene in which she went downstairs to Luke's diner in only a shirt, she became worried that the whole town would know about her new relationship.

Paris's (Rory's friend) boyfriend, and Lorelei's professor, just died. As Rory began to hang flyers for a wake Paris is hosting, she met an arrogant man from her past.

Lorelei went to Miss Patty (she always knows all the gossip), because she was curious to know if Miss Patty knew anything. That night Lorelei and Luke went to the town hall meeting and Taylor puts their relationship to a vote because a previous relationship between business owners caused the town some problems.

### **One Tree Hill**

**Steven Zapata**

**One Tree Hill – Episode #3 Season 2 - First Aired Tuesday October 5, 2004, WB 11 at 9 PM.**

Nathan's best friend Tim wants to throw him a bachelor party since Lucas gave him a reception and there was no bachelor party before. Lucas went to visit Dan (Dan is in the hospital because

he had a stroke). Dan said he's sorry about everything to Lucas. Everyone is noticing a change in Dan (he's actually polite), which they attribute to the medication. Tim went right into hiring a stripper for the bachelor party (he actually called right in front of Hailie, Peyton, and Brooke).

Peyton and Brooke want to give Hailie a bridal shower. The girls take Hailie out and when they get pulled over it ends up being a male stripper. Brooke also planned for Hailie to get stripping lessons. That didn't go so well because Hailie jumped towards the pole and fell on the other side. Brooke's credit cards weren't working so they were all forced to wash dishes, but Hailie was allowed to go home.

Two female police officers went over to Nathan's house to see what was going on. Tim thought they were the strippers and so he flirted with them and got arrested. All the guys there had to bail him out. Later, while Nathan was alone, the real stripper came and they started playing video games. As Nathan was going into a bedroom with the stripper, saying that this was all he ever wanted, Hailie arrived.

It seems Brooke has money problems and Dan and Debra are waiting for Hailie and Nathan's relationship to fail.

## **Reality TV**

### **Survivor**

**Alicia Barnes**

This week's Survivor started off with team Yasur (the girls) in total chaos and team Lopevi (the guys) working together. During the reward challenge the teams had to face of in a game of memory. The first team that got 5 matches would win the game. Team Yasur won 5 to 2. Later, the immunity challenge was played. Team Yasur began to become more unified and worked together (with the wisdom of Dah, their tribal guide, won in the reward challenge) while team Lopevi fell apart. In the end Lopevi lost and was sent to face the tribal council. After debate, they voted off Brady (the FBI agent).

### **The Apprentice**

**Alicia Barnes**

On The Apprentice, things were heated up when Pamela was switched from team Mosaic to

team Apex as the team leader. During this mission the teams had to make the most money by selling their product on the QVC network. Pamela got to work and took charge making many of the other girls angry. Even though team Apex sold more of their product, team Mosaic was the one who made the most money. Pamela, Stacie, and Maria were brought back into the boardroom to fight it out to see who was leaving. When Donald Trump uttered those fatal words, "You're fired ", they were directed at Pamela. In case you want to see a recap of what happened, you can catch a repeat of The Apprentice on Saturday, October 9, at 9 PM on NBC 4.

## Video Game Review

### Shin Megami Tensei: Nocturne Undeservingly Overlooked

By: Amber Rodriguez

Hordes of video games attack the shelves of stores during the holidays. Major franchises dominate, whereas those without all the publicity tend to wander their way into the unknown. One such game is Shin Megami Tensei: Nocturne. This game is easy to miss amongst more popular titles.

The game is a very dark and very in-depth substitute for the more colorful RPGs (role playing games) out today. The main plot entails a post-apocalyptic world teetering on the edge of all that is evil and good. As a pleasant surprise, another video game character makes a cameo appearance: Dante from the Devil May Cry franchise. His relationship with your character completely depends on what choices you make during the game, allowing for an enjoyable and interactive experience.

