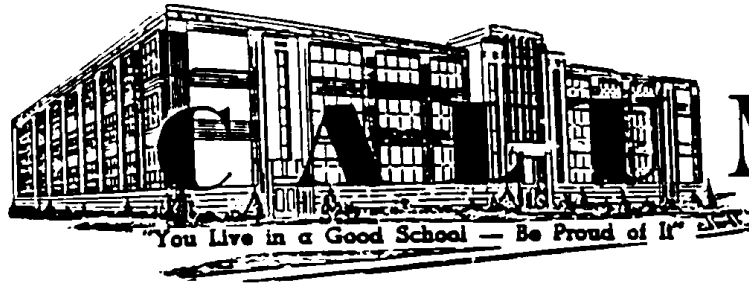


THE WEEQUAHIC ALUMNI



M E T

Winter / Spring 2001
Issue # 4

WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents:

Harold Braff, 1952
Faith Howard, 1982

Treasurer:

Sheldon Bross, 1955

Secretary:

Lois Attles-Wyatt, 1954

Committee Chairs:

Membership:

Adilah Thomas Quddus, 1971

Events:

Faith Howard, 1982

Newsletter / Website:

Phil Yourish, 1964

Tutoring / Mentoring:

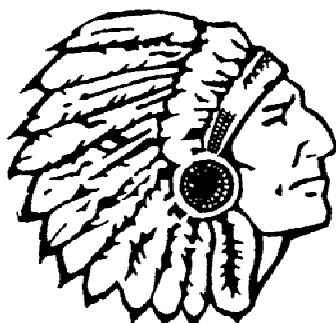
David Lieberfarb, 1965

WHS Liaison:

Lorraine White, 1964

Committee Members:

Sylvester Allen, 1971
Reuben Alston, 1982
Edna Bailey, (WHS Principal)
Marshall Cooper, 1969
Joseph Foushee
Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert, 1960
Gerry Greenspan, 1959
Eugene Lawson, 1970
Myra Lawson, 1970
Charles Meadows, (EX-WHS Principal)
Denise Muhammad, 1972
Gerald Russell, 1974
Charles Talley, 1966
Abdur-Rahmaan A. Wadud, 1971
Sam Weinstock, 1955



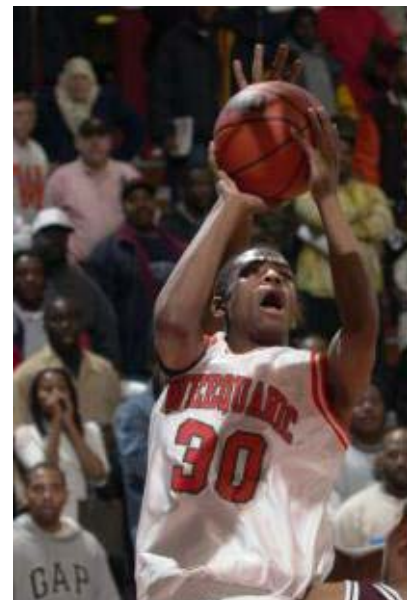
WEEQUAHIC, 26-2, WINS GROUP II STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



Championship game MVP Nagee Johnson is hugged by Andrew Jones, left, and Ike Anaele



Coach Frank Gavin



Asmar Bullock

Weequahic Wins State Group II Basketball Crown - 1st Title Since 1973

By Mike Kinney, Star-Ledger

One more chance. Nagee Johnson secretly pleaded for just one more opportunity to help Weequahic. Then Donnell Bey's baseline jumper fell off the side of the rim. The second chance Johnson wanted fell into his hands - figuratively and literally. And Johnson, who already had played a fantastic game, made the most of it.

The junior hit the putback, was fouled, and converted a free throw with 6.4 seconds left in overtime to give Weequahic a 91-90 victory over Pleasantville yesterday for the NJSIAA/First Union Group II championship at the Rutgers Athletic Center in Piscataway. The victory gives Weequahic, No. 16 in The Star-Ledger Top 20, its first state title since 1973. Johnson had a chance to tie the game



just short. As soon as the senior released his shot, he saw Johnson flashing to the left block for the rebound. "I had a perfect view," Bey said.

"As I stepped down, their big man (Dozier) stepped up to me and I saw Nagee slashing inside. I just knew in my heart he was getting the rebound." After Johnson's winning free throw, Pleasantville freshman Kamron Warner dribbled down-court and missed a running jumper that rebounded far from the lane as the buzzer sounded.

Weequahic showed composure late in regulation to put itself in position to win. It trailed, 74-64, one minute into the

fourth quarter with one starter, Ike Anaele, having fouled out and the other four in foul trouble. Dane Walker (15 points), Weequahic's leading scorer, fouled out with 2:48 left and Weequahic behind, 78-77.

Sophomore Rasheed Huggins, who only recently began to see important minutes, tied the game at 82 off a pass inside from Bey with 59 seconds left in regulation. Huggins then dribbled into the lane and found Saddiq Gaddy alone inside for a two-point lead with 15 seconds to go.

Pleasantville forced overtime when Dozier, who led all scorers with 33 points, hit Ronald Scott inside for a layup with 4.2 seconds to play. Bey found Johnson inside, but the buzzer sounded before he released his shot - which missed.

Bey, as always, was an outstanding floor leader down the stretch despite playing with four fouls the final 2:36 of regulation and the entire overtime. He came up with a huge defensive play late in overtime when he drew an offensive foul against Sterling Duncan (16 points), sending him out with his fifth foul.

In the fourth quarter Bey scored seven of his 20 points, including five straight to put Weequahic in front, 79-78, with 2:26 to play. Gaddy also scored seven points in the fourth after getting only two in the first three quarters.

"We've been saying all along that this is a real team," Walker said. "I've got to tell you, I was a little scared when I wasn't in the game anymore. We were on the bench, praying, holding hands, doing whatever we could think of. In the game or not, you still have to support your team no matter what."

Note: Pleasantville is located near Atlantic City and they have one fabulous basketball team. Kudos to a very competitive and well-coached team.

WEEQUAHIC	91	PLEASANTVILLE	90
Nagee Johnson **	29	Dozier	33
Donnell Bey *	20	Kelly	23
Dane Walker *	15	Duncan	16
Saddiq Gaddy *	9	R. Scott	7
Asmar Bullock	8	Simpkins	6
Ike Anaele *	5	Everett	2
Julian Dickerson	3	Warner	3
Rasheed Huggins	2	Whetstone	0
Patrick Ford	0	B. Scott	0
Rasheed Nelson	0		
Andrew Jones	0		
Coach: Frank Gavin		Coach: Harold Warner	
* Starters /**MVP			

with 1:10 remaining in overtime but missed two free throws. Pleasantville's Antwan Dozier returned the favor when he did the same with 28 seconds to go. "When I missed those two free throws, I just wanted to die right there," said Johnson, who finished with 29 points and 10 rebounds and earned team MVP honors. "But then Bey came up to me and said, 'You're going to get another chance. Don't worry.' I was just praying he was right."

Johnson's opportunity almost came in the form of an assist, but Bey's jumper was

☺ **This is the 1st state championship in basketball since 1973 when WHS beat Atlantic City as a Group IV school.**

☺ **WHS also won the Group IV state championships in 1966 (Hackensack), 1967 (Camden), and 1962 (Westfield) and came in 2nd in 1980 (Group III), 1960 & 1959.**

☺ **This is only the third time that Newark has had two basketball champions at the same time: 1962 (Weequahic & South Side) and 1995 (Shabazz & Science).**

☺ **Al Friedman, a star player on the championship 1962 team, was at the game.**

WHEN THE PAST COMES ALIVE

Basketball Fame Returns To Newark

Excerpts from Mike Vaccaro's column in *The Star-Ledger*

...Nobody knew, this early in the afternoon, that this would be a date to press between the pages of Newark's basketball scrapbook forever...Shabazz (South Side) was going to stun Camden, 61-57. *(They beat a team led by Dajuan Wagner - who scored 100 points in a game this season and was NJ's career scoring leader).*

Joining the crush of Shabazz fans storming the floor. That noise you heard? It wasn't just this week's Tournament of Champions getting knocked on its ears, stripped of its highest profile team. It was the city of Newark rising at the RAC (Rutgers Athletic Center), roaring, reminding the rest of the state just where Jersey's basketball pulse is still quartered. First Shabazz. And later Weequahic, storming back from a 10-point fourth-quarter hole, edging Pleasantville, 91-90, in overtime, winning the Group II title.

"I bleed for Newark," Shabazz coach Louis Grimsley said through a thick rasp. "The city means everything to me, and it means everything for a lot of people. You hear a lot about how Newark ballplayers, all they want to do is run up and down the floor, just throw the balls out there. I don't think they're saying that anymore. Not after today?"

Not after five furious hours that sent two Newark schools to the T of C for the first time in six years. Beginning with Robinson's no-no-no-yesssss! rainbow that carried Shabazz, ending with Nagee Johnson's acrobatic three-point play that delivered Weequahic, the day belonged to Newark. The edgy buzz inside the

building told you. So did the ecstatic players who made it all possible.

They may go to different schools, separated by a mile and a half of city streets. But in the summertime, they belong to a rich fraternity of locals who fill schoolyards and gymnasiums with some of the best runs you'll find in Jersey. Whether it's for teams like the Zoo Crew, at schoolyards like Hawthorne, in church gyms like the Metro on Springfield Avenue, they know each other, compete against each other, exchange loud, brash trash talk with each another. Yesterday, they rooted for each other.



As Weequahic's players dashed out of their locker room for pregame warmups, they exchanged high-fives with the Shabazz players, already decked out in black-and-gold commemorative T-shirts. Later, in the minutes before tip-off, there was a knock on the locker room door. Someone answered. And in walked Shabazz point guard Dennis Harper alongside center Devonne Giles. The room grew quiet.

"Come on, y'all," Harper said. "You gotta bring it home, too." "Once they said that," Weequahic's Dane Walker said, "there was no way we could let them get a step further than us. No way. We'd never hear the end of it this summer. We had to join them in the Tournament of Champions. We had to." And they did.

Between them, they put together an afternoon of snapshots they will keep with them forever, something the city

will cherish just as long. It's so easy to kick Newark in the stomach, it's been an easy topic for cynics and stand-ups for 35 years. Not this morning. Not today. A couple of Newark coaches and a couple dozen Newark players saw to that.

"They have to collect their memories while they can," Weequahic coach Frank Gavin said after leading the school to its first group state title since 1973. "We've got a lot of tradition at our school, but a lot of those years on the trophies look like ancient history. These guys just made some new history?"

Thirty years ago, Grimsley played on a South Side team coached by Barry Gimelstob that won the Group III title over Ocean Township. Thirty years later, with Gimelstob sitting right next to him, Grimsley brought the school now named Malcolm X Shabazz its third Group title in seven years. On the sweetest day of a long basketball life.

