

WE DID IT!



SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAISING DINNER COMMITTEE / Back L-R: Larry Bembry, Hal Braff, Ron Stone, Sheldon Bross, Vivian Ellis Simons, Judy Bennett, Monroe Krichman, Phil Yourish, Arnold Keller, Sam Weinstock, Marshall Cooper. **Front, L-R:** Lois Attles Wyatt, Adilah Quddus, Sharon Price-Cates, Mary Brown Dawkins, Barbara Attles Deans, Myrna Jelling Weissman. **Not present:** Arthur Lutzke, Charles Talley, Gerald Russell, and Dave Lieberfarb.

Fundraiser Surpasses \$120,000

The buzz in the greater Newark metropolis a day after our **Scholarship Fund Raising Dinner hosted by Alvin Attles** was that this was the event of the year! Providing star power for the affair were Governor **Jon Corzine**, former NY Knick **Earl The Pearl Monroe**, Newark Mayor **Cory Booker** and Weequahic's legendary basketball coach **Les Fein**.

Some called it a "lovefest for Al." Rev. Levin West, Sr., viewed it as "positive collectivism." No matter how you describe it, it was definitely a unique collection of individuals, spanning many generations, from similar and different backgrounds, that came together for the common purpose of honoring one of Weequahic's most distinguished alumni and

raising funds for college scholarships.

Alumni history was in the making on the memorable evening of September 15th at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark. When Alumni Association Co-President Judy Bennett, 1972, and Treasurer Sheldon Bross, 1955, welcomed the exuberant gathering of over 600 well-wishers, two truths were apparent to everyone present: the event was a monumental success and the alumni association had exceeded its expectations.

Our alumni, with help from our friends, once again created Weequahic magic and accomplished the goal of establishing the **Alvin Attles Scholarship Endowment**

Fund with contributions totaling more than \$120,000. After many months of weekly meetings and hard work by our planning committee, led by **Mary Dawkins, 1971**, the results of these efforts were truly gratifying.

And what a celebration it was! The house was full, the atmosphere was effervescent, and the energy electrifying. From the moment the doors opened to the grand ballroom the decibel levels were setting record highs. Everybody was thrilled to see faces that they hadn't seen in many years.

On this auspicious occasion, Alvin, a 1955 grad, attracted many of his family, friends, classmates, teammates and alumni to the event.

Continued on Page 3

FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL ON THE HILL

WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE

2nd French Class Trip To Paris

Two years ago, French teacher **Lavinia Rogers** organized a trip to Paris, France for 13 of her students. Funds for that excursion were raised by the participating students and the WHS Alumni Association which donated more than \$23,000.

For the Spring of 2007, Ms. Rogers is planning another trip to Paris for 10 deserving students. During the next few months, fund raising projects will take place at the school and in the community.

As we did so generously in the past, let's support this worthwhile endeavor through alumni contributions. *Make out your check payable to **WHSAA** and mail it to the WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101 (write **French Trip** in the memo area) or use your credit card by filling out the form on page 18 and mailing it to us.*

Mural Restoration

Weequahic High School is home to one of the most important installations of public art in New Jersey: the "*Enlightenment of Man*," a New Deal-era mural painted by **Michael Lenson**, who was the director of NJ mural activities for the *Federal Art Project of the Works Progress Administration*.

After 67 years the murals are in need of serious repair. The estimate to restore the murals is \$45,000. We urge you to begin making donations NOW so that we can raise the funds that are needed for this restoration. When the work is done, we plan to apply for local and state historic landmark status.

*Make out your check payable to **WHSAA** and mail it to the WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101 (write **Mural Restoration** in the memo area) or use your credit card by filling out the form on page 18 and mailing it to us.*

Award Winner

Fifteen-year-old **Naomi Adjel**, a Junior at Weequahic, won gold medals in Math and Biology on the state level of the NAACP ACT-SO competition. Naomi, who arrived in Newark two years ago from Ghana, also excelled at the local level in a competition at Arts High School with her two projects "*Math Genius: Magic Numbers*" (dealing with exponents and the power of two) and "*Observing Movement of Molecules Through a Cell Membrane*." Moreover, she also won a bronze medal with four other students for the Math Olympics in Algebra II at the NJ Institute of Technology.

Untermann Field Gets An Upgrade While Football Team Excels

A \$5 million renovation of Untermann Field is now taking place. The plans include a football field with synthetic turf, additional bleachers, a new track, and new locker rooms for Weequahic High School athletes. Since 1949, Untermann Field has received only minor upgrades and periodic maintenance.

While Untermann Field is under construction, Weequahic is playing its home games at the new Malcolm X Shabazz Athletic Complex. This year the football team, under the guidance of head coach Altarik White, is having an outstanding season with a 9-1 record and is two victories away from the team's first state championship.

Retiring Staff

The following faculty members retired from Weequahic during or at the end of the 2005 school year. They are: **Barry Berger**, Business Teacher, **Gertrude Edwards**, Child Study Team, and **Ruth Williams**, School Nurse.

Alumni Grants

In addition to awarding 38 scholarships, the alumni association also provided funds for members of the football team and the girls and boys basketball teams to attend summer sports camps - and for the girls' and boys' basketball teams to play in the Fall basketball leagues.

ALUMNI CALUMET

is a publication of the
WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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**Dave Lieberfarb, Hal Braff,
Myrna Jelling Weissman
Vasco Jardim**

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the Star-Ledger, NJ Jewish
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HELP WRITE THE NEXT ISSUE

Send us letters, articles,
stories, memories, poems,
recipes, photos, cartoons,
trivia, obituaries, reunion
information, etc.

SEND US YOUR WEEQUAHIC / NEWARK MEMORABILIA

We are creating an archive
of all items relating to
Weequahic and Newark for
exhibitions at our events.

If you have old photos,
newspaper articles, year-
books, films, Calumets, Ergo
magazines, books, schedules,
rosters, certificates, letters,
hats, jackets, sweaters, WHS
athletic equipment and
uniforms, or any other
interesting memorabilia,
please call us before you
discard any of these items.

Scholarship Dinner

continued from page 1



Alvin & Wilhemina Attles

They represented his years in Newark, Weequahic, North Carolina A&T, and the National Basketball Association - and they came to show their appreciation for a humble and dignified individual they hold in high esteem.

The program for the evening began with invocations by **Rabbi Seymour Dresner** and **Rev. Levin West, Sr.** Introducing former Newark Mayor **Sharpe James** as the Master of Ceremonies was **Larry Bemby, 1966**, an alumni Board member. Throughout the evening, alumni Board member **Marshall Cooper, 1969**, recognized special guests in the audience. **Willie West, 1972**, sang the National Anthem and composed new lyrics to the song, *I Thought About You*, as a special tribute to Alvin Attles.



Alvin & Hilda Lutzke

Principal Ron Stone spoke about the challenges confronting students today, the progress the high school has made during the past few years, and how the additional resources provided by the alumni association have had a positive impact on the school. Later, he presented the alumni association with a plaque of appreciation.

Arthur Lutzke, 1963, the alumni association's Scholarship Chair, addressed the success of this program and the importance of assisting current Weequahic students to go on to college. Alumni scholarship recipients **Iesha Gardner, 2003**, **Patrick Annett, 2003**, **Megan Pitt, 2005**, **Shantay White, 2005**, and **Keisha Belcher, 2006**, were introduced. **Kingsley Kordie, 2002**, a recent Colgate University graduate, spoke about what receiving a four-year alumni scholarship meant to him. Two panels listing the names of all of the 150 scholarship recipients were on display in the lobby. Current students present were members of the National Honor Society and the girls and boys basketball teams.

Alvin received proclamations from city, county and state governments, congratulatory letters from Governor Corzine and sportscaster Bill Raftery, and videos from the Warriors and the NBA. He also was presented with a large framed charcoal drawing of himself which was done by local artist **Zachary Uma**.

The highlights of the affair were the wonderful remarks delivered by **Les Fein** and **Alvin Attles**. Coach Fein, who led Weequahic to three state championships during the 1960's, introduced Alvin. He related the story of how he met Alvin as a youngster at the Avon Avenue School playground in the late 40's when he was a recreation teacher. He said he quickly noticed that Alvin, even at a young age, possessed the qualities that would eventually lead him to a successful career as a professional basketball player, championship coach, and executive. Before leaving the podium, the coach took a moment to recognize 17 men who played for him.

"*You can come home again*," declared Alvin Attles, as he spoke to a hushed and attentive audience. After introducing individuals and groups that played a



**Les Fein, Weequahic's
Legendary Basketball Coach**

meaningful role in his life, Alvin talked about education. "*Something happened to me when I went to A&T*," he said. "*I realized what my teachers were trying to teach me at Weequahic High School - that was the importance of education.*" He concluded by thanking people for their donations. "*Everyone in this room will make a difference by your generosity in the lives of some people that you don't know...by the scholarship money that you have made available to them. To me that is more important than anything else in the world.*"

A very special treat for Alvin was having the opportunity to reunite with **Hilda Lutzke**, his Weequahic English teacher.