However, there aren't many games that are perfect, and this is no exception. The game is extremely long and the battle system bases its difficulty on your weaknesses! Patience is required to prevent you from flinging the controller across the room.

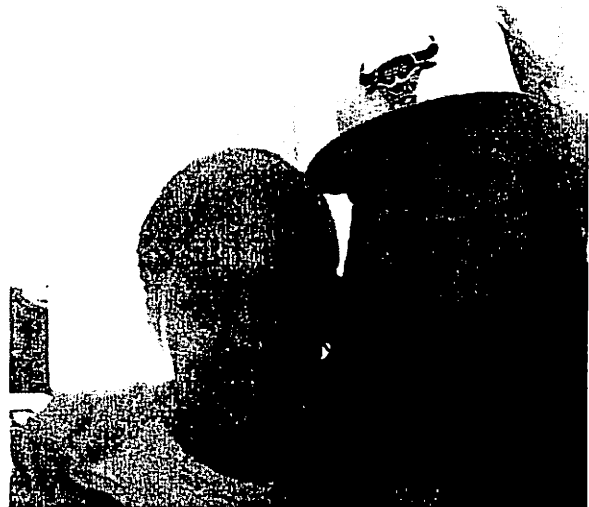
Shin Megami Tensei: Nocturne has already been released. It is rated mature, and costs around \$50. Save your money, because this game is definitely worth your attention.

*Some of the information in this article was obtained from GMR Magazine (Nov 2004)*

## More Philly Photos



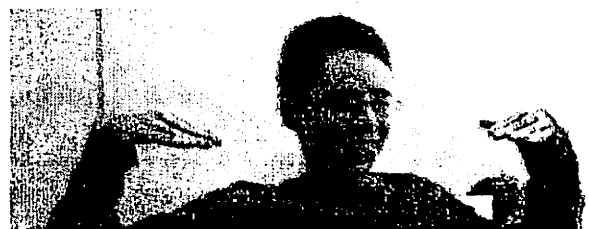
Lily (L), Clelia (R) Who does Mary see sneaking up?  
G. Mazlina



Sherean and Shawn in Philadelphia. G. Mazlina



Rosaly attacking a founding father G. Mazlina



It's a tie! G. Mazlina

## More Presidential than the President:

*(continued from front page)*

Kerry accused President Bush of misleading America, declaring, "The president said he was going to build a true coalition, exhaust the remedies of the U.N. and go to war as a last resort. Those words really have to mean something. And, unfortunately, he didn't go to war as a last resort." Furthermore, the Senator attacked Bush for invading Iraq without an exit strategy, and without a proper alliance. "This president, I don't know if he really sees what's happening over there."

Bush fired back notably at these attacks, saying his opponent voted against an \$87 billion measure to aid Afghanistan and Iraq and thus sent mixed signals to both the U.S. troops and other nations. "He voted to authorize the use of force and now says it's the wrong war at the wrong time... I don't think you can lead if you say wrong war, wrong time, wrong place. What message does that send to our troops?" said the Republican incumbent. "They're not going to follow someone whose core convictions keep changing because of politics."

Bush continued to make this case that Kerry changed his position; stating, "The only thing consistent about my opponent's position is he's been inconsistent." Kerry shot back at this allegation, contending that if Bush is re-elected, the only plan he has is "more of the same."

Viewers also noted the candidates' demeanor during the debate. Heavily affecting the outcome, many noticed that Bush appeared perturbed while Kerry argued his points, whereas Kerry was often taking notes as Bush spoke. According to the New York Times, the President was not very presidential, "scowling and grimacing" and looking "petulant."

On Tuesday, October 5, the Vice Presidential Debate took place. In a much closer debate, there was dispute over the victor. Both candidates argued heatedly, the attacks often becoming personal.

Edwards charged that the Bush administration was not being truthful, declaring, "Mr. Vice President, you are still not being straight with the American people." Cheney replied, by attacking Kerry and Edwards's credentials.