"Camden's so good," he said, "that you'd better be at your best to beat them. And we were." They were.

Everyone was. Shabazz early. Weequahic late. Remember this day. Remember these games. Thirty years from now, you'll want to be in on the conversation. You'll want to say you were there.

Note: There has always been a strong South Side/Shabazz - Weequahic connection and rivalry. Both Lou Grimsley and Barry Gimelstob were star basketball players for Weequahic.

Grimsley played for South Side and was on the 1971 Group III state championship team. He then transferred to Weequahic in 1972, and played on the WHS basketball team.

Gimelstob played for Weequahic from 1957 to 1961. He was on the 1959 and 1960 teams that made it to the Group IV finals before losing to Camden. He coached South Side from 1967 to 1971 and won State titles in 1969 and 1971 and was selected as Coach of the Year.

Days of Glory

By **Hal Braff**

Co-President, WHS Alumni Association

Sitting in the stands at the Rutgers Athletic Center on Sunday, March 11 cheering Weequahic's heroic basketball team on to a State Championship won in overtime (for the 2nd game in a row) - it was easy to picture myself 50 years ago as a senior, passionately rooting the Indians on to our first city football trophy. 50 years - and still, what happens at Weequahic somehow happens to me. Why were those days so significant, those odd colors so deeply touching? These memories are vivid:

© In 1951, our class play was "Junior Miss" - here's a cast picture.

© In 1951, Eleanor Roosevelt addressed us in our auditorium - here's an article from the September 27 Newark Evening News

© In 1951, we beat West Side 19-0 to finish unbeaten in the Newark City League - here's the article.

© In 1951, the Weequahic High School Alumni Association was first formed - its goals, like ours, to help Weequahic graduates finance higher education.

Perhaps when you read about our school's recent glory, something good comes back to you. I urge you to act upon those feelings and join us. Become a member of your Alumni Association. Contribute articles to our Alumni Calumet reflecting your memories. Look for us on our web page -

<http://school.nj.com/cc/weequahicalumni>

And help us raise Foundation and Corporate funds so that no Weequahic graduate who earns a higher education but can't afford it will be deprived of a chance.

JOIN US - WE'RE ON OUR WAY!



Weequahic Slams West Side, 19 to 0

Indians Score 3 Tallies in Second Half After Foe's Stubborn Fight

By **Joe McLaughlin**

Exploding for three touchdowns in the second half, Weequahic High School, 1951 Newark City League champions, battered a stubborn West Side eleven, 19-0, yesterday at Newark Schools Stadium. The Indians scored a touchdown in the third quarter and added a pair in the final period.

West Side, playing str football, held the Indians yards on the ground and air in the first period. The employed a six to eight- the Indians' vaunted grou second period, the Indian better and were two yard touchdown when time ran penetrated Indian territor but failed to move within

...Andy Zupko of the I through early in the third a punt by West Side's Ar picked up the bouncing p 27 yards for the initial TD...In the fourth period, Weequahic took over on the West Side 49, and moved in five plays to its second TD, with Al Lubetkin crashing over from the three.

The Indians produced their final TD on a 59-yard run by Lubetkin who smashed through left guard for his scoring dash. Sandy Dreskin's placement was good.

Stresses Duty Of Citizenship

Mrs. Roosevelt Speaks to Weequahic High Students

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, United States delegate to the United Nations, yesterday urged the students of Weequahic High School to "prepare to assume the responsibility of citizenship in the world's greatest democracy."

Mrs. Roosevelt told her audience that "a democracy requires from its citizens a greater sense of responsibility than any other type of government." Poor citizenship which is the same thing as refusing to accept responsibility and being indifferent to the issues involved in any election, leads to unintelligent voting and ultimate disintegration of the democratic type of government, she said

Jacobson Elected Head of Weequahic Alumni

The newly organized Weequahic High School Alumni Association elected these officers last night: President, Joel R. Jacobson, Newark; vice president, Dr. Sanford M. Lewis, Maplewood; treasurer, Morton Seltzer, Newark; and secretary Mrs. Henry Roth, Linden.

The executive council, consisting of a member from each class represented at last night's meeting, will convene soon to begin work on a constitution for the association. Among current plans is establishment of a scholarship for Weequahic alumni.

pecially important, she since we, as the "most on in the world" have less fortunate allies who much from the last world st understand them and stoms and traditions, she e stressed the of the Marshall Plan and t Four program.

vevelt urged the students unist doctrine so that ferentiate between its ve line of promises and rking."

In a question and answer period, Mrs. Roosevelt approved the recall of Gen. MacArthur and added "it should have been done sooner but in a different way." She also said the age at which a citizen can vote should be reduced to 18.

New BAND Uniforms - The Perfect Present

By Ivelisse DeJesus, Star-Ledger Staff

For Christmas, RahJohn Grace got a leather coat and a video camcorder, but the best present of all came a few days later: new uniforms for the Weequahic High School marching band. Grace and other band members had waited for months for these uniforms that will replace the Newark band's frayed and mismatched attire.

On December 29th, the long-awaited shipment from DeMoullin Brothers and Co., a Greenville, Ill., uniform manufacturer, arrived at the district's Office of Visual and Performing Arts. The shipment of eight boxes included 60 orders of coats, trousers, overlays, capes, hats and shoulder gear that bear the Weequahic Indians' traditional brown and orange colors.

"It's inspiring," said Grace, a snare drummer. The Weequahic junior had driven to the district's arts office along with Darryl Taylor, assistant band director, and several other band members to be the first to open the boxes. "This has been so long it hasn't settled in yet," Taylor said.

In January, the 60-member band - used to patching and pinning uniforms together - learned an alumnus had donated \$75,000 for new instruments and uniforms. The grant helped offset years of district budget constraints that resulted in sporadic and scant funding for activities such as the band.

The school, in the city's South Ward, performed with broken instruments and in old uniforms. But the kids remained faithful to the band in performance - and in relentless practices where neighborhood toughs sometimes hurled rocks at them.

They persevered, they captivated audiences with their spirited style of marching, and they captured a first place title at the Orlando All-Star Music Festival in Florida last June.



Darryl Taylor, assistant band director, with band members RahJohn Grace, Norman Dais & Jamal Littles

But because of administrative and purchasing delays, only the uniforms for the dancers - one-piece orange suits trimmed in sequins - arrived before the end of the fall football season. Without most of the new uniforms, band director Michael Page declined invitations to march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and to participate in the January 2 Orange Bowl in Florida.

They practice on blacktop after school. Marching and drilling into the night. Learning steps and beats that hold them together like a family.....When the Weequahic marching band stomps its stuff down Chancellor Avenue, this is a neighborhood rejuvenated. Cars and busses slow down...Everyone is pulled into a celebration of music and dance...The kids of the Weequahic marching band dazzle...They make music that wins titles - hearts

Page didn't contain his glee when he received word the uniforms had finally arrived. "It's like the end of a long road," he said. "Actually, it's the beginning... I see hope and doors opening up for us. I feel we can actually broaden our performance skills."

And though William May, director of the district's Office of Visual and Performing Arts, had the day off, he drove to the office to receive the shipment and allow the small group the thrill of opening the boxes.

"The kids have waited quite some time," he said. "They are real troupers with a tremendous amount of spirit." Although schools remained closed last week for the holidays, word spread among band members, who showed up at the district office to sneak a peek at the new outfits.

"This is my Christmas present," said Norman Dais, a drummer. "I'm satisfied." Sylvia Grace, Rahjohn's mother and an enthusiastic band supporter, said she expected to see a change in the group as a result of the new ensembles. "Their confidence will be higher and I think their performance will be even better now. They are going to go out looking as good any other band," she said.

Page said the group could look forward to participating in a spring season of parades and competitions, including the annual national high school marching band competition in Florida. "We'll be going in style," he said.

In addition to the initial \$75,000 donation, Page said the band has received contributions from Star-Ledger readers who learned of their accomplishments and challenges in two articles. Letters and donations ranging from \$20 to \$250 continued to arrive at the school just before the holiday break.

Caroline Moeller, a Star-Ledger reader from Morris County who made a donation to the band, said the band showed how determination wins out over adversity. "I think it's inspiring. I admire them," Moeller said. "It's admiration that I have for them. For them to overcome any obstacle in their way... I know it can be done, but you don't always see it."

AL "BUBBA" BAKER Weequahic's Pro Football Star

By Al "Bubba" Baker, Class of 1974



I was born in Jacksonville Florida, 1956, the last of four children. As mom would say, I'm the baby of the family. While being the least likely to succeed of my siblings, I had

and have always had the edge on most people because as a child and to this very day I am a DREAMER! By this I mean that *the body can't achieve what the mind doesn't perceive*".

When I was seven years old my mom, as a single parent moved my family to Newark, NJ, and it was there that I learned to turn my dreams into reality by visualizing myself into a positive situation. During the 60's, Newark was undergoing the civil rights changes and it was very scary for me. Although I have no idea of what Viet Nam was like, I'd imagine during this period it was similar. In grade school I was a little on the chubby side.



In fact in the 6th grade I was 5' 7 1/2 and I weighed a mere 275 pounds (*no, it's not a typo*) and I was very insecure about my weight, about the success of my older siblings who were stars

in high school football and basketball, and my sister who was the captain of the cheerleaders. All this took place at the biggest and best high school in Newark at the time, South Side.

I grew up being the little fat, scary kid brother of Jackie Baker, Charlie Boy and Rhonda. All my childhood I thought they were embarrassed by me being their little brother. Both my brothers were All-State in football, and Jackie was All-State in basketball as well. Rhonda was the prettiest girl in the school and some say the most personable.

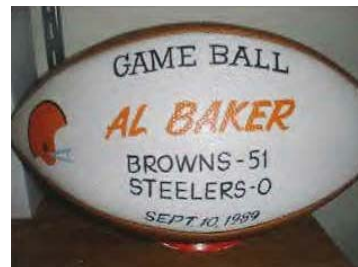
After all that I've told you about the South Side High School Bulldogs and the Baker reputation, I decided to go to their sworn enemies on the other side of town - the Weequahic Indians. (Incidentally the

**Al "Bubba" Baker, a
1974 Weequahic High
School graduate who played
for the Detroit Lions, St.
Louis Cardinals, Cleveland
Browns, and Minnesota
Vikings for 13 years in the
National Football League
(NFL), was the Rookie
Defensive Player of the
Year and was named by
Sports Illustrated as the 9th
ALL-TIME pass rusher
in NFL History**

school colors are Orange and Brown, just like the Cleveland Browns of the seventies.) I need not say anymore about how this was received, but as I look back on it, it was my way of saying *I can't fill your shoes at that school*. So, I created a fair playing ground, even still the expectations almost destroyed me.