During the evening when people had a few free moments, they placed bids at our Silent Auction, organized by Alumni Board Secretary **Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953**, which helped to raise additional funds.

Music for the affair was provided by **Thaddeus Expose**, a jazz ensemble. Photography was by **Akintola Hanif**, **Jeff Collier** and **Jason Gumble**. **Beth Kruvant** and **Good Footage Productions** filmed the event which will be part of a documentary on the history of Weequahic High School with the theme of how Blacks and Jews continue to shape each other's lives.

The event Co-Chairs, **Mary Dawkins, 1971**, and **Sheldon Bross, 1955**, provided the closing remarks to a fabulous evening and the **Rev. Leroy Attles**, Al's cousin, did the benediction.



Earl Monroe & Alvin Attles



Mary Dawkins & Sheldon Bross
Event Co-Chairs



Governor Jon Corzine &
Sharon Levine Elghanayan, 1963



Marshall Cooper, 1969, and wife Lauren



Newark's Three Mayors Ken Gibson, Sharpe James, Cory Booker
and Newark Superintendent of Schools Marion Bolden



Monroe Krichman, 1955
& Paul Tractenberg, 1956



Alvin Attles; Harvey Waldman, 1955;
and Jack Danzis, 1953

WHO'S WHO at the Scholarship Affair

Sports:

Basketball - Earl Monroe, Darryl Dawkins, Tom Satch Sanders, Tom Hoover, Cleo Hill, Coach Bob Hurley, Sr. (St. Anthony's), Coach Fred Hill, Jr. (Rutgers). **Football** - Al Dixon, Marcus Hackett. Lonnie Wright (*played both professional basketball and football*). **Baseball** - Willie Wilson. **Sportscasters** - Sonny Hill and Bill Daughtry. **Sportswriters** - Sid Dorfman, 1937.

Elected Government Officials:

Newark - Former Mayors Ken Gibson & Sharpe James; Mayor Cory Booker; Mildred Crump, City Council President; Oscar James, II, South Ward Councilperson; Donald Payne, Jr., Newark Councilperson-at-large (*also Essex Freeholder*); **Essex County** - Freeholders Bilal Beasley, Carol Clark, Patricia Sebold; **State Assembly** - Oadline Truitt. **State Senate** - Sharpe James. **Irvington** - Mayor Wayne Smith. **Hillside** - Mayor Karen McCoy-Oliver. **Clark** - Councilman Alvin Barr, 1955.

Newark Public Schools Staff & WHS Former & Current Faculty:

NPS - Marion Bolden, Newark Superintendent of Schools.

WHS Former - Les Fein, Les Fusco, Artie Johnson, Dave Klurman, Dave Lieberfarb, Harry Lutzke, Hilda Lutzke, Ed McLucas. **WHS Current** - Amiri Baraka, Jr., Yolanda Cassidy-Bogan, Derrick Butler, Barbara Ginlock, Robert Jackson, Kendall Sears, Ron Stone.

Les Fein's Basketball Players:

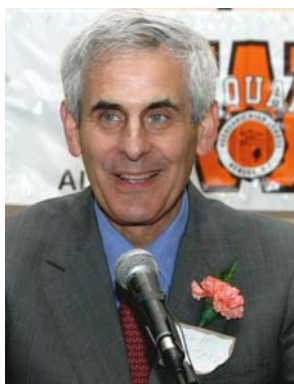
Larry Bembry, Steve Bleier, Jerry Field, Sam Fromkin, Garry Jenkins, Larry Jenkins, Larry Layton, Dana Lewis, Ira Marcus, Chris Pervall, Robert Russell, Sandy Salz, Gary Solomon, Charles Talley, Jimmy Williams, Barry Wiernik, Dave Wright.



**Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953,
and Gerald Russell, 1974**



Adilah Quddus, 1971; Larry Bembry, 1966; Vivian Simons, 1959; and Art Lutzke, 1963



**Art Lutzke, 1963,
Alumni Scholarship Chair**



**Judy Bennett, 1972,
Receiving Alumni Plaque**



***In Front L-R: Ira Skolnick, 1955; Harold Lipton, 1955; In Back L-R:
Sandy Salz, 1956; Alvin Attles; Sam Weinstock, 1955; Marvin Kravitz, 1955***



Principal Ron Stone Playing Taps



**Irwin Horowitz, 1954; Sharon Price-Cates, 1972; Alvin Barr, 1955;
and Willie West, 1972**



**Alvin with sisters Barbara Attles Deans, 1958,
and Lois Attles Wyatt, 1953**



**Principal Ron Stone; Arnold Keller, 1952; Mary Dawkins, 1971;
Larry Bembry, 1966; Paul Tractenberg, 1956; and Hal Braff, 1952**

...the voices of some of our 2006 scholarship grads

Ahmeen Evans: I have learned that there are no mistakes in life, only lessons to be learned. Whenever a mistake happens, it becomes a gem containing a precious stone from which to learn. I have learned to accept mistakes, shortcomings, and unwanted events as opportunities for learning and personal growth...Now my future lies in the field of cardiology... I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your gracious donation. If not for the funds you made available to students such as myself, my attendance at Caldwell College would be either extremely difficult or impossible.

Devin Felton: I am the music you hear when you listen to the notes of a saxophone. I'm the choir you see singing at a winter concert. And lastly, I'm the song that beats through your radio that brings tears to your eyes. That's who I am. I love to listen to music and play alto and tenor saxophone. Marching band is one of my most enjoyable after-school activities. Once I'm in college, I will major in business or music education.

Dorothy Garland: In the words of the late Sara Garland, "*Education is the key to empowerment. Once empowered, you can be anything you want to be.*" Sara Garland was my grandmother. On February 14, 2002 she lost her battle with cancer. It was then, I knew, I would do whatever it takes to fulfill my grandmother's lifelong dream of seeing, if not all, at least one of her fifty grandchildren become empowered ...With this scholarship, I have the opportunity to accomplish all that I have ever wanted and dreamed of. Even greater, it's the chance to honor the legacy of opportunity that Sara Garland left me to fulfill.

Myron Horton: I'm writing to thank you for giving me the opportunity to further my education. The scholarship that you have provided will also take me out of the negative environment in which I live. Words can't express how pleased

I am that you have presented me with this great honor. Over the past years, Weequahic H.S. has given me a tremendous amount from friendships to academics. With this scholarship Weequahic alumni have proven to be the association that just keeps on giving. I can guarantee that I will make this association proud and set a precedent for future alumni.

Chantel Mensah-Kuffour:

As I sat at graduation, I hoped that this was all not a dream. With certain experiences that I have encountered in life, who would have thought that I would be graduating from high school, let alone Weequahic High School. But when they called my name for my diploma and I walked across the stage, I realized that I was in fact in the process of having one of my dreams come true and also having one of the burdens in the college process lifted off my shoulders. I was unexpectedly shocked to hear my name being called for a Weequahic alumni scholarship. Words cannot express my gratitude towards receiving and even being considered for this scholarship. Thank You Very Much.

Joshua Nash: Knowing that this scholarship did not have to be given to me, I must say that I am highly and extremely grateful for this award. This scholarship will undoubtedly assist me in my future endeavors. The interest that Weequahic alumni have displayed is truly a blessing. I thank all Weequahic alumni, past and present, who have made it possible for me to strive for greatness.

Michael Richardson: I am truly grateful to you for thinking of and assisting me. With this gift, you have renewed my ambition and focus. By providing me with this scholarship, I will be able to obtain the success at Centenary College that I seek and you expect. One thousand tongues could never thank you enough for what you have done. Therefore, I will continue to show my gratitude through my grades and success at college. One day, I hope to sit where you are and be generous to

promising young men and women for Weequahic in the future.

Juanita Jordan: One of my aspirations is to continue to enhance myself academically, but throughout my pursuit to higher education, I have encountered many challenges. Even with the challenges I have faced over the years, I know that in the end all of my hard work and persistence will pay off. My future motivates me as much as my past because I will be the first person in my family to ever graduate high school or attend college. I want to set the path for my younger brother and cousins. They need to see that excelling is possible.

Ashley Priest: I'm a very social, well-rounded person who loves to try new things and meet new people. I'm very active, energetic and involve myself in many activities in high school. I try to adjust myself to a world that is constantly changing. I want to know new cultures, languages and lifestyles. I'm willing to learn from those who are able to empower my mind in many ways. Being in a school that's full of energy and people of different backgrounds excites me. I am, in fact, already beginning to feel differently about myself as I imagine all that awaits me at college. I am outgrowing the high school me. I can't wait to see what I will become.

