

A RECEIPT, A TEXTBOOK & A LIST By Stephanie Brooks ('09)

Ever ask your self how you can be missing something if it doesn't even exist? Well, local skateboarder Keslie Carrion('09), has had to ask herself this exact question. She, along with 164 other sophomores, juniors, and seniors are on the school's five page missing textbook list. The infamous list says that Keslie is missing a book that she read in 9th grade English. However, no such book exists, because the story was actually in an anthology.

This is just the type of predicament in which many are finding themselves. While Ms. Cochin does say that "while there are many problems with the policy, that [the anthology issue] is not one of them," and that is an isolated incident, either way this non-existent book is still listed as missing. The underlying problem may be the entire policy. If a student has not returned a book, calculator, or any other type of school property, he or she is not eligible to receive the current year's needed materials.

Principal Weiss says that this is a "city wide policy for students to return their books." Factor in



Samantha Marrero('08) navigates her way off of "The List"

things such as being assigned homework in a book that you're not allowed to have, and things quickly get messy. A student, wishing to remain anonymous, even reported having to run into a classroom and "borrow" a textbook for her friend to do her homework. It was later returned.

Students are also complaining about having given in books, yet they did not receive a receipt. A Riverdaleian, Frances Thom('09),

was able to confirm that indeed, "sometimes certain busy teachers neglect to give back receipts." This often leads to the further problem of having to go through every copy of the book in every room that it could possibly be found in.

Furthermore, the burden of these misplaced books may sometimes fall on another student. An Inwoodian, Valerie Gonzalez('09), says that this is, "so irritating. Stuff like that
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GILDER LEHRMAN

By Isaac Salaander('08)

This school is, in large part supported by the Gilder-Lehrman institute. This is the reason we have such cool toys; access to primary documents; and all those great extra-curricular courses over at the New York Historical Society. But who is Gilder? Who is Lehrman? Where does their commitment to education come from? What other organizations are they affiliated with? How did they come to be so powerful in the New York Historical Society? Have they had an effect on the institutions they have touched?

Both Richard Gilder and Lewis Lehrman are Yale Graduates who went to Wall Street where they found success. After becoming financially comfortable, both became very interested in public policy and philanthropy.

According to the Manhattan Institute's website, Mr. Gilder was a chairman of this neoconservative body where he is still a trustee. He and his wife were activists for school vouchers, and he was a signatory along with Newt Gingrich,

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A PATRIOT A DAY

By Alex Messana('09)

Patriot Day just passed. If you did not know this you're among the twenty out of twenty three students as well as all nine teachers this reporter asked (including history teacher Mr. Elinson). It has nothing to do with the Patriot's football team, or any of our deceased presidents. Patriot Day is the official name and day dedicated to the commemoration of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The attacks were six years ago and the proclamation of that day as a national holiday was the same year, yet hardly anyone recognizes the day or the general idea behind it. On Patriot Day, Americans, whether they lost someone or not, are supposed to fly flags at half staff, have a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 AM and 9:05 AM, light candles, and do basically anything that could be considered an out of the ordinary good deed.

When asked how she felt about the lack of commemoration in our country, and especially in our school, Stephanie Brooks('09) said "Maybe there is a lack (of commemoration) from the people
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FROSH AMONG US

By Joshua Gardner('09)

On September 4th, 2007, a new class of 87 students walked into the halls of the High School of American Studies. When returning students saw this year's freshmen, many tended to be astonished by their stature. Michael Hamlett Jr.('08) stated, "they are really, really short, except for a few who are really, really tall."

With major height differences existing among a school's classes there often is intimidation. However, that doesn't seem to be the case this year. When asked about being intimidated, freshman Ashley Brown('11) stated, "No I'm not intimidated. There's nothing to be intimidated by."

Freshman Isaac De Los Santos('11) said of the current student body that, "they weren't intimidating, they're friendly and they accepted me."

When asked to comment about this year's incoming freshman, Timothy Narine('09) commented that "they're pretty cool, but then again I don't know many of them, but they're better than the sophomores." He continued by saying, "the freshman class last year was loud and obnoxious, but this



year's freshmen are more humble. They accept their position as freshmen."

Will the freshmen class see a lack of school unity? Samantha Marrero('08) stated "we don't even know them, they don't know us; the school has already separated into its own cliques, we

know who we like and who we don't like. The freshmen this year are just a bunch of random people who we don't know."

The freshman class is not really being noticed by their fellow peers and as a result HSAS unity may be an obstacle within the current school year. ☪