Oh yeah, by now I'm 6'3" and 300 lbs. but very athletic. In fact, my best sports were basketball and baseball in that order and football was distant third, very distant. After being a High School All American in two sports (basketball and football), I dreamed of getting out of the inner city environment and again I shocked everyone by signing a letter of intent to attend Colorado State University (Rams, not Buffaloes). By now football had brought the character out in me that my Mom, *Ernestine the Queen* and my high school football coach *Burney Adams* had worked so hard to develop. Thanks, guys!

If you notice I chose to say brought it out. Here's a great lesson I learned by going



West to be on my own. *Sports do not build character they merely bring the character in you out*. Unfortunately, if you are a horse's a--- to begin with, then that's what you will bring out as well. It's just that simple!

My professional football career has been well documented so I won't bore you with that, but my life is forever changing. I'm a married man with a beautiful, cool wife.

Her name is Sabrina Renee Baker and I have three kids Nicole (*Nikki*), Britani (*Bo*), and James Albert London Baker 4th (he likes to be called *BUBBA*). I have a simple life and I'm so thankful to so many NFL fans for the life that I live. I own a small but growing Gourmet Sauce Company, called BUBBA'S Q, and we also cater in Avon, Ohio.



All this for the little Fat Kid from Newark, NJ and the funny thing is with exception of having seen a large portion of the world, I'm still the same sensitive person, only now I've become this well known Football Player. *Isn't life in America GREAT?*



African-American History Month At WHS

Rev. Ralph Lord Roy: Rabbi Israel Dresner:



Left - Rabbi Dresner, Right - Rev. Roy

Both men were arrested and imprisoned twice; once as Freedom Riders in Florida and once as civil rights activists with Dr. Martin Luther King in Albany, Georgia. Rev. Ralph Roy was the first white Methodist minister in this country to be jailed for his civil rights activism during the 60's. Rabbi Israel Dresner, against the advice of many members of his synagogue, became active in the civil rights movement in the South. In 1962, Rev. Roy and Rabbi Dresner developed plans for a nationwide pilgrimage of ministers to join the integration struggle in Albany, Georgia.

This was the story that Rev. Roy shared with Weequahic students on February 20th at the high school. He spoke of the reasons why he as a white Methodist minister assigned to a church in Harlem felt the compulsion to participate in breaking the back of segregation in Georgia and Florida. Emboldened by his religious convictions and patriotism, he knew that the promise of America could only be met if freedom was available to everyone without any racial barriers. Rabbi Dresner, who was a guest speaker at the school two years ago, reviewed the closeness of the past Presidential election and strongly emphasized to the students the importance of exercising their right to vote.

The Rev. Ralph Roy is currently the pastor of the United Methodist Church of East Berlin, Connecticut



Left -Rev. Roy Right -Rabbi Dresner
in the South in the 1960's

and Rabbi Israel Dresner, is the retired spiritual leader of synagogues in Springfield and Wayne, NJ.

Dr. Clement Price:

Excerpts from an article by
Antonette Parsley, Calumet Staff

At a school-wide assembly on Dr. Price on February 26, students had the opportunity to hear a talk presented by Dr. Clement Price, a well known Professor of History at Rutgers University in Newark. Dr. Price began his talk by reading the introduction from the first book on Black History written by George Washington Williams.

He then explained the difference between history and the past saying that history is taught and with that we know how to understand the future. The past is personal, he continued, saying that the past is our memories of previous events. He asked students to take an interest in their personal past.



He encouraged students to become more historic minded, saying that "We are indebted to our ancestors and yet we don't really appreciate them." Students were encouraged to start a journal so that they could look back into their own past one-day. He also suggested taking a photo of significance to us today and put it away for safekeeping. Ten to twenty years down the road pull it out and see what past memories come to mind from this piece of the past.

Dr. Price also stressed the importance of knowing the role that women played in African-American history. He talked about Marian Thompson Wright, who was only one of two Black students to graduate from Barringer HS in 1923. She went on to obtain her BA and MA from Howard University, a Ph.D. from Columbia, and wrote the book Negro History in the 1930's. In a very short time he covered some very unique and little known information about Black history. The presentation closed with a question and answer period with the students.

Note: Although not originally from Newark, Dr. Price is now considered to be one of the most knowledgeable persons about Newark's history, events and politics.

Star-Ledger 50 Greatest High School Athletes of the Century

NUMBER 46: SWEDE MASIN, 1938

Masin was one of the finest athletes Newark has produced. Masin excelled in football, basketball, soccer and track. An All-State basketball player, Masin was an All-Decade selection. He was named a coaches All-American in soccer, won the state AAU shot-put championship and finished second in the Penn Relays discus.

Top 10 Athletes of the Century in each Sport:

Basketball SWEDE MASIN, 1938

Cross Country
BOB MACK, 1958
Mack won Division A titles-equivalent to state group titles- in 1957 and 1958. He would have been favored to win three straight titles, but he graduated at age 16 to go to Yale where he was two-time NCAA indoor two-mile champion in 1961 and 1962.

Top Athletes of the Decade:

Basketball
30's: SWEDE MASIN
50's: AL ATTLES
50's: DAVE KLURMAN*
60's: DENNIS 'MO' LAYTON
60's: DANA LEWIS
70's: LOU GRIMSLEY*

Cross Country
50's: BOBBY MACK

Track & Field
90's: REGINA TROTTER

* Honorable Mention

memories of Watson's bagels and more...

TASTE
OF N.J.



BROOKE
TARABOUR

There's a cartoon on my refrigerator with two seniors sitting around talking. One says to the other: *"In the old days we weren't old."*

I think about that when I read the stream of nostalgia that

comes to my e-mail account courtesy of Jac Toporek, a Weequahic High School classmate (1963) of my brother, Marc. I'm one of the last 50 people on Jac's list, and many of these ex-Newarkers post detailed remembrances about their growing up years, displaying amazingly clear memories.

As you can imagine when so many people are tripping down the same memory lane, there's a lot of talk about the food way back when: the best cheesecake (the Weequahic Diner or the Tavern), the best hot dog (Syd's or the Hot Dog Haven), the best pizza (the Indian Pizzeria or Jo Rae's), the best bread (Silver's or Kiel's).

But when it comes to bagels, it is unanimous: Watson Bagels of Newark was without peer and still is, according to this delightfully vocal group, and I enthusiastically concur. I also confess I wish the bagels of today would even remotely resemble the old time chewy, crusty, yeasty gems of my youth. Too often, I find bagels have become doughy, gummy, bland and, by the way, who needs them to be so big you can feed your family on one-half?

So when someone on-line mentioned that a longtime partner of Watson Bagels still is baking bagels the old-fashioned way at Sonny Amster's Bakery in Union - hand shaped, boiled in water and baked on wooden boards - I took the bait and made an appointment to go and see him. Well, maybe I really just wanted to taste a Watson bagel again, but whatever the reason, it turned out to be a really good day.

First, the bagel buzz: Amster, 71, isn't a real specific kind of guy, but I did manage to learn a little history. "Watson Bagels started in the 1930's or maybe the '20's on Watson Avenue in Newark. I don't know who the original owners were. It moved to Clinton Place in the '30's maybe - sometime around them."

Well, maybe details aren't that important when you're baking only two kinds of bagels - plain and salt - and you're charging 36 cents per dozen, which was pretty much the scenario when Amster bought into the business in 1957 and became partners with Joseph Perlman from New York. He says they had two brick ovens, baked all night and stayed open 24 hours a day.

Amster credits both the original recipe - which he says has not changed in more than 70 years - and Newark city water as Watson's secrets for success. During their 41-year run, Amster and Perlman supplied bagels to many area restaurants and supermarkets, making hundreds of dozens each day just for walk-in customers.

Their bagels were (and are) made from high gluten flour, salt, malt and yeast; then hand cut into strips, shaped into circles, placed on wooden boards, proofed for three hours, boiled in water and baked until done.

The brick ovens in Newark could only handle plain and salt bagels because the flames would burn onion and other condiments. When they moved from Newark to Irvington in 1967, they stuck to the recipe, but were able to make different flavors with the use of new porcelain and stainless steel ovens.

The Irvington operation lasted until 1998, and in the meantime, Amster had opened Sonny's Bagels in South Orange, (973) 763-9634, and Elmora Bagels in Elizabeth, (908) 289-2985. He only sells bagels at those locations, "and maybe some cream cheese - no sandwiches." He also bought the Union site about 17 years ago against his better judgment.

"You do what you do best," he says, "And I'm a bagel maker, not a baker." Still he hired a few bakers, including his son Harlan, who now owns 16 bagel shops of his own. He patterned the operation after the Jewish bakeries in Newark he remembered as a child; as he walked me past the display cases, he referred to his products as "just like Silver's, just like Kiel's," and when we passed the cheesecake, "the Weequahic Diner's recipe."

Through the years, I've probably been told more cheesecakes are "just like the Weequahic Diner's" than I can count. Sure, I thought. Also, to be frank, Sonny Amster's Bakery is not fancy. By that, I mean, everything looked good enough, but I would not have thought it



particularly special.

So thinking this was a bagel story, I bought a few (at 50 cents each). I also chose a plain cheesecake, of course (\$7, they also come topped with strawberries, cherries, pineapples for \$10.50), a chocolate mini baba (\$2.50) and a chocolate-ice cream donut (40 cents) because Amster said it was "better than Silver's," the best in my memory.

I passed on the cakes, but noted that you could buy a piece of huge marble, sponge and 7-layer cakes, like I remembered at the old Newark bakeries. I also didn't go for mandelbrot (\$8 per pound), coffee cakes, or puffed pastries bowties (\$7 per pound). Long loaves of strudels and poppyseed cakes looked like a page out of my memory book and also could be cut by the piece, but I chose a couple of Danish, a sugar-free cherry turnover, a raisin challah and asked for a quarter of a 6-pound Russian rye bread with caraway seeds (\$2.40 per pound).

...continued on next page

Bruce Baumgarten, class of 1965, cashes in on memories to help kids

Excerpts from article by Barbara Kukla, Star-Ledger Staff

Eleven-year-old Shanika Audige already knows quite a bit about money. She knows how to earn it by doing chores like washing the family dog, doing the dishes and clearing the table. She knows how to save it, building her \$5 weekly allowance at one point to more than \$30 before spending some of her hard-earned bucks for tasty snacks.

Moreover, as one of 400 Newark students enrolled in a new after-school program called Kid\$ense at 13 public schools, the Lincoln fifth grader is learning all kinds of new things about it. All of this is thanks to Bruce Baumgarten, executive vice president of Gibraltar Securities, and the corporate friends he spent a month enlisting to help 400 Newark youngsters.

"For me, this is a thrill of a lifetime," Baumgarten said last week as the Kid\$ense program officially kicked off at his alma mater, Chancellor Avenue School. "I spent my entire childhood right here in the playground, playing every sport," he said, at a time "when no one had any money. Being here taught me so many things - tough things - about how to deal with life."

Baumgarten, who grew up just down the hill at Vassar Avenue and Aldine Street, didn't have to go far when he graduated from Chancellor Avenue. His next stop was Weequahic High School - right next door to the elementary school - where his name for years was enshrined in a box on the wall by his fellow stickball players.