Omar Hudson: Attending college is a dream come true for me, being that I would be the first person to attend college in my family. My dreams and aspirations are finally within my reach and I'm ready to seize them, so that I am able to give back, because so much was given to me. There are many reasons why I have chosen to become a doctor. The main reason is that I have thought in the past that becoming a doctor was too far out of my reach and that people like me are rare in the medical field. I decided that I would be an exception to the stereotypes attached to young black men and that I would complete school and pursue the dream that I've held so long. I choose to succeed and shatter the expectations that have been set by those who don't come from the same place I come from.



Ahmeen Evans



Christopher Allen



Danielle McGhee



Daryl Smith



Devin Felton



Dorothy Garland



Georgianna Laseter



Jamilah Tillery



Jeremiah Williams



Alversia Starks



Anthony Garrett



Antwan Hill



Asata Wisseh



Ashley Priest



Barbara Frimpong



Chantel-Mensah Kuffour

2006 Scholarship Recipients

38 Scholarships / \$41,0000

Philip Agyekum
Christopher Allen
Lewis Andrews
Keishia Belcher
Kyrie Cavaness
Trayette Cheatham
Shanea Dandridge
Ahmeen Evans
LaToya Evans
Devin Felton
Augustina Frederick
Barbara Frimpong
Dorothy Garland
Anthony Garrett
Antwan Hill
Myron Horton
Omar Hudson
Junaita Jordan
Georgianna Laseter
Danielle McGhee
Chantel Mensah-Huffour
Joshua Nash
Riliwan Omisola
Sana Pettaway
Ashley Priest
Michael Richardson
Shawonne Sanders
Darryl Smith
Alversia Starks
Jamilah Tillery
Rodney Venable
Keiona Warren
Jeremiah Williams
Tutu-Girl Wilmote
Asata Wisseh
William Wright
Stacey Wynn
Maame Yeboah

Reada & Harry Jellinek Fund
Ronald GriffIn Memorial Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Phyllis & Donald Kalfus Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Class of 1940 Fund
Class of 1963 Fund
Class of 1964 Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Morey Bobrow Memorial Fund
Bert Manhoff Memorial Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Edwin McLucas Athletic Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Class of 1945 Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Maxine Boatwright Memorial Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Miriam Hample Memorial Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Class of 1945 Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Leo Pearl Memorial Fund
College Women's Club Fund
Seymour Masin Memorial Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Class of 1945 Fund
Charles Stewart Memorial Fund
Hannah Litzky Memorial Fund
Sadie Rous Memorial Fund
WHS General Alumni Fund
Marie E. O'Connor Fund

Essex County College
Rutgers University - Newark
NJ Institute of Technology
College of St. Elizabeth
Fashion Institute
Rutgers University - Newark
Virginia State University
Caldwell College
University of Maryland
Delaware State University
Essex County College
Caldwell College
Johnson C. Smith University
Essex County College
Tuskegee University
Essex County College
Essex County College
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Centenary College
Chubb Institute
William Paterson University
Essex County College
Bergen Community College
Essex County College
West Virginia Wesleyan College
Centenary College
Bloomfield College
Essex County College
Cornell University
Essex County College
NJ Institute of Technology
Essex County College
Delaware State University
Caldwell College
Rutgers University - Douglass
Chubb Institute
Union County College
Union County College



Joshua Nash



Juanita Jordan



Keiona Warren



Keisha Belcher



Kyrie Cavenass



LaToya Evans



Lewis Andrews

Weequahic makes the New York Times

Long-Ago Graduates of a Newark High School Help It Build Some Good New Days

By Ronald Smothers, NY Times

At high school reunions and alumni gatherings, the guest of honor is usually the memories. They stalk the past and then blithely gild it, often turning that awkward and formative time into something it probably was not.

But at gatherings of the alumni association of Weequahic High School - where the author Philip Roth spun his own memories and turned them into American classics - the present and the future invariably drop in as well.

The more than 1,300 alumni dating to the 1930's do indeed laugh and wax sentimental about their time at what was



Arnold Keller, 1952; Kingsley Kordie, 2002; Eli Hoffman, 1956

a predominantly Jewish school with a reputation for turning out doctors, lawyers, musicians and writers. Many of these overachievers also have the time, the money and the inclination to help a school that today is overwhelmingly black and poor, and is struggling against drugs and gangs, in its efforts to raise chronically low achievement levels among today's students.

"While I liked the reunions, it was a waste of energy just talking about the good old days," said Hal Braff, a 1952 graduate who went on to become a lawyer. *"I wanted to channel that energy to do something for the students*

at the school now. There were some alumni who had no interest in this, but there were plenty who did."

In nine years of trying to bridge a chasm of time and accomplishment, the association has raised more than \$300,000, much of it for college scholarships for more than 150 graduates of the high school. In addition, the graduates have helped buy band uniforms, pay for trips to national band competitions and finance the restoration of a mural commissioned by the Works Progress Administration shortly after the school opened in 1933.

And to try to bring a bit of the toney prep school aura to the school, two years ago the graduates contributed \$23,000 toward a summer trip to Paris by students with the highest grades in French.

In the group's most ambitious effort to date, it held a fund-raising dinner at the Robert Treat Hotel here on Friday night, which raised more than \$120,000 to continue the scholarship programs.

With the 1955 graduate Alvin Attles, a Golden State Warriors executive who also played and coached in the National Basketball Association, as honoree, white, wealthy and gray-haired business executives from the school's first 40 years mingled with current black

students from its honor society and recent scholarship recipients. And while their differences were apparent, they all sought to carve out some common ground from the hallways, lockers, and classrooms that they all knew.

Kingsley Y. Kordie, a 2002 Weequahic graduate who in June graduated from Colgate University with the help of a four-year recurring \$1,000 scholarship from the alumni group, said the aid had been important as *"the signature of approval from my high school."* He went away quickly, with business cards from his new job selling financial



Alvin Attles & Principal Ron Stone

planning services for a large insurance company, to meet other Weequahic graduates who might be potential clients.

One of those he ran into was Eli Hoffman, a 1956 graduate who is an accountant and runs a foundation that contributes to the scholarship fund. *"I just wanted to give back,"* Mr. Hoffman said of his involvement with the group as he trooped off to greet his high school English teacher, Hilda Lutzke, now 93.

It was after a reunion 10 years ago that Mr. Braff helped to spark the creation of the association and to start its fund-raising activities. Arnold Keller, a retired stockbroker and teacher and fellow 1952 graduate, was particularly interested in the idea.

Mr. Keller said he had grown up in a troubled family and had spent much on his youth shuttling between the houses of relatives and the Hebrew Sheltering Home, an orphanage in the city. But going to Weequahic, playing basketball and being in a setting with *"strivers and overachievers,"* as he put it, had shown him there were alternatives. *"Black kids in Newark and at Weequahic today have it rough, and their life is a never-ending full court press,"* he said. *"That striver characteristic is not as strong today, and today's students can easily get discouraged."*

Judy Bennett, who administers crime prevention programs for the Justice Department, graduated in 1972.

Continued on next page

Long-Ago Graduates

continued from previous page

Ms. Bennett, who with Mr. Braff is co-president of the alumni group, grew up in the area when middle-class blacks, as well as some poorer black families, were displacing Jews who had begun moving to the suburbs.

"Weequahic saved me," she said. "The school was 60 percent black then and would become 90 percent black by 1972, but you had the same teachers who made it a point to know your momma and daddy. It's important for black alumni like me to be involved in this effort because today's students see in us a face they recognize and get the message that they, too, can achieve."

Such efforts by alumni groups are rare, particularly when a school has undergone ethnic and demographic changes, said Wanda Diroll, president of the National Association of Reunion Managers. *"What I usually hear from some reunion committees is how bad the school, and even the community, now looks,"* Ms. Diroll said. *"And not too many of them are reaching back to the school to help a group of students who are very different from them."*

Mariano Guzman, a regional deputy schools superintendent in New York City, was director of a \$3 million program of the Milken Family Foundation 15 years ago that tried to reach out to Catholic high schools attended largely by children from immigrant groups that had replaced earlier immigrant populations. *"We knew that many of the successful alumni who were first-generation immigrants had their lives turned around by the experience they had at the schools,"* he said. *"Our goal was to remind them that it is still an important place and experience for a newer group of immigrants. The foundation helped them and school leaders set up boards of advisers who then went out and sought corporate, foundation and other private funds for the schools."*

Differences between the Newark of today and the Newark of 40 years ago are stark. For one thing, the population has shrunk, to 254,217

from 405,220, because of the exodus of industry and the flight of middle-class whites in the aftermath of race riots in 1967. Today, the median income in the city is 62 percent of the national average, compared with 95 percent in the 1960's.

And today, 23 percent of the city's residents live below the poverty level, compared with 10.2 percent nationally; in 1960, 18.9 percent of Newark's residents had incomes below the poverty level, compared with 18.5 percent nationally.

