



BARACK ROCKS THE SQUARE *By Mark Menendez('08)*

New York City, Washington Square Park, September 27th. At four in the afternoon on that Thursday almost all of our school was heading home after a long day of class. We took our bus rides, subway trips and long walks home. Many of the students went home on this day not even realizing that later that night, more than 24,000 New Yorkers would gather to rally behind potential presidential candidate, Barack Obama.

Samantha Emmert ('11), appeared confused when asked about the rally stating "I didn't even know there was a rally."

I was able to get through the Secret Service checkpoint in less than 20 minutes

As the sun began to set on the skyline, masses of activists began to file into the West Village's Washington Square Park. By 4:30PM the lines to enter the park were wrapped around the block. The hold up in the entry was due largely to the large attendance, along with the tight security provided by the US Secret Service.



Photo Taken By: Nick Berkowitz('08)

M. Menendez('08) & J. Lucid('08) reach out for Barack Obama

Attendees at the rally waited in line for up to an hour as the armed officers checked all bags, frisked random guests, and put everyone and everything through metal detectors. The tight security presence resembled an airport, but no one seemed to mind.

One attendee, Nick Berkowitz ('08) felt that "the security was pretty tight, but it wasn't much of a hassle, because I arrived early so I was able to get through the Secret

Service checkpoint in less than 20 minutes."

Within an hour of the gates opening, the rally was underway. Festive music began playing throughout the park as the crowd filed in. Unfortunately, the pre-Obama ceremonies were longer than most wanted.

"What are we waiting for?" said Justine Lucid('08). She added that "the first two hours were basically irrelevant." *(Continued on page 3)*

NO FREE LUNCH

By Joshua Gardner('09)

As a hard-working student, one of the most essential periods of the day is lunch. Lunch is a time to eat, relax and hang out with friends. It is one period of the day we truly have to ourselves. However, lunch comes with a price, literally. In order to eat lunch at the High School of American Studies students have to pay for their food or bring their own.

"So why don't we eat the school lunch prepared for us?"

We often buy lunch from the college Cafeteria, which serves a variety of food, ranging from delicious burgers prepared by Sam at the Bedford Bistro to our good friends at *Blimpies*.

However we tend to neglect that we have other food options besides the Lehman College cafeteria. Down stairs in the lower cafeteria an official school lunch is served, which is prepared and sent over by our neighboring Walton High School.

"So why don't we eat the school lunch prepared for us?" *(Continued on page 3)*

HALLOWEEN FOR ALL OF US

By Francis Thoml('09)

Halloween, the one day of the year on which you can dress up and get free candy, is only two weeks away. And apparently, the seniors are more excited than anyone else in this school.

Justine Lucid ('08) stated that she loves Halloween so much because "it's surreal. People walking around on foggy Halloween nights dressed up as clowns and stuff--it's enchanting." Based on the results of a recent *Common Sense* survey, more seniors at HSAS go trick or treating at Halloween than in any other grade in the school. Sophomores came in second, while freshmen and juniors took the places of third and fourth, respectively.

At HSAS, the level of excitement for Halloween varies. The students who continue to go trick or treating gave lots of different reasons, but ultimately, the main reason is the free candy (what else?). Some students don't actually go alone, instead taking their younger siblings and relatives out for trick or treating. *(Continued on page 2)*

SENIORS CHOOSE THEIR LEADERS

By Philip Schorr('08)

Three weeks ago the entire senior class piled into the largest room in our building, composed of rooms 104 and 106, to partake in a familiar democratic event, the Senior representative elections. Several positions needed to be filled, and there were many people wanting to fill each position.

Each candidate was nominated by simple self-announcement, but they turned out to be fierce contenders in the race for office. Each candidate read a prepared a speech to their classmates that outlined their platform and their goals if elected to office.

After hearing their speeches, several students, including Steven Zapata, felt that "Each candidate showed much enthusiasm and support to make this year, the best senior year" and that "you could see how badly every candidate wanted to win his or her position."

Running for treasurer were Mohommad Barkeshli('08), Tyler Ehrman('08), and Shari Novick ('08). Mohommad made the point that he was already a member of the student government and that he



Photo Taken By: Caity Baer('08)

T. Ehrman, C. Joubert, B. Colon, & S. Fox; Our Senior Government

would act as a "bridge" between the general student government and the special senior branch of government.

Tyler relied on the knowledge of finances that his father imparted to him and suggested various fund raisers such as car washes and a battle of the bands using the slogan "every penny counts." Shari suggested yard sales to raise funds.

Running for the position of secretary were Angelina Wills('08), Yoojin Park('08), Christina Joubert('08), and Elizabeth Robbins('08). A

common factor in all of their **"we (seniors) deserve some fun in our senior year."**

speeches was the planning of this year's senior trip. Yoojin gained mass appeal by announcing that "we (seniors) deserve some fun in our senior year." Yet they made efforts to set themselves apart.

Angelina used the fact that the previous senior secretaries were not very productive and she made her classmates aware that she would not just sit around, while remaining open to suggestions. *(Continued on page 2)*