While the world of finance, where Baumgarten eventually made his mark as a professional may seem light years away from the hallowed halls of the two Newark schools that shaped his career, it really is not, the finance whiz said. That's because Gibraltar Securities, which moved its offices to Florham Park in 1977, originated in downtown Newark a decade earlier.



Baumgarten said he first heard about Kid\$ense from friends at Nuveen Investments, which introduced the program in the schools in 1999.

"I thought it was fabulous," he said. Just to be sure, he turned to his wife, a special education teacher, for advice. "She loved it, too."

And so, Baumgarten sprang into action.

Through business associates at the New Jersey Nets, he established a partnership - one of many collaborative efforts that benefit Newark children - involving Nuveen, the Nets, Gibraltar and the Newark public schools. "Bruce's heart is in this all the way," said Elnardo Webster, director of extended day programs for the Newark schools. "He's come to every meeting, plans to visit each of the schools to talk to our students, and is arranging visits for all of them at Gibraltar's offices in Florham Park."

...In addition to Chancellor Avenue and Lincoln, the program is going full force at Alexander Street, Ann Street, Avon Avenue, First Avenue, Rafael Hernandez, Peshine Avenue, Harriet Tubman and Wilson Avenue elementary schools and William Brown Academy, Gladys Hillman Jones and Harold Wilson middle schools.

..."Mr. Baumgarten is our special new friend," Anzella K. Nelms, deputy school superintendent, told the children. "He is someone who genuinely cares about you. He wants you to understand the value of money so that you can become what he has become. So please take advantage of his gift and come to the after-school program."

BAGELS

...continued from previous page

When I arrived at my brother Marc's house, arms laden with packages, we set out all the goodies for our taste test. Well. Actually I was busy savoring the best onion bagel I've eaten in decades. Marc, his wife Sheila and our Aunt Emma tasted. And commented: "This rye bread is fantastic!" "The cheesecake is just like the Weequahic Diner's -

creamy, subtle and perfect!" "The filling in this cream donut doesn't assault you. It's light and delicious.

So I looked up from what's left of my bagel and realized that Sonny Amster may not be a baker, but he sure knew how to hire someone who is. I don't know if his bakery products are as good as those of my Newark youth (memory being what it is) but my family seemed to think they were really good. I do know that I can't wait for another one of those

bagels and I've already asked Marc to bring some next time he visits. And while it's true that the good old days seem better, it may just be because we were younger then. Still, a trip to Sonny Amster's made me feel like going home finally is a possibility. By the way, can anyone on-line borrow the car tonight?

Note: Brooke Tarabour, the writer of the Star-Ledger's "Taste of New Jersey" column, is a 1965 Weequahic High School graduate. The column appears every other Wednesday in the Savor section.

WE ENJOYED A WONDERFUL PAST, SUPPORT WEEQUAHIC'S FUTURE

A THANK YOU TO OUR MOST INSPIRING TEACHER

When **Marie O'Connor** turned 85 on December 8th, 1994, fifty persons, mostly former students from the early 50's, gathered to honor their former Weequahic English teacher at the home of Hal and Elaine Braff in South Orange. Below is a poignant description of that wonderful evening by **Robert Werbel**, class of 1955, written in January 1995.



Marie O'Connor taught English for more than 40 years - first at Weequahic and then at Red Bank (NJ) High School and never took a sabbatical. As she tells it "I kept waiting until I became bored with teaching - and that just never happened".

Weequahic High School (its name derived from the tribe of Weequahic Indians that first populated the area) and its neighborhood were memorialized by Philip Roth, perhaps its most famous alumnus, in his early novels (most notably Portnoy's Complaint). During Marie O'Connor's tenure, Weequahic High School was considered one of the finest schools in the state, year after year turning out a cadre of well-trained and highly motivated graduates.

Miss O'Connor's birthday celebration brought together a number of those graduates, some of whom had kept in touch with her in the years since graduation, and some of whom had not seen her (or each other) since the early 1950's. But all of them were held together by a common strand - that despite the fact that many of them had later been taught by superstars, including would-be Nobel laureates and aspiring Supreme Court justices, Marie O'Connor has always been the most memorable and inspiring teacher of their lives.

Marie O'Connor was an energizing mix of part "Auntie Mame" and part drill sergeant, but mostly keeper (or igniter) of the flame. As "Auntie Mame," her daily dress always included something purple - her favorite color - and her perennially purple eyeglass frames complemented her strikingly deep blue eyes. Her favorite pastimes included attending track meets and riding her bicycle, and she could always be counted on to return from vacations deeply tanned with stories about life in some exotic far off place that she had just visited. Her students, few of whom had ventured west of the Delaware River, were continually awestruck.

As drill sergeant, she brought to the classroom a disciplined love of learning through which her students knew that, while she would be setting high standards for them, they would not be greater than the demands of excellence that she required of herself as a teacher. As a result, there was hardly a written assignment that was not returned to the student with comments from top to bottom in the familiar O'Connor handwriting (in purple ink, of course), and with the all too familiar ending - "Please re-write and return tomorrow, but half as long."

The walls of Miss O'Connor's classrooms (the legendary Room 209 both at WHS and Red Bank) were filled with maxims to work by - "Writing is Re-Writing" and "Revise, Revise, Revise!" - and to live by - "Let serenity be the keynote of this class", "Carry a 'Message to Garcia'" and (inspired by one of Chaucer's pilgrims) "He was a very perfect gentle knight."

Each class session began with the famous "word for the day" exercise, in which a student was called upon to read aloud the day's word as written on the blackboard, use it in a sentence (whether or not the student knew the meaning) and then, on the next day, recite a sentence that better used the word, and explain why. Only then did Miss O'Connor and the class discuss the various interesting aspects of the day's word. To this day, as her former students reminded her last month, they cannot come across words such as *plethora*, *lexicon*, *churlish*, *taciturn* or *sartorial* without recalling that they had all been "words for the day."

In one of the evening's many nostalgic moments, Harold Braff, a highly regarded trial lawyer who was the host of the birthday gathering (and who has remained in contact with Miss O'Connor over the years), asked the group as Miss O'Connor had done in 1951 - "which teacher in the English Department had the most stentorian voice?" To a person they remembered that it had been "Mr. Kobetz" (Stentor of course being the Greek herald in the Trojan War). And Herb Skier, who was awarded the respected Bamberger medal at his 1953 graduation, recalled that ever since "laconic" had been a "word for the day" he had not been able to watch a Gary Cooper movie without remembering having been grilled by Miss O'Connor as to which Hollywood actor was known for his "laconic" persona.

Marie O'Connor's spoken and unspoken message - that she was prepared to work as hard on behalf of her students as they themselves would work - was strongly reaffirming. In today's jargon (*another "word for the day"*), it might be called "tough love". Al Attles (Weequahic '55), the venerable NBA pro and coach and now Assistant General Manager of the Golden State Warriors, captured that feeling last Spring, when he delivered the graduation address at Alameda (California) College. At the time he sent back East to Sheldon Bross, an old Weequahic friend, the commencement program announcing him as speaker with a comment that reflected his primary response to that honor - "I'm pleased to think how proud of me Miss O'Connor

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Miss O'Connor with former student Hal Braff

MISS O'CONNOR

...continued from previous page

That Miss O'Connor was prepared to give her all as a teacher was extraordinarily demonstrated by Special English, a non-credit course that she conducted during what would otherwise have been her free periods for those students willing to give up their own free periods (e.g., study hall) to attend. Special English was the opportunity that Miss O'Connor created principally to expose the students to the excitement of literature and poetry outside of the prescribed curriculum. But the course was more than a "Dead Poets Society."

In addition to the life she breathed into Byron, Keats and Shelley, the course also included the special O'Connor brand of instruction on setting a table, folding a letter before placing it in an envelope, delivering a speech and eating a sandwich (always put it back on the plate while chewing). Last month Ralph Lowenbach, who had been graduating class salutatorian in 1954, told Miss O'Connor that he had not been able to bite into a sandwich in the last 40 years without remembering to abide by that admonition.

At her birthday celebration, Miss O'Connor was immediately recognizable. While somewhat frail she looked much younger than her 85 years, and her deep blues eyes still sparkled with enthusiasm behind those purple *eyeglass* frames, as she took great relish in the tributes that her former students were delivering to her.

In the spirit of the moment, Alfreda Yadman Honigfeld, a top student at Weequahic who now spends a large part of her professional day writing, brought to the gathering a yellowed English report that she had written in 1953 for the disappointing grade of 70, and

asked Miss O'Connor for a second reading.

And Martin Sorger, now an orthopedic surgeon in Montclair, New Jersey, remarked that it was the demands of the O'Connor maxim "*writing is re-writing*" that convinced him that perhaps his talents would be better served in the sciences. Another former student (this writer) recalled how he had doggedly tracked down Miss O'Connor six years ago, the morning after attending a Broadway performance of Macbeth.

He wanted to tell her that while he had not seen or read the play since her class in 1953, he found that large passages of the dialogue came back to him a moment before the actors delivered them, as his mind's eye stunningly recalled Miss O'Connor standing in front of the classroom, playing all of the parts.

One of the more emotional of the evening's expressions of appreciation was given by George Mahr, whom everyone in the room remembered as being the great Weequahic track star. He told Miss O'Connor that what she had written in his year book - "*George don't disappoint me*" - had become a touchstone for him, and that many times during his life he had expressed the hope that he had not disappointed the God who had given - the gift of Miss O'Connor.

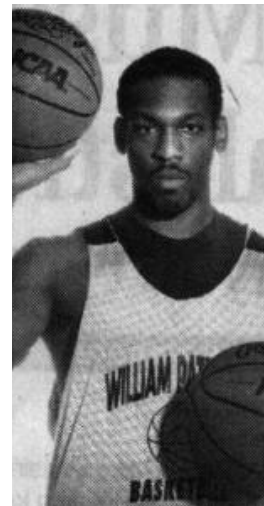
With that the guest of honor took the floor. After exhorting (another "*word for the day*") the assembled to feel comfortable in calling her "*Marie*," and thanking them for all that they had given to her, she recited these lines as a reflection of what she hoped had been her own life's calling:

*This learned I from the
shadow of the tree
That to and fro did sway
upon the wall.
Our influence--
our shadow selves may fall*

You can contact Miss O'Connor at Applewood Estates, 1705 Applewood Drive, Freehold, NJ 07728

Thomas: 'T' stands for tough Mean-streets survivor is WPU's heart and soul

Excerpts from article
by Ed Barmakian,
Star-Ledger



Mufeed Thomas (a 1996
graduate of Weequahic)

has vivid memories of walking those two blocks to grammar school. That's why he carries the words "*Only The Strong Survive*" in the form of a tattoo that stretches across his back.