In the 1950's and 60's, the Commission of Secondary Schools of the Middle Atlantic States Association of Colleges and Schools repeatedly cited Weequahic High School as *"one of the most outstanding high schools in*

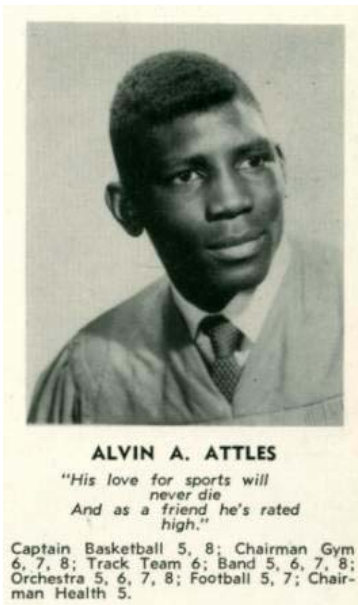
the country," and in 1963 the school ranked first in New Jersey in the number of graduates who had earned Ph.D's in the previous five years.

But recently, Weequahic struggled just to gain re-accreditation by the Middle States group, and 38 percent of its students are considered to be performing below grade level. Ronald G. Stone, the school's principal, is at once realistic and hopeful about the role of the alumni. Mr. Stone said

he recognizes that there has been *"a deterioration of the community resources that can support education"* and that the students' families cannot always promise their children that there will be money for college.

"What the alumni association has done is take at least that bullet out of the gun aimed at some of our students," he said. *"Because of them, we are the only public high school in the city which can promise kids who get good grades that there will be money for them to cross the bridge into college."*

And he acknowledges the intangible benefits. When students see the largely white alumni group helping out, Mr. Stone said, many are seeing for the first time a white person *"who is not a cop slamming them against a patrol car."*



Thank You For Your Generosity

The Weequahic High School Alumni Association extends its appreciation to all of our **alumni** and **friends** who provided financial support for the Scholarship Fund Raising Dinner.

In particular, we want to recognize the following individuals and groups for their extraordinary generosity for this event and/or to the alumni association on an ongoing basis:

Eli Hoffman, 1956
Jaqua Foundation

Steven Dinetz, 1965
Chancellor Foundation

Les & Ceil Fein

Arnold Keller, 1952

Theodore Jellinek, 1957

Arthur Lutzke, 1963

Tema, 1964, and
Ken Javerbaum

Steve Bogner, 1966

Zach Braff

Sharpe James

NJ Devils

IMPORTANT TAX
NOTE: For those who purchased individual tickets and tables, the tax deduction for a ticket is \$100.00 and for a table is \$1,000.00

Weequahic HS alumni remember the past and look to the future

By Robert Wiener,
NJ Jewish News, August 2006

When hundreds of people gather for a banquet at Newark's Robert Treat Hotel on Sept. 15, they will celebrate more than a common commitment to a home town and their alma mater. They will span the gaps of race, generations, and ethnicity out of a love they share for Weequahic High School and a deep concern for the students who will graduate in the future.



Co-Presidents Hal Braff, 1952, Judy Bennett, 1972, and Executive Director Phil Yourish, 1964

The occasion is the Weequahic High School Alumni Association's first fundraising dinner - a time to raise scholarship aid for tomorrow's graduates and to honor one of yesterday's most successful, Alvin Attles, class of 1955, whose basketball prowess took him from Newark to the NBA.

Attles, who is now an executive with the Golden State Warriors, was one of a handful of blacks who attended high school in what was the heart of Newark's thriving Jewish community until the mid to late 1960s. Despite changing demographics and declining economic conditions through the decades, a loyalty to Weequahic has endured across racial lines. Many of the Jews who attended from the time the school opened its doors on 1933 and the African Americans who became the overwhelming majority of its students since the (late) '60s maintain more than emotional ties.

Together they have raised some \$300,000 in scholarship funds. For Sheldon Bross, a classmate of Attles who co-founded the alumni association in 1997, "Weequahic was really a Jewish thing. I still have friends from Weequahic who weren't Jewish. There were Italian guys here and there, but for the most part it was a predominantly Jewish school." Although Bross now lives in Bloomingdale, he maintains a spiritual tie to Newark through friendships and a law practice, there, and remembers his "great feelings about being a kid."

So does co-founder Hal Braff of South Orange, class of 1952. "Years ago it became apparent to me there was

something unique about the Jewish community called Weequahic in the years I was growing up. It compelled people to still come back for reunions and find traces of the memories they had of the school," Braff told NJ Jewish News. "It occurred to me that with all these people going back to reunions in the '80s and '90s, what if we took that energy to see if we could provide support

to the kids who were now living in the same houses that we did who didn't have the advantages that we did. It was also a good opportunity to renew contact between Jews and blacks."

Bross said he felt the same imperative. "I saw a strain in the black and Jewish communities. Both Hal and I being children of the '60s, and seeing the civil rights movement and the involvement of Jews, I somehow felt that most of the kids in Weequahic may never meet a Jew. "All of them know now there are Jews who give a damn," he said. "Hal and I are bringing into the black community a sense that like all people there are good Jews and bad Jews. I think what we do is really significant."

After the association began, the co-founders hired a 1964 graduate, Phil Yourish, to be its executive director.

"One of the things we decided in terms of doing something meaningful with Weequahic kids," Yourish said, "was to put out a newsletter and start some scholarship funds in memory of older faculty members who started passing away. The grants began multiplying, from five a year to ten, then 15."

"In the past year we gave out 38 scholarships, representing \$41,000, ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500," said Yourish who lives in East Orange. "The alumni association includes everybody who attended Weequahic from 1933 to the present, so we can relate or connect to both eras," he explained.

"The requirement is we have co-presidents - one who graduated before 1970, the other graduated after 1970, so that we will pretty much end up with one black and one white. It really is a nice balance," said Bross.



Sheldon Bross, 1955

Braff and Judy Bennett from the class of 1972 share the reins of power. "I've always been a member, even when I lived out-of-state. It is a wonderful way of giving back to the school and that community," she said. "I'm a diehard Weequahic Indian fan and I served as secretary of the senior class."

Bennett commutes to her job at the United States Justice Department's Newark office from her home in Bergen County, and retains family ties to Newark's South Ward, where she grew up amid the Jewish community. "When I was growing up we had teachers who grew up in that community and lived in that community and loved that community, so not only were they vested in this high school being successful, they were vested in the students graduating from Weequahic being successful. I came along in an era when Weequahic was still in the top ten high schools in the nation. I couldn't begin to tell you where it is now."

Continued on page 16

Attles Wants To Give Kids A Shot

By Sid Dorfman, WHS 1937
Star-Ledger, July 2006



On the night of March 2, 1962, Alvin Attles, a point guard for the NBA's Philadelphia Warriors, by way of Newark, decided he would like to prove something to himself.

Known primarily for defense but only incidentally as a shooter, he entered a game with the New York Knicks aiming to do some uncharacteristic scoring. "I was big on defense," he recalls on the phone from Oakland, where he is in his 46th year of association with Golden State, "but I wasn't exactly known as a shooter. So that night I decided to find out just how good a scorer I could be." He picked the right night for it. The season was almost over, neither the Warriors nor the Knicks were going anywhere, and the game, in Hershey, Pa., would have no impact on the NBA standings. He had nothing to lose.

The champion that season would be the awesome Boston Celtics, who were rivaling the Yankees as the most successful franchise in pro sports. They knocked over the Lakers for the title. So Attles went out on the Hershey court that night and began to throw up shots when he might otherwise have been feeding the ball. He threw up eight of them, and hit them all, a perfect eight for eight. He added a foul shot and finished with a heart-nourishing 17 points. "I felt I could do that all night," he says. But as it was, someone else was doing exactly that.

In that same game, his teammate, Wilt Chamberlain, scored 100 points. "It sort of took the edge off my breakout as a shooter," Attles remembers wryly. "Later, I also realized that because of Wilt I had been wide open to take my

shots. Hell, at least I was in on history." Neither the Warriors nor the Knicks were thrilled to be in Hershey that night. Nor, for that matter, were the fans. It was a chilling, wintry evening, and the official attendance was a generous 4,124, about half the building.

Probably 100 times that many later claimed they saw Wilt Chamberlain perform that night. Historic events have a way of creating any number of illusions. The NBA was a work in progress back in the 1960s, and the modern palaces of today were yet to be built. The game was played in Hershey because Philadelphia, coached by future Hall of Famer Frank McGuire, trained and played some league games there.

Wilt Chamberlain went into that game with nothing special in mind. As he kept on scoring, Attles and the others kept feeding him the ball, and the tension mounted. When the great center got his 100th point, there were still 46 seconds remaining, but they were never played as the crowd stormed onto the court to celebrate.