"Your rhetoric, senator, would be a lot more credible if there was a record to back it up," Cheney said. "There isn't."

Later on, Edwards sharply went after Cheney's assertion that America was right in invading nations to remove terrorists. He retorted, "There are 60 countries who have members of Al Qaeda in them. How many of those countries are we going to invade?"

However, Cheney was also very successful in turning Edwards's accusations around. When Edwards accused Cheney of falsely suggesting a link between Iraq and the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Cheney denied doing so. "The senator has got his facts wrong," Cheney said. "I have not suggested there's a connection between Iraq and 9/11, but there's clearly an established Iraqi track record with terror."

## In the Past Four Years

*(continued from front page)*

other countries from these terrorists. Today, "...we are safer and the world is better off because Saddam is sitting in prison..." Bush believes. Because of the war in Iraq, the country will soon be having free elections and will become a complete democracy. The only way to achieve peace is by spreading freedom.

Bush's No Child Left Behind Bill also has helped improved our country. He wants to ensure that every high school student graduates, and is prepared for college or the workforce. By increasing money spent on reading programs, tutoring, and other educational initiatives, this goal will be achieved.

I believe that President Bush's reelection would be in the best interest of our country. The only way we will leave Iraq is if the man who brought us into the war takes us out. With the president's ideas on the economy our country will thrive. With the president's policies on education, national security and other issues our country will flourish.

### Corrections

In the last issue the photo at the top right of the second page showed Samantha Ponce at the far right. She was misidentified. Also the credit for the Boston photos should have been given to Angela Fabunan. We apologize for our errors.

## Surprisingly, HSAS is Undecided

*(continued from front page)*

Of 130 students, 43 said they were undecided, while 58 chose Kerry, 29 chose Bush, and none chose Nader. In other words, while the nation is in a very tight race with a tiny number of swing votes, HSAS breaks 45% - 22% with a whopping 33% not yet sure. •

## Election Winner, Nick Berkowitz

*(continued from front page)*

*EB: How do you plan on carrying out these plans?*

Nick: I plan to propose fundraisers in our weekly meeting, such as more school spirit items and maybe a bake sale or two etc.

*EB: What made you run for freshmen election?*

Nick: I have always been interested in government and I felt like there are things in the school that are needed to be changed. My own personal example is the swim program. I am running because I feel like though we have a fantastic school, there is room for it to be better. I thought I had the ideas and will to make it happen...I still feel this way today

*EB: How did your goals differ from the other four that lost?*

Nick: My main goal was and still is to represent my peers. I feel the all of the candidates felt the same way. The differing quality in our goals is our ability and route we take to express those goals and I believe that my ability to get the point across is superior to the other former candidates

*EB: Why do you think you won? What were some of the other candidates' flaws?*

Nick: Let me start out by saying that I feel like all the other candidates ran an amazing and fair race and it was an Honor running against them. However, I believe that my peers recognized that I was very serious about the position and that I did my best to convey that to them in my speech. As far as the other candidates were concerned I didn't really notice any flaws they ran a good race

*EB: Would you like to say anything else to your fellow classmates?*

Nick: Only that if anyone would like something to change in our school come talk to me and that I would be honored to listen. It's been a pleasure. And there is one more thing I would like to add... Go Red Sox! •

## Bush's Secret War on Women

*(continued from front page)*

strong corporate credentials. Veneman was a director of Calgene, the first company to bring genetically modified vegetables to store shelves. Chao was a director of Dole, Clorox, and Northwest Airlines. Norton as a corporate lawyer defended corporate polluters. And Rice not only sat on the boards of Charles Schwab, Transamerica, and Chevron, but Chevron honored her by naming an oil tanker the "Condeleezza Rice". These women's political identities are corporate, not female.

As late as 2001, Laura Bush told interviewers that she was pro-choice. As the full-time mother in the family, perhaps her opinion carried a little weight? No. Instead she has side-stepped the Roe v. Wade question for the last three years, saying instead that "abortion should be rare," or that she doesn't like abortion, a position those on both sides of the issue share.