Thomas knows it's hard for most people to relate. Growing up at the corner of West Kinney and Vine in Newark isn't a shared experience for the average college student. But it's part of the reason why Thomas is the most respected player on the William Paterson University (NJ) basketball team.

"For some people, walking to school is not a big deal or a dangerous thing," Thomas said. In the late '80s and early '90s, that was a very tough neighborhood. You get to look at things from a different perspective as a kid growing up in Newark...Those two blocks I walked to school I saw drug dealers, stolen cars, homeless people and cops doing their jobs on a daily basis. It was like, 'Okay, this is why I have to go to school.' Not everyone who grows up in that environment becomes a part of those things. There are people who want to change."

..."To look at where I am now, playing college basketball, getting an education, getting the opportunity to travel," said the junior, a communications major looking to be the first in his family to earn a college degree. "Not everybody from Newark is bad. I'm the poster boy for that."

...On the William Paterson basketball team, he has been known as the "heart and soul" and the "enforcer" since coach Jose Rebinbas coaxed him into school. A Star-Ledger All-Essex County pick at Weequahic High, Thomas had been working at a nursing home for two years after high school...Thomas, a scorer at Weequahic, has sacrificed his offense for the good of the team. He averages 6.0 points and 5.9 rebounds per game and has 51 assists.

Note: Thomas at 6-4 and team star Horace Jenkins have led WPU with a 26-5 record to the title game in the NCAA Division 3. They both were recruited from the courts at Branch Brook Park in Newark.

Linda Reininger, '63, smoothes out the creases and the cracks

Excerpts from article by Kristen
McLaughlin, Star-Ledger

Sometimes, she appears at antique centers, sometimes at shows, sometimes at places like Wheaton Village in Millville. But no matter where she goes, her mission is always the same: the repair and restoration of antique, collectible or contemporary glass and crystal - no matter how chipped, cracked, broken or otherwise distressed.

"A lot of people think that if they chip a crystal goblet or break a glass bowl they have to throw it away," said Linda Reininger, who took up the name "Glassy Lassy" some 20 years ago, after becoming proficient at crystal engraving and the craft of glass restoration. "I was an apprentice to a man called Mr. Chips, who lived in Bloomfield," she said. "Now that he's passed away, there are only a handful of us left who do this."

A special education teacher at Southern Regional School in Manahawkin by day and a glass restoration expert by night and on weekends, Reininger does most of her repairs on the spot, while people wait or browse through the particular place she's visiting.

During a recent appearance at the Morristown Antique Center, Reininger repaired a set of six chipped Fostoria

wine glasses, grinding and polishing each rim so they could be used again rather than discarded.

"These belonged to my grandparents," said the woman who brought them to Reininger, "so they have a lot of sentimental value." Worth about \$25 to \$40 each, the stemware was repaired for a total of \$48. Another woman brought in a large globe from a standing lamp, which she'd tried to repair herself with Elmer's glue. "Can you fix this so it looks good again?" she asked Reininger. "I can't find another globe this size."



"I'll see what I can do," said Reininger, adding that she'd have to take the piece home and boil it to get it apart, and then re-glue it - but not with Elmer's. "Elmer's turns yellow," she said. "I use a special epoxy that I mix myself."

... "If a piece has sentimental or financial or historic value," said Reininger, "it's definitely worth repairing. I tell people: Never throw anything away. If you have a fine piece of stemware and its base is broken, I can either try to match it and attach another base, or I can either take

off the base, refinish it, put in a crystal and turn it into a bell. If someone just has the stem and it's decorative, I can turn that into a ring stand."

...Once, she said, a woman brought her a hand-blown Cinderella's carriage that had been broken in 25 pieces. "She'd tried taking it back to the glass blower, but he told her he couldn't do anything because he couldn't heat it all up again. So I put it back together for her, gluing it piece by piece. That was one of my biggest challenges."

Another time a client brought in a vase with a gaping hole, and because he kept all the fragments, she'd been able to repair it. A shattered antique fish tank provided another challenging effort.

"The easiest pieces to fix," she said, "are those broken in two along a seam. After a repair, you won't even know there's been a problem. But if the break is in the center..." She held up a large goblet waiting to be picked up. "You don't really notice this repair until you look closely," she said. "But again, this piece had sentimental value for its owner. It's nice to be able to return it to them restored."

Note: In addition to her work described above, Linda was also nominated as one of the top 5 choreographers in New Jersey by the Rising Star program of the Paper Mill Playhouse that reviews high school musicals throughout the state.

Linda Whittle Reininger can be reached at her studio in Bricktown, NJ at (732) 920-1987.



WEEQUAHIC BRANCH LIBRARY

REUNION PLANNING

1961 - For 40th Reunion

Planning reunion in October 2001. Looking for classmates from the January and June 1961 classes. Help us network. Contact Jane Wildman Raitt at (248) 661-2174 or JaneR13@aol.com.

1964 - For 40th Reunion

Searching for classmates for a reunion in 2004. Contact Cheryl Alterman at irataxman@aol.com.



THE BETH

Jeff Friday, 1981 Grad, Marketing Major Black Film

By George E. Jordan, Star-Ledger
09/13/00



"Personals," a romantic comedy starring Malik Yorba, opens at an exclusive party at the behest of Jeff Friday, a Newark native and co-founder of UniWorld Films, a motion picture marketing company. "Personals," the story of the adventures of a journalist who meets dates through the personal ads, costars Stacey Dash and Sheryl Lee Ralph. It opens Friday to general audiences in Newark, Chicago, Atlanta and New York City.

"I figured it would be good to honor Newark and bring attention to the theater," said Friday, a 1981 graduate of Weequahic High School and founder four years ago of the Acapulco Black Film Festival.

...Friday said he wants to help "revive the theater" by hosting as many as four premieres in Newark annually. "I want to make Newark hot again. If this thing goes well, I want to bring all my premieres here," he said. "I want to use my mini-Hollywood thing to help bring back the city."

From Sheldon Bross, Class of 1955

Every morning from 1952 to 1955, I entered my homeroom (Miss O'Conner was my teacher) and on the blackboard was a saying that has remained with me every day of my life.

**"Let Nothing Afflict Thee,
Nothing Afright Thee,
All Things Are Passing."**

2 current Weequahic staff inducted into the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame

By LaToya Harris, WHS Calumet

When the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame held its 12th induction on October 19, 2000, two of our Weequahic staff members were included in the lineup. Mr. Arthur Coles III was in the General category and Mr. Autrey Reynolds was in the Performer category.



From 1962 to 1966, Mr. Reynolds was on the football, basketball and track teams at Shabazz High School, which was South Side at the time. He also was a member of

the All City football squad in 1965. He is currently a Vice Principal at Weequahic and former Athletic Director.

Mr. Coles was a founding member and President of the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame. He graduated from Wilberforce University. He has been teaching in Newark since 1967. At



Arts High School, Mr. Coles coached varsity basketball from 1977 to 1978. He also coached varsity basketball at Weequahic from 1979 to 1990. He is currently an Art teacher at Weequahic.

**CONGRATULATION TO OUR
OWN WEEQUAHIC STARS.**



Hip-hop star Wyclef Jean recruits talent from Newark & Weequahic

By Lisa Rose, Star-Ledger

..."Music education saved my life," said Wyclef Jean. "If (music education) is lost, a portion of kids won't know where to turn to. If I didn't have jazz class or chorus, I wouldn't be here today." On January 19th, Jean held a fund-raiser at Carnegie Hall with Eric Clapton, Whitney Houston, Destiny's Child, Charlotte Church and Third World to benefit his Foundation's Clef's Kids project, a year-old program that supplies instruments and private lessons for New York/New Jersey teens who excel in music.

The retrospective nature of the night was modeled after the broad range of styles Jean learned from his music teacher at Newark's Vailsburg High School, Valerie Price (*currently a Weequahic HS music teacher who is with Jean in the above photo*). "She encouraged all forms of music, all shapes of music," said Jean. "If you composed a song, and it was a good song, you'd sing it with the choir. If she felt like it was garbage, she'd tell you to go back to the lab and rewrite."

...Last month, five Newark area youngsters were welcomed into the program. Three came from Newark high schools, two from Arts High and Michael Bellamy from Weequahic...Jean who helped usher in a new wave of multicultural hip-hop with the Fugees, has continued to fuse rock, rap, funk and reggae styles. Born in Haiti and raised in Brooklyn and Newark, Jean has made his mission to revitalize music education at inner-city schools.

Wherever We Go - There We Are or It's A Small World After All

By Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert, Class of 1960

I was intrigued by something that I read in the second issue of the Calumet that was received last week. There, in one of the articles, was a scene out of a movie. An alumnus of Weequahic, being held as a POW in WWII, shares information with fellow prisoners and discovers one who went to Weequahic. Most encounters aren't as dramatic as this one, but how many times have you been someplace where you discovered a Weequahic alumnus? Today's technology has made the world smaller. Weequahic High School alumni knew about the world being small even before technology, because wherever we go, there we are:

SCENE: The Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC. It's even more crowded than usual. There in front of me is **Seymour Levine**, ('60) visiting from California (we were also classmates at Bragaw Avenue School).

SCENE: I'm at a trade show exhibit booth, staring at someone several booths away, knowing that I know him, but unable to place him. Well, this is no good. Let's see who he is. His name is **Lenny Fruchter** ('57). Yes! Weequahic HS. Somewhere in my house I have his prom picture showing him and his date, along with two other couples. I have this picture because I'm in it also. My date was his close friend. The picture is 42 years old.

SCENE: Starting a new job in NY and finding that three people in the office went to Weequahic.

SCENE: **Bruce Rosenthal** ('60), Chief of Clinical Low Vision Program at Lighthouse International, was showing the facility to **Dr. Daniel Albert**, Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Science at the University of Wisconsin, the recipient of a prestigious award. In the course of conversation, when asked if he had been to NYC before, Dr. Albert replied that having grown up in NJ he had been to NY many times. Further conversation

revealed that not only did he live in Newark, but he also had graduated from Weequahic in 1956, along with Bruce's brother **Richard**, and his brother **Marty Albert**, graduated with Bruce in 1960.

SCENE: As director of a Conference Center in Newark, it was my responsibility to find an outside caterer for the facility. Who would have thought 40 years ago that I would wind up doing business with **Marty Green, Jeff Gelman** and **Richie Trugman** ('60), caterers extraordinaire?

SCENE: I'm attending an association conference and find **Stan Levy** ('60) sitting next to me.

SCENE: In treating a patient, **Dr. Bruce Rosenthal** questioned her unusual name, but one that he knew from an associate in Florida. When he questioned his acquaintance in Florida it turned out that not only were these people related (first cousins), but they also came from Newark and graduated from Weequahic.

The Weequahic connection also affects our children:

SCENE: **Morey Bobrow's** ('58) daughter married the son of **Geraldine Shafman** and **Artie Steinberg** ('60).