Philadelphia won the game, 169-147. In trying to stop Chamberlain as his total mounted, five Knicks fouled out. Will his feat ever be duplicated? "Maybe," suggests Attles. "After all, there were no 3-pointers when Wilt played. When Kobe Bryant scored 81 in a game last season against Toronto, he hit seven three-pointers. Who knows? Some day there may be four-point shots, say, from midcourt." Bryant's 81 gave him second place on the all-time list. Chamberlain and David Thompson had been tied for second with 78-point games.

As a scorer himself, Attles wasn't as ordinary as he might have thought he was. In an 11-year NBA career, he averaged 8.9 points, along with 3.5 rebounds and 3.5 assists. He also acquired the nickname "The Destroyer," a tribute to a hard-nosed approach to the game.

Attles, now 68, who lives in Oakland with his wife, Wilhemina (they have two grown kids, Alvin III and Erica), entered the NBA in 1960 with Philadelphia and moved with the team when it relocated to San Francisco the following year. And he remained when the Warriors moved to Oakland in 1971. By then he was the player-coach.

His role as coach lasted 13 years, including the 1974-75 NBA championship. He had a winning record in every one of his first eight years. In 1983, he became the Warriors' general manager, and today he remains as a consultant.

PHILADELPHIA WARRIORS
BACKCOURT AL ATTLES

PHILADELPHIA WARRIORS
AL ATTLES

AL ATTLES
guard

Weequahic High School Alumni Association

The Alvin Attles Scholarship Endowment Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAISING DINNER

WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL
NEWARK, N.J.
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Friday, September 15, 2006

at the historic
ROBERT TREAT HOTEL
IN NEWARK

The WHS Alumni Association, founded in 1997, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of New Jersey

Attles is second to Red Auerbach of the Celtics in longevity with the same NBA team. At 557-518, he ranks 18th on the NBA's all-time list of winning coaches. "No big deal," he says. "There is nothing special about coaching the game of basketball. In the NBA, there is usually one exceptional player who needs some double coverage. That leaves one man open. Find him, and give him the ball."

There's probably a little bit more to it than that, like motivation, but if you listen to an articulate guy like Alvin, you suspect he's good at that, too.

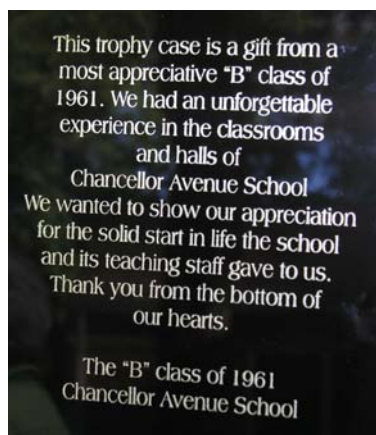
Continued on page 16

1961 Chancellor grads gather for trip down memory lane and to present new trophy case and plaque

By David Lieberfarb, WHS 1965,
Star-Ledger Staff

Newark once had a School-Within-a-School. Now it has a class-within-a-class. Forty-five years after they graduated from Chancellor Avenue School and moved next door to Weequahic High School, 15 members of Mrs. Cherney's eighth-grade class dined at a New York restaurant on June 9, attended "Jersey Boys," reconvened the next day at the home of Jonathan Krasney of Brookside and concluded the weekend with Sunday brunch at the Morristown Hyatt.

Their common bond: They were the segment of the 1961 class - some 27 out of 90 - who had been on track to graduate in January 1962 until the Newark Board of Education changed from semiannual to annual promotions. Their goal: A nostalgic trip down multiple memory lanes and a chance to give something back to their school. The latter took the form of a new trophy case and a plaque presented to Chancellor Principal Eugene Brown. Chancellor pupils will reap further benefits this fall when a few dozen eighth graders take a free bus trip to the Holocaust Museum and Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.



Plaque presented to Chancellor Avenue School



"This was one of the greatest days of my life," said Krasney, one of the prime movers behind the reunion, along with Bruce Baumgarten of North Caldwell, Marvin Schlanger of Cherry Hill and Avram Eule of Montville. Krasney said the idea arose last fall after their 40-year Weequahic High School reunion when he and a classmate wondered if the kids from their grammar school would come to a reunion. He made two calls, and, "All of a sudden, it exploded," he said.

The presence of Krasney's 91-year-old father, Sy, at the June 10 barbecue was cause for reminiscing by Alvin Meth of Plano, Texas, whose teenage jobs included working as a gravedigger with classmates Baumgarten and Krasney at B'nai Abraham Memorial Park in Union under the senior Krasney's direction.

"A call came from Sy on a Sunday to prepare a site for a funeral," Meth said. "He gave me the location, and I dug the grave and prepared the site with a tent and chairs around the grave. The attendance was unusually large, so I asked the funeral director who the person was. He told me the deceased was Dr. Nash, a very prominent obstetrician from Beth Israel Hospital who delivered a vast number of babies. When I went home that evening, I mentioned burying Dr. Nash that day and how large the funeral was. My mother said that was very interesting since he was the doctor who delivered me. Wow, what irony! Dr. Nash brought me into this world, and I took him out."

Meth wasn't the classmate who came the farthest to attend. That distinction belonged to Harris Rubenstein of Mill Valley, Calif., near San Francisco. "I guess you could say I came the farthest in more ways than one," Rubenstein said. "I only attended Weequahic for two years and then moved to Livingston. So, unlike my Chancellor classmates who had seen each other over the years at Weequahic reunions, I had not seen anyone in 42 years. I only had these images of everyone up to 15 years of age. So for me, it was incredibly surreal only having these young images and memories of all. It was almost shocking."

Other distant attendees: Florida was represented by Sheila Heyman Epstein of Wellington and Marci Ades Krotenberg of Miami. Mona Spiegel Wineburg came from Washington, D.C., and Eileen Lawrence from Silver Spring, Md. Lawrence's four years at Weequahic culminated in being named valedictorian of the Class of 1965.

Schlanger and Wineburg organized the June 9 dinner and attendance at "Jersey Boys," just two nights before the show won four Tony Awards, including best musical. "We could identify not only with the music we grew up with," Schlanger said, "but also with many of the locations in the Newark area." Krasney hosted the Saturday barbecue on his patio. The main courses were "Bunny Bombs" (Italian hot dogs with potatoes, onions and peppers) and "Jerry Bombs" (steak sandwiches with similar fixin's).

1961 Chancellor grads



Adrianne Einzig Chernofsky finds her 1965 Weequahic yearbook picture amusing.

These were mainstays on the menu of the Bunny Hop, a long ago favorite eatery on Chancellor Avenue.

Baumgarten hosted the Sunday brunch. He, Krasney and Meth have come a long way from their days as teenage grave diggers. Baumgarten is a broker; Krasney, a certified financial planner, and Meth is a senior staff consultant for Verizon. Other classmates' careers include Eule, a lawyer; Lawrence, vice president of a Virginia publishing house; Schlanger, chemical engineer and CEO; Epstein and Geri Jarman Mendelson in the health field; and, of course, educators. Karen "Cookie" Hinkes Levine of Succasunna, a social studies teacher at Central Middle School in Parsippany, is arranging the trip to the Holocaust Museum. "I'm heavy duty involved in Holocaust education," Levine said, adding she's made the one-day round trip with students four times. She credited the Jewish Federation of MetroWest and the Morris Rubell Foundation with providing the funding for such outings. "I'm really excited about this," she said.

Classmates spent the weekend looking at old photos, yearbooks and autograph books, and they shared memories of early romances, local hangouts, favorite teachers and summers at Bradley Beach. Yet with all the conversations, they managed to keep one secret: Ranelle Goldstein Beresky of Somerville attended

the Friday night dinner and Sunday brunch with her husband, Mike. But they missed the Saturday barbecue because Ranelle threw a surprise party for Mike's 70th birthday that day. All the others were warned not to divulge her secret on Friday night, and no one let it escape.

All the classmates were so excited by the success of the mini-reunion that they made plans to meet again in November 2007 in the Florida Keys.

Krotenberg, a Miami travel agent, and her husband Jerry, a Weequahic graduate and former shop teacher at their alma mater, said they would make the arrangements for a weekend cruise to the Bahamas and a follow-up bash at their home afterward.



Eileen Lawrence, Marvin Schlanger, and Dave Lieberfarb

for a classmate because the high school clock said he was on time even though our "grammar school" clock said he was late. When the teacher finally went to the window, he had to agree and ripped up the tardy slip. Victory for the underdog."

* * * * *

David Lieberfarb is a copy editor at The Star-Ledger. As a graduate of nearby Maple Avenue School, his freshman homeroom and first two classes of the day were also held in Chancellor, and that's where he began meeting some of the classmates who recently staged their mini-reunion. He is also a member of the Board of the WHS Alumni Association.