In the meantime, Bush (the man) has pursued an anti-choice agenda. Fundamentalist views are being forced on the country and even the world. He re-imposed the "global gag rule." Under this rule, other nations' family planning agencies do not receive our assistance if they allow or support abortion services, or even counseling or referrals. Bush has also interfered with stem cell research. Recently Advocates for Youth, an AIDS prevention information provider had their funding lifted because they used the proper words for female body parts! And Bush's Supreme Court dance in the second debate fooled no one. With four more years he will appoint the justices that will make abortion illegal and send women to back alleys.

Although few of us may be directly affected by these policies now, they affect all of us in the not-so-distant future. Our current student body will not be able to vote for president until 2008, but we must pay attention now. •

Submit articles for *Common Sense* to an editor:  
News – Aaron Greenwald,  
Events – Randy Abreu  
Inside HSAS – Tiarra Tosca  
Entertainment – Gloria Medina  
Literary Supplement – Steven Zapata  
Drop articles in the mailbox in the Main Office  
Send e-mail to Commonsense HSAS@cs.com

### Share your ideas or your time

- I would like to work for Common Sense
- Reporter: (Check the departments you are most interested in writing for):
  - News     Events     Entertainment
  - Inside HSAS                       Sports
- Proofreading
- Photography
- Production/Layout

I have a good idea for Common Sense: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tear off this box and return to the *Common Sense* mailbox in the Main Office,  
 Or bring it to the *Common Sense* table in the cafeteria each Tuesday

### Coming Next Issue:

Common Sense #3 is scheduled to be distributed November 16. The Editorial Board met and proposed, among others, the following articles:

- The Dance!
- National Elections
- HSAS soccer
- HSAS step team
- Previews of girl's and boy's basketball
- Articles on classes and clubs
- Music reviews
- Movie reviews
- The scoop on some of the hottest TV shows
- The Principal's Corner
- Interview with the voice on the PA
- A new video game review
- And lots more photos

**Volunteer to help make this happen!**

This month we were unable to interview Ms. Luftman for the Principal's Corner. The Principal's Corner will be back in this space next month.

| Mon                       | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri  |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| 10/25                     | 10/26<br>Common Sense #2<br>Weight Training | 10/27<br>Key Club Bake Sale<br>Club Soccer/ Step Team<br>Report Card Distribution | 10/28<br>Weight Training<br>Parent Teacher<br>Conferences (evening) | 10/29<br>Binghamton University<br>Parent Teacher Afternoon<br>– Shortened School Day                   |
| 11/1<br>Physics Tutoring  | 11/2<br>Election Day – No School            | 11/3<br>SUNY Albany<br>Club Soccer/ Step Team                                     | 11/4<br>Trinity College<br>Weight Training                          | 11/5<br>Canisius College<br>Key Club/ Club Soccer<br>Common Sense - Planning                           |
| 11/8<br>Physics Tutoring  | 11/9<br>Weight Training                     | 11/10<br>SUNY Morrisville<br>Club Soccer/ Step Team                               | 11/11<br>Veterans Day –<br>No School                                | 11/12<br>Bennington College<br>Key Club/ Club Soccer<br>Common Sense – Layout<br>Honor Society meeting |
| 11/15<br>Physics Tutoring | 11/16<br>Common Sense #3<br>Weight Training | 11/17<br>Sarah Lawrence<br>Club Soccer/ Step Team                                 | 11/18<br>Weight Training  | 11/19<br>Key Club/ Club Soccer<br>Common Sense   |

Editorial Board: R Abreu (Events), E Adams, D Fricano (Departments, Photos), A Greenwald (News), G Medina (Entertainment), R Nyitray (Proofreading), T Tosca (Inside HSAS), S Zapata (Literary Supplement)  
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# Common Sense