SCENE: I'm talking with **Judy Tiber** ('58). She is giving me her daughter's address so I can send her information she requested. I stare at the address I just wrote down. It turns out to be the same address as my youngest daughters. They lived in the same building and were neighbors on the same floor.

SCENE: I'm on the phone with my youngest daughter who is away at college. "Mom," she says, "do you know a **Barbara Goss** and **Joel Holstein** ('60)?" "Yes, I graduated with them...." "Well Mom, their daughter is sitting next me. We've been friends for months and we just discovered that Weequahic connection!!!"

I know everyone has a "WHEREVER WE GO, THERE WE ARE" encounter. **SEND US YOURS** for upcoming Alumni Calumet issues.

NEWARK'S MAYORS

Thomas Raymond
Meyer Ellenstein
Vincent Murphy
Ralph Villani
Leo Carlin
Hugh Addonizio
Kenneth Gibson
Sharpe James

From The Candy Store

baseball cards, Bazooka
bubble gum, Charms,
Chiclets, dots, Good &
Plenty, gum drops,
jaw breakers, Juicy Fruit,
licorice whips, Life Savers,
malt balls, Mary Jane, Pez,
pretzel sticks, Raisinets,
Tootsie Rolls

Where Was Your Bar-Mitzvah / Wedding?

Ann Gordon's
Avon Mansion
Chanticleer
Clinton Manor
Essex House
Irvington Manor (Coronet)
Krueger Hall
Maplewood Manor
Schary Manor
Steiner's

Some Synagogues

Adas Israel & Mishnayes
Ahavas Shalom
Ahavath Zion
B'nai Abraham
B'nai Jeshurun
B'nai Moshe
Beth David
Brisker Schul
Hebrew Academy
Mount Sinai
Oheb Shalom
Schley St. Schul (Torah Chaim)
Talmud Torah
Toras Emes
Wainwright St. Synagogue
Young Israel

The Old Bakeries

Bergen Bake Shop, Garden,
Keil's, Lehrhoff's,
Mittleman's, Schachtel's,
Schustack's, Silver's,
Watson Bagels, Wigler's

Go ahead, shake your head. Roll your eyes. You've heard all the jokes about Newark. You've probably made a few of your own. Thanks to Hollywood and the media, who can blame you



for thinking of New Jersey's largest city as America's pre-eminent symbol of inner-city decay, runaway crime and unrelenting despair?

But 33 years after civil unrest and staggering depopulation sapped this city of its vitality, Newark is finally, and unmistakably, back. There's a shimmering new performing arts center, a minor league baseball stadium and a charming world-class art museum. But you knew that.

What you may not have known is that Newark has a top-notch collection of Art Deco architecture, a vibrant enclave of Brazilian and Portuguese immigrants and an unheralded hip-hop, soul and gospel music scene, all just minutes from the overpriced mayhem of Midtown Manhattan. There's a jaw-dropping cathedral to rival St.

Patrick's, more flowering cherry trees than in Washington and an astonishingly efficient subway line with 53-year-old rolling stock that will make you smile.

- NY Times, November 24, 2000

It's a pleasant spring morning. You're going to the theater tonight, but in the meantime, you may want to take in a museum exhibit. Then again, a tour of the cathedral is only a subway ride away. But it's too nice to stay indoors, so you plan a trip to one of America's largest cherry blossom displays and follow it up with dinner at an ethnic restaurant.

Sound like a nice day in Washington - except that you're in Newark.

- Washington Post, March 19, 2000

As the chauffeur-driven black sedan wades through Midtown Manhattan's evening rush-hour, three well-dressed bachelors in the back seat are laughing it up. Joe Morgan, an executive in



telecommunications executive and retired professional football player, is on his way with two friends to one of the hottest after-work scenes in the metropolitan area: Newark. They arrive just after 6

p.m. for a long evening of food, drinks, music and artful flirtation that is

drawing even worldly New Yorkers like Morgan and his friends on an unlikely journey to the other side of the Hudson River.

It's not the first time the trio has made the pilgrimage to the Absolut Sounds of the City, the summer outdoor concert series and happy hour on Thursday nights at the NJ Performing Arts Center. The event typically draws 2,000, turning the Theater Square plaza into a rousing block party.

Over the course of six hours, the scene at Theater Square evolves from mostly button-down lawyers and corporate executives to an eclectic mix of young and not-so-young, secretaries and mail clerks,



post-teenage club kids in baggy jeans and families with children. The kaleidoscope of races, ethnicities and social stations at Sounds of the City forms a portrait, for a night at least, of the inclusive, hip village Newark's boosters passionately insist reflects the city's potential.

NEWARK ON THE RISE

- The Star-Ledger, August 13, 2000

...across Newark...companies shop daily at least a dozen historic buildings, long starved for tenants and available for the taking...In short, the oldest digs are today's prime office space...Tenants say they are drawn to Newark by commuter rail access to Manhattan, proximity to Newark International Airport and annual rents that are substantially less than in New York City, Jersey City and office parks along Interstate 78. They are drawn by the

buzz created by the NJ Performing Arts Center and plans by the NJ Nets (and Devils) to move to a new downtown area.

- The Star-Ledger, November 28, 1999

Generations of New Jerseyans shopped at Bamberger's store at the corner of Market and Halsey Streets in Newark for clothing, accessories and household goods. The throngs of shoppers have long since departed

for the suburbs but the store, later named Macy's and closed in 1992, has gained an unexpected new life. Rows of computers and telecommunications equipment now fill the floors that once displayed women's dresses and men's suits. The building has been transformed into a high-technology center, the physical repository of the machines that support the rapid growth of the Internet.



- NY Times, July 9, 2000

FROM THE VOICES OF OUR ALUMNI

From Beryl Lief Benderly, Class of 1960

It gave me a chill to see the Calumet flyer. I was on the staff of the paper for the three years I was in the Main Building (ninth grade was the Annex on Hawthorne Avenue, of course) and feature editor in my senior year. The happiest times I spent in the Wigwam were in the Calumet room in my junior and senior years, during eighth period and after school, as we put the paper together under Mr. Seymour Heck's guidance.

I hadn't known about the Alumni Association until the flyer arrived with an announcement for my class (gasp!) fortieth reunion, but I am thrilled and honored to join. What a wonderful idea, and what a genuine expression of the human values and love of learning that our wonderful teachers imparted to us. In the truest sense it brings more honor to Weequahic High. I fully appreciate how fortunate we were to grow up and go to school where and when we did, in an atmosphere that protected us and gave us high aspirations and the means to fulfill them. You ask who my favorite teachers were. Without question, the brilliant, luminous Hannah Litzky, followed closely by Joe Bruder. To me they were all that teachers could be.

I used to wait impatiently to see the new Calumets as they came from the printer. I look forward to reading it once again. If you have any copies of previous issues of the Alumni Calumet, I would love to see them.

From Dr. Jay Levinson, Class of 1966

Reading the newsletter brings back old memories. It takes me back to Sid's deli on Chancellor Avenue, the Hillside-Weequahic football games on Thanksgiving, and waiting for the 14 bus in the rain rather than walking home.

One of my most impressive teachers was Albert Adler, who instilled in me a love of history and a curiosity about the world, past and present. Dave Stamelman encouraged me to read literature (and Morris Brenman taught me that reading does not have to be only in English). Then, Jeanette Lappe helped me "put it all together," as she stressed the inter-relationship of history and literature. I have taken that background with me, wherever I have lived.

For the past almost twenty years I have been living in Israel, but despite the distance from New Jersey, I have not forgotten my days in Weequahic. If there are other graduates living in Israel, I should very much like to have contact. Let's call it an Israeli chapter of the Alumni Association.

From Hannette Weinberg, Class of 1952

((from the Classmates.com web site))

I wonder if everyone here is aware of the Weequahic Alumni Association, which sends out a really great newsletter several times a year... There are fascinating articles, many photos, great trivia such as the old telephone exchanges (Waverly, Essex, Bigelow, etc.) Favorite delis (Bragman's, Lifshitz's, Chancellor, Stash's, etc.), articles about teachers and outstanding alumni, such as the great athlete "Swede" Masin, now 79, who was the prototype for a character in Philip Roth's *American Pastoral*, and a lot more... I recommend this newsletter to everyone here.

From Carol Miller, Class of 1956

Receiving the newsletter has been a highlight of my summer. (I am recuperating from major back surgery!) *Classmates.com* was another. I was in New Jersey this past April and was able to see several high school friends who I have stayed in touch with. The newsletter sure brings back memories which had started to blur over the years and the miles that separate me from Newark.

As a June 1956 graduate of Weequahic, I can still picture the Thanksgiving Day football game between Weequahic and Hillside - the biggest and most anticipated game of the year. Alumni came, present students came and even parents came to the game. Men brought huge chrysanthemum corsages for their dates. The stadium was loud and everyone was excited to be there. It was almost as if the outcome of the game was secondary!

Lou Stamelman was the football coach. He was also an English teacher and a guidance counselor. I can barely remember any of the football players. But I do remember that my sister, Elinor Miller (WHS grad in June 1949), was a twirler and then a drum majorette. Our 16mm movies have been transferred to video cassette so I can see her and her friends and all those attending the Thanksgiving Day games.

From Frances S. Honig, Class of 1945

The newsletter is great. Remembering back to those wonderful years (43-45) at WHS, I feel fortunate to have had such outstanding teachers. I was very involved with the Glee Club and Mrs. Archer - Seymour (Sonny) Bernstein and I were the pianists. Oliver Sabald (Spanish) was a unique human being - a scholar, linguist, musician, who not only gave us a knowledge of the language and culture, but also taught us about humanity. Ruby Odell (Science) nurtured me through Chemistry - I had not any foundation in Science and needed Chemistry in order to graduate. I could go ad infinitum - I will never forget those years.

FROM THE VOICES OF OUR ALUMNI

From Leslie Goldman Pumphrey, Class of 1962

Enclosed please find my annual dues (first year). I wished I lived a bit closer, for I would love to be a part of actively promoting the association to its alumni, and to work with the current students. If there are "long distance" activities, please let me know about them.

Reading the newsletter took me back in time to a wonderful, almost magical place - Newark and Weequahic of the late 50's and early 60's. I could easily visualize so many places - the Osborne Terrace branch of the library (and cutting through Beth Israel Nursing School to get there), the shops on Maple Avenue (why did they seem so far from my house then when they were merely a few blocks away?), bus rides "downtown," Henry's, the Park Theater - and of course "the house on the hill" and the walk up Goldsmith Avenue to the high school each morning, the lockers (I was forever worrying about forgetting my combination), the "up" and "down" stairways, Mr. Martino's 8th period chemistry class (my first and only "D" on a test), the cafeteria, and the wonderful, dedicated, caring teachers. I could go on and on; there were so many memories that kept coming to the surface as I read the articles.