Getting over the unification

The Chancellor grads had one common complaint about their transition to high school. Weequahic was literally the building next door, and in that Baby Boomer era, the overcrowded high school appropriated four rooms on the third floor of the elementary school for some freshman classes, which disappointed many of the Chancellor grads.

"Freshman year was a letdown," said Karen "Cookie" Hinkes Levine, "because you felt like you still didn't make it to the big 'show.' . . . I had three of my academic classes at Chancellor."

Mona Spiegel Wineburg added, "I was in the group that had a homeroom in Chancellor. What a downer! I remember looking across 'the divide' to see the real high school students in their homerooms and feeling out of it. We even had trouble with synchronizing the clocks and not being marked tardy. We could see the clocks across the way, and I remember advocating



From back row left: Jon Krasney, Avram Eule, Harris Rubenstein, Marvin Schlanger; 3rd row: Adrianne Einzig Chernofsky, Eileen Lawrence, Geri Jarman Mendelson, Helaine "Lainie" Seitz Drake; 2nd row: Mona Spiegel Wineburg, Marci Ades Krotenberg, Sheila "Shelly" Heyman Epstein, Karen "Cookie" Hinkes Levine; Front row: Bruce Baumgarten, Alvin Meth. Not pictured Ranelle Goldstein Beresky.



WALDO WINCHESTER

This popular column from the Calumet first appeared in 1950.

The Weequahic High School Alumni Association provided alumni pictures for a new documentary entitled *"The Once and Future Newark"* with Dr. Clement Price of Rutgers University in Newark. The film had its broadcast premiere at the Newark Museum and on NJ Network.

The Newark History Society's presentation entitled *"Newark's Black Political Leadership: The First Generation"* took place at the NJ Historical Society. **Warren Grover, 1955**, is President of the Society.

Weequahic **Principal Ron Stone** and the **WHS Alumni Association** were honored by the Grace Reformed Baptist Church at their 27th Appreciation Awards Buffet Dance at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark.

2006 Newark Athletic Hall of Fame inductees from Weequahic were: **Seymour "Zoom" Fleischer, 1940; Ted Kurtz, 1950; Larry Bembry, 1966; Dave Wright, 1966; and Syd Haynes, 1968.**

Eleanor Masser, 1945, and her husband celebrated their 60th anniversary with a cruise on the St. Lawrence River. **Bud and Tina Centuori Freedman, 1952**, celebrated their 50th anniversary this summer.

Jack Silverman, 1945, received a community service award for his volunteer work with the Millburn-Short Hills Volunteer First Aid Squad. At age 78, he has the distinction of being the oldest riding member and one of the longest-standing members. He has been volunteering for the past 31 years.

A movie, starring Russell Crowe and Denzell Washington, depicts the fascinating story of **Richard Roberts, 1956**, who both prosecuted and befriended one of the biggest heroin kingpins of the 70's when he was an assistant prosecutor in Essex County.

Jane Mendlowitch Statlander, 1961, has written a bio-fictional novel entitled *"What Philip Roth Never Told You: The (true) Story of a Newark Girl."* She has been publishing poetry, literary criticism, and theater and film reviews since her teens.

Steve Newmark, 1961, and his wife Susanne, were honored by the Jewish Family Service of MetroWest at their fourth annual affair.

Stuart Grover, 1962, has retired and is writing a book, *"Capital Campaigns: A Guide For Board Members And Other Who Aren't Professional Fundraisers But Who Will Be The Heroes Who Create A Better Community."* He previously taught Russian history at various universities, owned a community newspaper, and developed the Pacific Northwest's largest fundraising consulting firm.

Phil Yourish, 1964, Executive Director of the WHS Alumni Association, will be honored in November by the Union Chapel Community Development Corp.

Carl Gregory, 1966, retired after 29 years with the Newark Public Schools - 13 years as Principal of Morton Street School and 4 years as Principal of Central High School. He will soon begin working on his memoirs.

WHS 1945 Burton "Burt" Geltzeiler

Inducted into the MetroWest Jewish Sports Hall of Fame



Told he was too small to make his high school basketball team, Burton "Burt" Geltzeiler of Newark became known as one of the best New Jersey college players while at Newark University and Rutgers-Newark from 1945 to 1950.

He was the first player at Rutgers-Newark to score 1,000 points over his career, finishing with 1,222 - averaging 21 points per game as a senior in an era before three-point shots and game clocks.

Upon graduation, Geltzeiler was drafted by the Tri-City Hawks, the forerunners of the NBA's Atlanta Hawks. Instead, he played for Uncle Sam, leading his Fort Eustis team to the Second Army Championship from 1950 to 1952 and earning a second-place finish in the worldwide tournament in 1952.

Dr. Wilfredo Nieves, 1966, is the President of Middlesex County College in Connecticut.

Vaughn Crowe, 1998, a program officer for the Amelior Foundation in NJ, was one of 26 individuals who graduated from Leadership Newark, a two-year program that develops community and civic leaders.

Kingsley Kordie, 2002, an alumni association scholarship recipient, graduated from Colgate University in 2006 and is working for Northwestern Mutual as a Financial Representative.

WHS 1945 David Horwitz

Oldest Fairleigh Dickinson University Graduate Tells All

by Ron Kaplan, NJ Jewish News



While the rest of his graduating classmates at Fairleigh Dickinson University head on to careers, David Horwitz can only laugh at the question: "What's next?"

At 78, the Cedar Knolls resident is the oldest of the 2,711 graduates in the FDU class of '06.

Of the 10,000 guests expected at FDU's graduation ceremony at the Continental Airlines Arena in East Rutherford on May 16, 40 will be on hand to cheer for Horwitz, who will graduate magna cum laude in individualized studies with a specialty in business.

In an interview at the offices of *NJ Jewish News*, Horwitz said he had always planned to get his degree after attending Weequahic High School in Newark. He enrolled in college in 1945 but entered the military shortly thereafter. Upon his return from serving in World War II, he tried again, enrolling at the Newark College of Engineering, now the New Jersey Institute of Technology, studying chemical engineering "at a time when the words 'chemical engineering' and the word 'Jewish' didn't go into the same sentence," he said. After the family business foundered, he dropped out of school. "I didn't have the head or the heart for [college]."

Horwitz began a career in the health field before switching to furniture sales for

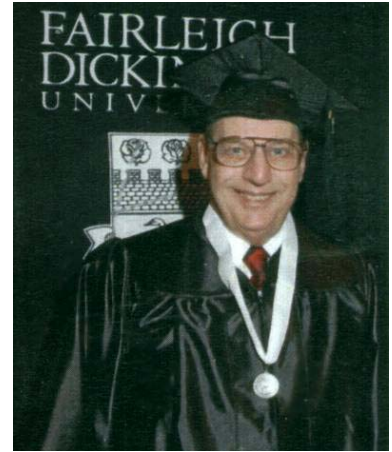
Castro Convertible. At one point, he owned stores in Newark, Morristown, and Union. After the Union store, located on Route 22, was destroyed by a fire, he set out on his "third career," spending 24 years at Max Blau, an office furniture store in Newark. He retired eight years ago.

With time on his hands, Horwitz looked into resuming his formal education. The thought of merely taking an array of adult education classes - offered, it seems, in every town - had no appeal, nor had he any desire to go the auditing route, sitting in on classes. "I don't believe in [that]," he said. "If I'm going to do it, I want to get credit; I want to get the degree. I always had a dream of finishing college."

Horwitz learned that FDU offered free tuition through a book of "freebies" for senior citizens advertised in the "Bottom Line," a newsletter produced by one of his old Weequahic classmates (Marty Edelson). "The best \$29.95 I ever spent," he said. (Horwitz is still active in Weequahic alumni affairs. He has served as chair of his class's committee for 40 years and is proud of the scholarship program he helped initiate in 2002, which has raised more than \$20,000.)

The septuagenarian signed up through the Florham Institute of Lifelong Learning (formerly Education Programs for Older Persons), a program launched in 1972. His age afforded him no special treatment at the university. He had to fulfill the regular 120 credits like everyone else. Fortunately, he was able to apply 48 credits from his previous college experience. His final classes this semester included accounting and an archaeology course to meet a social science requirement.

His family, including his wife, Phyllis, formerly a secretary at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in Short Hills, and their children, Alan, Ellen, and Kenneth, were fully behind his decision. "I get nothing but compliments and accolades," he said



proudly. "Everybody's amazed at what I'm doing and how I'm doing."

The only difficulty, he said, was taking too many courses one semester. "I'm a serious student, and I do my work, but that was too hard." His fellow students, most more than 50 years his junior, "accept me like one of their own," he said.