Does anyone from the class of 1962 remember that our yearbook came with a 45 rpm record of Mr. Epstein and many sounds of the school? I still have it, and recently played it - time has made it a bit scratchy, but it is still a gem! I look forward to seeing the next issues, again walking down memory lane, and even getting to meet with some of my former (never "old") classmates through its pages, and maybe even in person.

From Larry Geller, Class of 1960

(from the Virtual Newark web site)

A memory that's as vivid as today. Our family was moving into my paternal grandparents' two-family house at 394 Clinton Place. The house was constructed for my grandparents in 1924, a couple years prior to the opening of Maple Avenue School. They had moved uptown from "Down Neck" and now my pregnant mom and my dad and I were joining them to live above their flat. We had been living in an apartment at 50 Milford Avenue near the old Sears store across Elizabeth Avenue from Schleiffer Park. I distinctly recall our couch being hoisted through the second floor living room window and how I marveled at that technical feat! All this occurred in October, just before my brother's birth on Columbus Day and just before I turned four in November.

From Sheila (Bain) Dishell, class of 1954

(from the Virtual Newark web site)

My most vivid memory is the number 6 cross-town bus from which I could get anywhere! I worked part-time after school at Hahne & Co. and lived on Fabyan Place. After work (9 at night) I could ride the #6 home and walk the 12 blocks unafraid to a door that never needed to be locked.

I lived across the street from the Hoffman soda warehouse and remember vaguely a Drake's Cake factory a few blocks away. My father was an air raid warden during World War II and every home had to keep a bucket of sand available in case of an air raid bombing (a lot of good a bucket of sand would have been!!) He had to go out with his gas mask and flashlight during the blackouts to be sure that everyone had their windows covered.

The entire neighborhood was like one family, looking out for each other's children. Our Weequahic neighborhood was a rich mixture of Jewish and Italian and everyone got along great! The memories of yesterday are so much richer than the realities of today, aren't they?

Capsule Comments About Newark:

From Ahmad J. Ali II, Class of 1986

I left Newark, but Newark will never leave my heart.

From Marc A. Tarbour, Class of 1963

Newark has been the incubator for so many great friends and very special people.

From Jay Levinson, Class of 1966

I moved out of Newark in 1967, but still have very fond memories. There is never a Thanksgiving without remembering Weequahic-Hillside football games.

From Nadine Lipson (Parnes), Class of 1966

Newark is the hometown we can return to on the Internet.

From Dan Green, Class of 1950

I left Newark in 1963, but Newark never left me.

From Gil Lustig, Class of 1960

Lived in Weequahic section until 1967. Greatest city in the world.

From Barry Gold of 1958

(from the Classmates.com web site)

Funny story about Ben Epstein. For 25 years, I lived in West Orange. One day early on probably around 1980, my next door neighbor asked me to be available in case the wife's parents needed anything. They were going on vacation and the wife's parents were going to stay and watch the grandkids. As it happened I needed something. My lawnmower conked out and I went next door to borrow their lawnmower.

I knocked on the door and it opened and there was Ben Epstein and he looked at me and said, "Gold, are you still getting in trouble. What is it this time?" If you may remember, he was in charge of detention and if you were in trouble with a teacher they sent you down to the office of Mr. Epstein. Well, when he said that to me I couldn't believe he remembered me!! It turned out that my next door neighbor Miriam Cahn was Ben Epstein's daughter. SMALL WORLD!!

REUNIONS

January 1951 - 50th Reunion

To be held on **Sunday, April 22, 2001** at the Somerset Hilton Hotel in Warren, NJ. Contact Rosalind Klinger Friedman at (973) 857-5051 or boaty43@cs.com.

June 1951 - 50th Reunion

To be held on **Saturday, May 5, 2001**, Twin Brooks Country Club in Watchung, NJ - cost of \$75 per person. For more info e-mail Marilyn Barnhard Chaiken - mchai526@aol.com.

1966 - 35th Reunion

To be held on Saturday, **October 27, 2001** at the Sheraton in Edison, NJ at 7:30-12:30. Cost \$75 per person. Contact Barbara Rappaport at BRAPP714@aol.com or Sy Mullman at (973) 376-5929.

1968 - Get Together

We're planning a "get together" on **April 21, 2001**. Chancellor Ave. & Maple Ave. Students from the "good old days", who didn't last till graduation in 1968, are welcome too. Please contact us at soccerchief@hotmail.com. Thanks from Jill Golomb (Hertzberg), Ira Wiss, Billy & Dalia Jacobowitz, David Schenkel.

1971 - 30th Reunion/Get Together

Remember When...Get The Picket Signs Out...Gonna Be A Party Y'all...On **September 29, 2001**. Classes of '70 and '72 are welcome to party with us. Place to be announced. Contacts: Adilah Thomas-Quddus (973) 372-7972 or alduhaq@surf.com - Sylvester Allen (973) 372-6496 or sylvestia@hotmail.com - Sharon Barner-Brown at oct19brown@aol.com.

West Coast WHS Alumni Reunion For All Classes

in Los Angeles, California in **November, 2001** - West is anywhere East of the Atlantic. Looking For Alumni. Contact Gene Lieberman - 75 Sandpiper Circle, Corte Madera, CA, 94925 Fax: (415) 924-8033 or at mavinhondo@msn.com. Other committee members are: Rita Bromberg Friedman, Buddy & Tina Freedman, Sis Levine Gold, M. Pinky Gamble, Rona Mink Smith, and Sandy & Bobbi Hall Kaye.

**SEND REUNION INFO TO US AT:
weequahic3@aol.com**

50TH REUNION FOR CLASS OF 1950

By Paula Saha, Star-Ledger-9/18/2000

To Hilda Lutzke, they will always be her kids from Weequahic High School. Never mind that the approximately 135 "kids" filling the halls of the Crestmont Country Club in West Orange yesterday afternoon sported silver hair and approached their late 60s. Try as she might, Lutzke couldn't see them as anything more than the teenagers that once filled her English classroom.



Hilda Lutzke

"I handed them their diplomas when they graduated," said Lutzke, who worked at Weequahic High School between 1937 and 1975, and was adviser to the Class of 1950. Watching her former students gather at their reunion yesterday, she recalled her special bond with them. "I'm close to them, they're close to me," Lutzke said. "They're very special kids."

They're "kids" that have enjoyed some renown beyond that of your average high school graduating class. Among the graduates of 1950 was Philip Roth, who wasn't at yesterday's festivities but immortalized his class in his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "American Pastoral."



Eleanor Rothmann Radler

But beyond its place in the literary landscape, the Weequahic High School Class of 1950 has other distinctions. With about 175 graduates, it was among the smallest graduating classes in the Newark school's history. And because

many of the classmates stayed nearby, they have been able to meet every five years since graduation for a reunion. "It was a very unique community, a very unique place in time," said Victor Thomas of Monroe Township, who graduated in the June Class of 1950. Virtually all of the high school was Jewish, Thomas said. And the community and the high school became, in many ways, inseparable.

"It wasn't a temple, it wasn't a cultural center, it wasn't a community center," Thomas said. "But, it was." Scores of people remembered that era as they ran into old friends and rhapsodized about earlier times. One by one, the spectacles went up as people peered at the orange name tags strung around the neck, furnished with photographs taken from the high school yearbook.

Some brought other memories with them. Former football team captain Sanford Goldberg - who now lives in Livingston - was carrying around the



Eileen Lerner Greenberg & Norman Krueger

leather-bound autograph book from Chancellor Avenue School, one of the grammar schools that emptied into Weequahic High at the time. There was a note written by a 14-year-old Philip Roth, and a newspaper clipping of Goldberg receiving an athletics award.

And many quickly reassembled into the groups they knew in high school. "We are just so thrilled to be here at our 50th reunion" said Harriet Harmelin Gussow of Scotch Plains, one-third of the trio known as "the twins and Fran." "And see all of our old classmates," chimed in Gussow's twin, Hope Harmelin Kerzner. And Fran - or Francine Heinowitz of Monmouth Beach - had the last word: "Ditto."

That Time Again - A Reunion in the Making 40th Reunion For 1960 Class

By Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert, Class of 1960

It can't be. No way. Not that time again. How can time go so swiftly? Check the calendar. Yes! It's true. Time to start work on our reunion. Every five years...good grief it's our 40th. It can't be! Call a committee meeting. Discuss our options. Select a date. Look for a site. Send out first mailing - save the date. Gasp at all the returned envelopes.

So many more classmates to find. Get on the Internet: Classmates.com, 411.com, white pages, yellow pages, call his brother, her mother still lives in NJ, check with her. Call Vivian to place notices in Florida papers. Call Nicky in Arizona to do the same. Calls, e-mails, faxes. Hotel chosen, sleeping rooms booked, menu selected, DJ hired, flowers ordered, invitations mailed. Committee in suspended animation...waiting, waiting for rsmps and checks...Will it be a success? Who will come? Where will they come from?

D-day..Saturday night October 14, 2000 at the Sheraton Woodbridge, 40th reunion of the Class of June 1960. Registration table set-up; room for cocktail hour ready; room for dinner and dancing ok. Committee members in place. What a night... wonderful as always...Our surprise guest: Coach **Les Fein** surrounded by delighted alumni, talking with **Nicky Swerdloff** and **Mike Cohen**, co-captains of our wonderful basketball team.

Have a reunion and they will come: **Terri Sherman** in from Spain, attending her first reunion, tears in her eyes, greeting old friends; **Janet Litwack** in from Israel, overjoyed to be here; **Seymour Levine**, **Phil Katz**, **Gayle Levy**, **Suzanne Schwartz** and **Ellen Kimmelman** in from the west coast, **Vivian Confield** in from Florida; **Beryl Leiff** from DC; **Norman Baker**, **Fred Decter**, **Shelly Epstein**, **Heshie Freidman**, **Arlene Glickenhau**, **Mike Goldman**, **Debbie Harris**, **Harold Hodes**, **Adrienne Silverman** and **Richie Thayer**, **Sandy Kepniss**, **Fraida**, **Susan**, **Karen**, **Linda**, **Stan**, **Wayne**, **Alan**, to name just a few.

Committee members **Harold Klein**, **Marcia Shindleman Trechak**, **Ron Rosen**, **Gary Kaplan** and **Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert** feel oh so satisfied that their efforts resulted in such a fun-filled evening for over 100 of their classmates. Time flies when you're having fun!

1980 Reunion Was Fabulous!

October 28, 2000 marked twenty years for the alumni assembled at the Westwood in Garwood, NJ. Upon arrival at the event some 88 alumni and their guests were greeted with a hug and gift package. To begin the festivities, there was a prayer by evangelist Linda Shelton-White, Kimmie Smalls- Forde lit candles for the alumni who have passed on, and there was a moment of silence for remembrance.

We then enjoyed great music performed by Naeem Johnson (DJ - 80's to present), a wonderful buffet

dinner, dancing and fun. Alumni arrived from out of town, across the water, down the way, around the block, from everywhere. It was good to see friends and acquaintances of bygone days, it was great to revisit old times and catch up on new endeavors.

The committee worked diligently to make the reunion a success. The 1980 Reunion Committee consisted of: Gwendolyn Bethea, Tammy Brandon, Antoinette Hodges-Brown, Kimmie Smalls-Forde and Michelle Meacham. We look forward to the next gathering. Please continue to keep in touch with correct and up-to-date addresses and e-mail.

ALL-ESSEX REUNION



Roy Hargrove, Wayne Smith, Adilah Quddus, Ted Mills & Faith Howard
At All-Essex Reunion

On Friday, February 9, 2001, Roy Hargrove, from Brick City and a former Weequahic student, sponsored a multi-class reunion celebrating the classes of 1974 through 1984 in Newark, Irvington, East Orange Orange, and Montclair.

The reunion took place for the first time in Newark at the Robert Treat Hotel. Councilman-at-Large Wayne Smith from Irvington was the MC. Many Weequahic alumni turned out for this exciting event.

Faith Howard, our Co-President and Adilah Thomas Quddus, our Membership Chair, represented the WHS Alumni Association and sold Weequahic merchandise. The alumni from Shabazz HS (formerly South Side) were so impressed that they made purchases and gave donations.

Ted Mills, Soul Generations, New Hope Baptist Choir from East Orange and Prime performed. Trophies were awarded for the hustle contest (Weequahic 2nd). The affair was fun and a huge success!

NEW NWK. BUSINESSES

Real Estate Development

New Newark Foundation

Telecommunications

IDT/Net2Phone

MCI/Worldcom

NJ Incubators

Qwest Communications

Publishing

Matthew Bender & Company

Journal of Commerce

Credit Card Services

MBNA

Insurance

SBLI USA

Financial

Thompson Financial

Securities Data

e-Commerce

AdReady.com

Amritech

Broadview Networks

CheckFree

Digit Zero

HybriNet

IX Net

IXC Communications

Net2Staff

Rare Telephony

Sports/Recreation

Newark Bears

YankeesNets (Devils)

Restaurants/Cafes

Maize

Arthur's Downtown

Broad Street Cafe

Euphoria Cafe

Hamilton's Pub

Theater Square Grille

Starbucks

IHOP

Retail

K-Mart

Education/Research

UMDNJ Microbiology & Molecular Genetics Center

National Tuberculosis Center

Public Health Research Institute

Science Park

NEWARK'S COLLEGES

Essex County College

NJ Institute of Technology

Rutgers University

Rutgers Law School

Seton Hall Law School

University of Medicine & Dentistry

1965 Alumnus Dave Lieberfarb leads the OMNISCIENT Star-Ledger team to exciting Spelling Bee triumph



From left to right - Phil Yourish (1964), Kitta MacPherson Lucas, Dave Lieberfarb (1965), Anne-Marie Cottone, Irene Daniels (1959)

The Star-Ledger team won the 12th Annual Leaders For Literacy Spelling Bee sponsored by the Newark Literacy Campaign. The team made up of 1965 Weequahic grad **Dave Lieberfarb**, Anne-Marie Cottone, and Kitta MacPherson was the first from the newspaper to compete in this event. Lieberfarb, a word judge in last year's contest, said that experience moved him to suggest that The Star-Ledger participate this year. Dave is a copy editor for the newspaper.

After correctly spelling "omniscient" in the first round, "ameliorate" in the second round and "milieu" in the third, The Star-Ledger team was one of the three finalists out of 11 entrants.

Mayor Sharpe James' City Team was eliminated in the first runoff round, but the final showdown between the Ledger trio and the host team from The Newark Public Library lasted four suspense-filled rounds.

When master of ceremonies Jonathan B. Bell, from Radio Z-100, pronounced

CONTUMACIOUS, The Star-Ledger team spelled it correctly for the championship.

Other teams included the defending champs from the Newark Rotary Club, NJIT, Nutley Public Library, PSE&G, Prudential, Rutgers University, United Way of Essex and West Hudson, and a team of "celebrity" authors - Valerie Wilson Wesley and Wade and Sharon Hudson. Team sponsors and contributors were the Association for Children of NJ, CWA Local 1081, Hoffmann-LaRoche, and the Schiffenhaus Packaging Corp.

The Spelling Bee raised more than \$10,000 to support the reading projects of the Newark Literacy Campaign. The event organizer was **Phil Yourish**, the former director of the Newark Literacy Campaign and a 1964 WHS graduate. The current director is **Irene Daniels**, a 1959 WHS graduate.

Note: In his spare time, Dave enjoys competing in Scrabble tournaments and proofreading the Alumni Calumet.



WEEQUAHIC ON GUAM -

Newark Evening News, 1944

(In Back)

Pfc. Herbert Samuels, 196 Keer Avenue

Cpl. Ralph Adler, 145 Leslie Street

S1/c Jerry Weissman, 46 Stecher Street

Pfc. Herman Targanski, 188 Hobson St.

Lt. John Burke, 91 Lindsay Avenue

(In Front)

S1/c Stanley Levy, 222 Chancellor Ave.

Pfc. Eddie Kazin, 460 Hawthorne Avenue

Sgt. Melven Miller, 20 Mapes Avenue

Lt. Walter Reichman, 21 Stengel Avenue

JOIN THE WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

\$25.00 ANNUALLY

Now in our adult years, it's our turn to give back. Your membership in the Weequahic High School Alumni Association can provide scholarships and support for our current Weequahic students.

Moreover, in addition to money, we need your interest, your energy, your time, and your commitment to make our projects a success.

Create some space in your life to volunteer as a tutor or mentor. Employ a student if you own a business. Serve as a role model. Come to Weequahic and talk to students about your work and your accomplishments in life.

For us to realize our goals, we need your help. It's a win-win situation for everyone involved. You will feel rewarded through your involvement in our activities and by helping others.

Students at Weequahic will be able to enrich their lives by gaining new experiences, strengthening their skills, and exploring new opportunities.

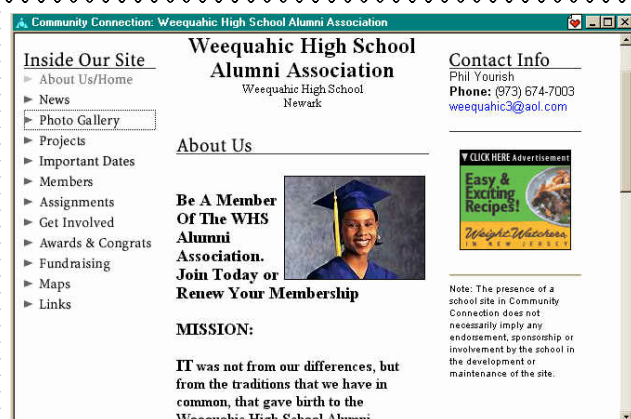
WEEQUAHIC ALUMNI CALUMET STAFF

Editor: PHIL YOURISH '64

Contributors: Hal Braff '52, Loraine White '64, Dave Lieberfarb '65, Lois Blumenfeld Gilbert '60, Adilah Quddus '71, WHS Calumet Staff, Alumni Letters. Star-Ledger Articles, Photos courtesy of Lucius Riley

A chapter of the **WHS Alumni Association** is forming in Israel. Contact **Dr. Jay Levinson** for more info at JayL@newmail.net

Weequahic in Cyberspace



WEEQUAHIC ALUMNI WEB SITE & E-MAIL: Through NJ Online, the Weequahic High School Alumni Association now has a web site full of recent and exciting information about our purpose, activities, and events. We have just added a photo gallery. Check it out. On March 8th, NJ Online selected Weequahic as the best web site of the day. The web address is:

<http://school.nj.com/cc/weequahicalumni>

Send e-mail for the Weequahic HS Alumni Association to Phil Yourish at weequahic3@aol.com

CLASSMATES ON THE INTERNET: Want to find a classmate; let alumni know about upcoming reunions; post a message to an old friend; announce marriages, births, anniversaries, and jobs; or just recall old memories?

Check out the following web sites:

<http://www.classmates.com>
<http://www.planetalumni.com>
<http://www.highschoolalumni.com>
<http://www.alumni.net>
<http://www.nj.com/forums/alumni/index.ssf>

See our Weequahic HS Alumni Association messages at the above sites. You can register for free, have your name listed in the Weequahic HS directory, and post information.

Visit **Lew Schneider's (Israel Lewis) Class of 1942** web site at <http://users.starpower.net/scribblew/weequah.htm>



***Weequahic High School Alumni Association* MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Date: _____ Class of _____ Weequahic Street: _____

Name: _____ Last Name at Weequahic: _____

Street: _____ City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Business: () _____

Fax: () _____ e-mail: _____

VOLUNTEER? ☐ Membership ☐ Events ☐ Newsletter ☐ Merchandise ☐ Tutoring/Mentoring

ORDER MERCHANDISE: ☐ T-SHIRT: **\$15.00** ☐ HAT: **\$18.00** ☐ SWEATSHIRT: **\$35.00**

Delivery will be 3 weeks after your check is received and deposited

MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00 Annually ☐ New ☐ Renewal Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

If you haven't renewed your membership as of this mailing, please do so immediately.

For our next issue, send us your feedback, ideas, articles, best memories, photos, trivia, and reunion information

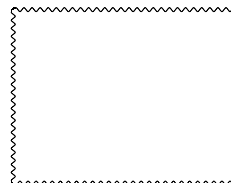
Weequahic High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07102

weequahic3@aol.com * <http://school.nj.com/cc/weequahicalumni>

Weequahic High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 494
Newark, NJ 07102

Our New Address

Winter / Spring 2001
Issue # 4



WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE:

- ✱ WHS WINS GROUP II BASKETBALL TITLE
- ✱ BASKETBALL FAME RETURNS TO NEWARK
- ✱ STUDENTS REMEMBER MISS O'CONNOR
- ✱ ALUMNI PROFILE: AL "BUBBA" BAKER '74
- ✱ TALES FROM THE REUNIONS OF 1950, 1960, 1980
- ✱ BAND RECEIVES NEW UNIFORMS
- ✱ DAYS OF GLORY
- ✱ ALUMNI PROFILE: BRUCE BAUMGARTEN '65
- ✱ MEMORIES OF WATSON BAGELS AND MORE
- ✱ IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL
- ✱ ALUMNI PROFILE: JEFF FRIDAY '81
- ✱ 1965 GRAD LEADS TEAM TO SPELLING BEE VICTORY
- ✱ 2 WHS STAFF ENTER ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
- ✱ WYCLEF JEAN REMEMBERS MRS. PRICE
- ✱ ALUMNI PROFILE: LINDA WHITTLE REININGER '63
- ✱ AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY GUEST SPEAKERS
- ✱ NEWARK ON THE RISE
- ✱ ALUMNI PROFILE: MUFEED THOMAS '96
- ✱ ALUMNI VOICES, REUNION INFO, ALUMNI WEBSITES