Yet he noticed quite a difference between the current generation of students and those he knew during his initial college experiences. "The way they act, the attitude, the dress, oh, my God." When he went to NCE, he said, the students dressed in "shirts, ties, and jackets. Now they dress like slobs. The first day of our public speaking class, the teacher said, 'There's going to be five speeches over the course of the semester, and I expect you to dress neatly,' and everyone was wondering what 'dress neatly' meant."

Having completed the program with honors, Horwitz is looking ahead to next year and considering a well-deserved winter vacation, something he hasn't been able to do since he began his studies four-and-a-half years ago.

Looking back on his accomplishment, Horwitz said, "Education is absolutely essential. Education is life. It's the key to everything. If we could educate the world, we'd have no wars."

WIENER

Continued from page 10

Bennett said she believes today's less advantaged students need a helping hand from the alumni association, which she said she regards as a model for good race relations. *"We work hard at making sure we respect each other,"* she said, noting that a common goal overrides many superficial differences.

"We open our hearts and our hands to providing any kind of services and assistance to the students," Bennett said. *"Anything we can help them with, they know they can turn to us. They can always ask. It doesn't mean we are going to approve it, but they know we are a part of the Weequahic High School family,"* she said.

DORFMAN

Continued from page 11

A star product of Newark's Weequahic High School, he will be coming back to Newark Sept. 15 to host a dinner at the Robert Treat Hotel, in which an Alvin Attles Scholarship Endowment Fund will be created.

The jersey is retired, but the rest of him is still very active.

The parent Weequahic Alumni Association, which is sponsoring the event, has already awarded 187 scholarships worth \$192,000 since 1998. *"All I care about these days,"* he says, with conviction, *"is education. What is more important?"*

The Fund will give him a personal influence on both coasts. He is active as a civic leader in the Northern California community. Everybody in the San Francisco area knows Alvin Attles. He is one of just five players whose jersey has been retired by the Warriors, joining Chamberlain, Nate Thurman, Rick Barry, another New Jersey native, and Tom Meschery.

A NEW HOME FOR SYD'S

Hello, friends,

I want to let everyone know about SYD'S new home. On October 31, 2006, SYD'S will be located at 234 Morris Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey (near the corner of Mountain Avenue and Morris Avenue). We have found a perfect spot with plenty of parking in the back of the restaurant and there is an entrance in the back.



Our merger will be with a small diner called Tony's Place, and we will be known as SYD'S at Tony's Place.

You will continue to enjoy the BEST GRILLED HOT DOG IN NEW

JERSEY as voted by the Star Ledger on September 8, 2006, and of course, all of your other favorite foods.



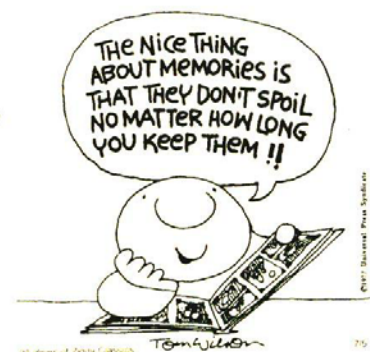
A bite of history.

Let's get everyone to come support us and let them know Syd's is "a great place to grab a bite."

Hope to see you soon.

Eric and Arie Niederman (Arie is a WHS 1965 grad)

Ziggy by Tom Wilson



2006 Scholarship Recipients continued:



Augustina
Frederick



Maame
Yeboah



Michael
Richardson



Myron Horton



Omar Hudson



Riliwan Omisola



Rodney Venable



Sana Pettaway



Shanea Dandridge



Shavonne Sanders



Stacey Wynne



Trayette Cheatham



Tutu-Girl Wilmote



William Wright

Philip Agyekum not pictured

In Loving Memory

Eugene Lieberman, 1952

Organized West Coast Alumni Reunion in 2001



Eugene passed away in August 2006 at age 72. In 2001, he was the organizer of the West Coast Reunion in Los Angeles which was attended by over two hundred Weequahic alumni.

Below his daughter Moxie (Melysa) spoke about her father's life at a graveside service.

The thing about Eugene is that if you knew him, you KNEW him. Which makes it hard to say things about him that hasn't been said by all of you already. But I'm standing here to speak for my family. My family, which feels like it's shrinking with every passing minute but is also so much larger than we ever knew.

Eugene was a deeply silly human being. Recently at work I found a note on my desk from one of my staff. There was a voice mail from "*Some guy trying to enroll his dog in childcare.*" My dad had left an endless message, in a Yiddish accent, inquiring about our activities and expressing his fear that the other kids would make fun of his exceptionally hairy son, Murray.

That was one month ago and I can't believe I'm here, now, like this. There is so much left undone. He wanted me to e-mail him a phone number. I had a few CD's I was going to make for him. He told me last week that he had clipped an article in the IJ he was going to send me, and for that matter, he owed me money. My mom has been telling people that my father was a man who never complained. That is a lie and she knows it.

If you think that Eugene never complained, you never heard him screaming and swearing at his computer, his fax machine, his remote control. He was attracted to technology. He believed in and utilized the Internet as another way to connect with people. Having said that, he also had to call me after power outages because he couldn't turn the TV back on.

Eugene really was a teacher. He had patience and understanding and could teach absolutely anyone to swing a baseball bat . . . but . . . could teach absolutely no one to do math homework. You can ask Rachel if you want, but I wouldn't advise it...the math scars run pretty deep.

Here's a dad lesson, though: I remember him driving me to the bus stop for my first sleep-over camp. I was so nervous about making friends. He told me that making friends takes time but that people were going to get to know me. I was quiet for a while and right before we got to the stop I wondered out loud: "*What if no one starts to talk with me?*"

My dad took a swift left and pulled into a supermarket parking lot. Before I knew what was happening, I had in my lap an enormous bag of cookies. I'm talking about a bag of cookies bigger than my rolled-up sleeping bag. We giggled the rest of the way to the bus. The lesson? Cookies begin friendships.

Greater than the power of the cookie lesson was the importance of *seychel* as he defined it: common sense with people. Eugene believed in being there when you are needed but before you are asked. He taught us to seek out opportunities to lend support, to offer comfort, to embrace people. Both of my parents are devoted, compassionate people and they taught us that taking care of others is simply "*what you DO.*" And he did it. And so do we.

And you are here, you are doing it too. He gave us so much and he left us all too soon. I know that we come together to celebrate and honor him, and he will

always be a part of us. But I can't walk away without telling you the whole truth. I can't walk away, from this place, without saying that his absence has created in me a rupture I can only liken to a volcano, or an earthquake, or an explosion. A potent, trembling *tsuris*.

It's a chaotic void so volatile and powerful and devastating that it threatens to escape from my flesh and bones with an eruption so big, so painful that it will knock down walls and silence city streets and stop the earth from spinning and destroy the sun. I will never be the same. We will never be the same.

When I was young, I asked my dad why he was bald. He told me that he gave his hair to this other man, a man who needed the hair more. We laughed when he said it but it's important to me to say this now, to his family, his friends, his communities: He told me that he gave his hair to a man that needed it more and I believe him. I will always believe him.

* * * * *

**Ruth Gold
Heike Feinstein
Terry Premak Strauss
Milton Zukerberg, 1940
Marian Goodman Heyman, 1940
Dorothea Schechner Richman, 1940
Jerome Shipman, 1940
Richard Stern, 1940
Irwin Unger, 1940
Richard Drill, 1942
William Goldstein, 1945
Morton Belfer, 1945
Joyce Pollack Fastow, 1945
William Santay, Jan. 1947
Arthur Kovar, Jan. 1947
Donald Chinsky, 1949
Ruth Wuench Holder, June 1953
Dorothy Jermansky Friedman, 1953
Sheldon Chaplowitz, Jan. 1953
Shirley Wurzel Panter, 1961
Abe Greenfield, 1961
Jonathan Alston, 1963
David Simkowitz, 1965**

WEAR WEEQUAHIC: BUY WEEQUAHIC ALUMNI MERCHANDISE

MEMBERSHIP / MERCHANDISE / SCHOLARSHIP Form

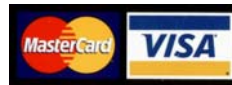
Send to: *WHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 494, Newark, NJ 07101*
or make your purchases with a credit card at *www.weequahicalumni.org*

- Please Print Clearly -

DATE: _____ TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____

2 Payment Choices:

1. CREDIT CARD (mail or telephone): MC VISA - Amount \$ _____



Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: Signature: _____

2. CHECK: Make out check to *WHSAA* - Amount \$ _____

5 Merchandise Choices (circle size of T-shirt and sweatshirt):

1. \$5.00 WEEQUAHIC ALUMNI LAPEL PIN
2. \$15.00 T-SHIRT (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - white or khaki with big W in orange & brown)
3. \$15.00 HAT (one size fits all - tan top, brown brim, orange & brown lettering)
4. \$25.00 SWEATSHIRT (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - white or khaki with big W in orange & brown)
5. \$3.00 each BACK ISSUES OF THE ALUMNI CALUMET (issues 1 through 18)

2 Special Fund Raising Projects:

\$ _____ Weequahic High School French Class Trip To Paris

\$ _____ Weequahic Murals Restoration Project

19 Scholarship Choices:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. \$ _____ ALVIN ATTLES Scholarship Fund | 10. \$ _____ MIRIAM HAMPLE Memorial Fund |
| 2. \$ _____ MAXINE BOATWRIGHT Memorial Fund | 11. \$ _____ READA & HARRY JELLINEK Endowment Fund |
| 3. \$ _____ MOREY BOBROW Memorial Fund | 12. \$ _____ PHYLLIS & DONALD KALFUS Fund |
| 4. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1945 - Academic / Performing Arts Fund | 13. \$ _____ HANNAH LITZKY Memorial Fund |
| 5. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1963 SCHOLARSHIP Fund | 14. \$ _____ BERT MANHOFF Memorial Fund |
| 6. \$ _____ CLASS OF 1964 SCHOLARSHIP Fund | 15. \$ _____ SEYMOUR 'SWEDE' MASIN Memorial Fund |
| 7. \$ _____ COLLEGE WOMEN'S CLUB OF ESSEX Fund | 16. \$ _____ EDWIN McLUCAS Athletic Fund |
| 8. \$ _____ GENERAL ALUMNI Fund | 17. \$ _____ MARIE E. O'CONNOR Fund |
| 9. \$ _____ RONALD GRIFFIN Memorial Fund | 18. \$ _____ LEO PEARL Memorial Fund |
| | 19. \$ _____ SADIE ROUS Memorial Fund |

5 Membership Choices:

 Check if change in postal address

 \$25 ALUMNI \$50 ORANGE & BROWN \$100 ERGO \$500 SAGAMORE \$1,000 LEGEND

Class (Month & Year): _____ Current or Past Occupation: _____

Name: _____ Last Name at Weequahic: _____

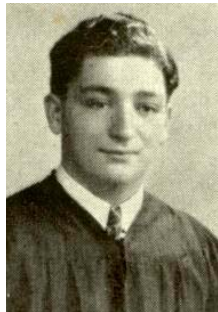
Street: _____ City/Town: _____ State: Zip:

Phone: () _____ Business: () _____

Cell: () _____ e-mail: _____

In Loving Memory

Irwin S. Markowitz, 1945



Irwin S. Markowitz, born in Newark on July 10, 1928, died on Monday, July 31, 2006 with his beloved wife of 51 years, Geri, by his side. His

brother, Paul, of Cranford, was also beside him. Irwin and Geri lovingly raised their daughters Amy, Lisa, and Julie in Teaneck, where family members were active friends and neighbors of the entire community for 40 years.

Irwin graduated from Weequahic High School in Newark (1945), the University of Wisconsin (1949), and Harvard Law School (1952), and practiced law in Bergen County for 50 years. He enthusiastically planned high school reunions, law school lecture series, political campaigns, and Girl Scout outings, and worked for peace and brotherhood throughout his life.

He set a lifelong example of activism for his family, working tirelessly at the Teaneck Peace Center at the height of the Vietnam War, supporting pacifism and environmental causes, and instilling in all who knew him a love and fervor for life lived to the fullest.

His legacy lives on in his daughters and their families: Amy, her husband Bob Wachter, and their children Douglas and Benjamin; Lisa, her husband Salvador Garcia, and their children Isabel and Lucas; and Julie,

her husband David Hartman, and their children Alison, Seth, and Will. He was dearly loved by his brother Paul, sister-in-law Betsy, and nephew Ken and family, as well as all of his friends and family.

The family asks that Irwin be remembered with contributions to the American Civil Liberties Union, the Weequahic High School 45 for 45 Fund, and Hackensack University Medical Center.

Jaclyn Osterweil, Jan. 1962



Jaclyn Anne Osterweil passed away in September 2006. She was a bank manager for several community banks, most recently First Morris in

Mendham. She graduated from Weequahic High School and chose a career in banking while earning several financial service certificates and awards.

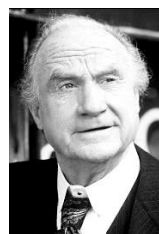
During her full circle of life, Jaclyn had the exceptional ability to make friends wherever she went and with whomever she met, friends that loved and enjoyed her quick wit and sense of humor. She enjoyed finding a good bargain, shopping was her love in life. Throughout her illness, she demonstrated a personal courage and silent strength, so admired by her friends, family and co-workers.

She is survived by her niece, Dawn, and her nephew, Glenn.

Contributions in her memory can be sent to the Weequahic High School Alumni Association to establish a scholarship fund in her name.

Newark Passings

Jack Warden, 85 Newark-born actor



Jack Warden, an Emmy-winning and Academy Award-nominated actor who played gruff cops, coaches and soldiers in a career that spanned five decades, has died. He was 85.

Warden was born John H. Lebzelter in 1920 in Newark, N.J. He was still in high school during the Depression when he tried his hand at professional boxing under his mother's maiden name of Costello.

Warden was nominated twice for supporting actor Oscars in two Warren Beatty movies. He was nominated for his role as a businessman in 1975's "Shampoo" and the good-hearted football trainer in 1978's "Heaven Can Wait." He won a supporting actor Emmy for his role as Chicago Bears coach George Halas in the 1971 made-for-TV movie "Brian's Song" and was twice nominated in the 1980s as leading actor in a comedy for his show "Crazy Like a Fox." He also appeared in the 1980 comedy "Used Cars," playing the dual roles of Roy L. and Luke Fuchs.

Ramon Rivera, 62 Latino Activist



Ramon Rivera came to Newark in 1967 in a beret and fatigues, a brash militant, a member of the Young Lords, looking to empower the city's Puerto Rican community after the riots.

He left in 1997 to live in Puerto Rico in a suit and tie, a revered city elder and proud founder of La Casa de Don Pedro, one of the most successful Hispanic non-profits in the country.

Mr. Rivera continued his advocacy for the rights of Latinos and the poor in Puerto Rico, fighting for better AIDS treatment on the island even as he lost his own battle with liver cancer.

"He always stood up for what he believed and he never compromised those beliefs at all," said his son, Ramon Rivera, III.

contribute to our two special projects

**2ND FRENCH CLASS TRIP TO PARIS
RESTORATION OF THE MURALS**

Reunions 2006:

November 25
1976 - 30th

Saturday, 6 PM, Marriott Hotel at Newark Liberty International Airport. Contact Della Robinson at (908) 737-3447. "It Was Hard To Say Goodbye To Yesterday."

Reunions 2007:

May 20
June 1952 - 55th

Sunday, 12 PM, Somerset Hills Inn, Basking Ridge, NJ. Contact Lois Berg Jacobs at (973) 731-7402.

October 6
Jan. & June 1962 - 45th

Saturday, 12 PM, Ocean Place Resort, Long Branch, NJ. Contact Bonnie Zunk Vogel at Bonniev929@aol.com.

October 28
June 1957 - 50th

Sunday, 12 PM, Maplewood Country Club. A Weekend of Fun. Contact Bea Austrager Chaiklin at (973) 992-3650 or bchaiklin@aol.com.

Planning:

JAN. 1957 - 50TH

If you are interested in helping to organize a 50th reunion for the class of Jan. 1957, contact Frances Letzter Malkin at (201) 704-5064.

1971 & 1972 - 35/36TH

If you are interested in helping to organize a 35/36th reunion for the classes of 1971 and 1972 in the Fall of 2007, please contact:

For 1971: Adilah Quddus at (973) 372-9849 / lil.chick@verizon.net, Rosalind Marshall Thompson at (908) 810-0842 and Ron Howard at (908) 906-8197. For 1972: Don Howard and Debra Jackson Wiggins at hspaccpay@optonline.net.

ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2006



WHS ALUMNI STORE

**SEE PAGE 18 TO ORDER
OR ORDER FROM OUR WEB SITE**



WHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Established in 1997. The WHS Alumni Association is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization incorporated in New Jersey.

Phil Yourish, 1964, *Executive Director*

Harold Braff, 1952, *Co-President*

Judy Bennett, 1972, *Co-President*

Sheldon Bross, 1955, *Treasurer:*

Myrna Jelling Weissman, 1953, *Secretary*

Board of Trustee Members:

Larry Bembry, 1966

Marshall Cooper, 1969

Mary Dawkins, 1971

Faith Howard, 1982

Arnold Keller, 1952

Dave Lieberfarb, 1965

Arthur Lutzke, 1963

Sharon Price-Cates, 1972

Adilah Quddus, 1971

Gerald Russell, 1974

Dave Schechner, 1946

Vivian Simons, 1959

Ron Stone, Principal

Charles Talley, 1966

Sam Weinstock, 1955

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