

## Lagniappe Potpourri 2002 hits Trevians with a triple bang!

By Joe Garber

This year's Lagniappe/Potpourri, "Insert Title Here," began Wednesday, October 24. Many advisories and students attended Lagniappe during the three nights as tickets sold out with rapid speed. This year the audience chose three titles for the show, and the skits were performed depending upon the title choice. The titles were "What's That Smell," "Saved By the Tone," and "Back That Thang up." The show stood to profit a sizable amount, but all of the funds earned will be used to pay the budget of the show, with the excess going to a relief fund for events of September 11th.

Immense efforts went into the production of the play. The cast and board of the show worked twenty-one hour weeks, including six hours on Saturdays. Planning for the show began in March, and has continued until the final production. Senior Liesel Pritzker, three year Lagniappe performer and this year's

Director of Lagniappe/Potpourri 2002, explained, "The best part of working on the show [is]...it's really challenging, it's really hard because your working with people your age and your peers and we all have other things to focus on."

"I love the show that goes with 'Back that Thang Up.' It's a guys number" Pritzker explained. "It's a hip-hop song, but we decided to do a country western version of it. It's

fun because the actors play cowboys who talk about backing trucks up. It's really fun."

"Miscommunication and paper management are some of the biggest problems that arise while making Lagniappe," Pritzker said. "Paper management and communi-

cation, honestly, that's what the shows about." The cast and board had to keep scripts and music organized and arguing had to be avoided to create a high quality program.

In the summer the head writer and music writer worked separately with their staff to come up with scenes. In July a rough script was done with songs. Independent scripts were also submitted to the show. The rest of the summer was spent revising the script. Many scripts were eliminated and the ones chosen were condensed to fit into the two hour show. Once school started, rehearsals began and the show was ready to be put on.

"I've been in lots of plays

and there's nothing that even comes close to opening night at Lagniappe, and that's why the show goes on." Pritzker explained that the administration "hates" Lagniappe because they think it's political and people are chosen not for their talent.

Elan Margulies, a member of the 2002 cast, commented, "The best part of Lagniappe is working with other people and seeing an idea grow. Just a spark in imagination for it to be created into a scene."

"Bonding with people and making new friends, there are no real cliques. When you're in Lagniappe bad things go away and you just have fun," says 2002 Lagniappe cast member sophomore Alex Cohen.

Liesel Pritzker remarked, "I had the most amazing experience in Lagniappe at New Trier. I urge others to get involved. It's great to work with your peers and create something from scratch."



Lagniappe: "Saved by the Tone"

PHOTO BY TARA WILLIAMS

## Anthrax scare hits New Trier

By Sam Kim

Since September 11, students have heard and read news of envelopes and parcels containing powdered anthrax spores reaching post offices along the East Coast. But these events occurred far away — anywhere *but* where we live...right?

Mid to late afternoon on Tuesday, October 16, a para-pro discovered a suspicious envelope in the boys' bathroom on the first floor near the main entrance, with "Look Inside" written on it. The envelope contained nothing but a powder. Fully aware of the events that had taken place, the para-pro suspected anthrax and rushed to the Dean's office to report it, inadvertently but effectively contaminating the first and second floors. Mr. Harrison, Dean Brinton, her secretary Ms. Goettsche, and the para-pro were in the office. Mr. Harrison, the on-campus Winnetka policeman, called the Winnetka Police to describe the envelope and then contacted the Fire department.

To avoid being infected, the Fire department talked to the four people in the office from the adjoining room. Ms. Goettsche, Dean Brinton and Mr. Harrison were sent to the appropriate bathrooms to wash any exposed skin and later sent home to shower. The para-pro, however, got some of the powder on his pant's leg and had to place his clothes in a bag, which will be kept for 60 days. He then showered at

school and was dressed in sweats.

Wearing hazardous suits, the Fire department and some custodians cleaned the office with a solution of 10% Chlorox and 90% water, which can kill bacteria such as anthrax. The envelope was sent to a lab for testing.

Around 5:30 p.m., the Fire Department said it was OK to let school continue, since the powder was fortunately not anthrax.

Nevertheless, the situation had to be taken seriously because of recent events. Misuse of the time of the Police and Fire Departments is of great concern to New Trier administrators.

"This incident took valuable resources at a time when national security is important. We don't need to be using our resources for something like this. That is what's the tragedy about this," affirms Brinton.

Whoever perpetrated this hoax will receive the most severe school and federal punishment because of the seriousness of the event. "It's easy to say you're patriotic. But it's harder to say that and actually stand up to say if you know who did this or if you have any leads," states Dr. Bangser.

Much thanks to Mr. Harrison, the Fire Department, Mr. Ackermann and everyone else for their time to make school as safe as possible for students.



Anthrax Spores- Bacteria Type 2

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.ANTHRAX.CSD.MIL

## Nobody dressed as a freshman

By Jennifer Wright

It was a night of glitz, glamour and . . . cowboy hats? On Saturday evening, October 6, well over 1000 students flooded into Gates Gymnasium, a high percentage of them wearing not standard formal attire, but everything from Roman togas to 80s Rocker wear.

The turnout at the dance was lower than usual, due partially to the absence of freshmen, who had their own, casual party at the Northfield campus on Friday. Despite this, the enthusiasm of those who attended was gratifying. One anonymous student stated, "Now that they've got rid of pep rallies, it's the only school spirit kind of event left."

Homecoming themes are a relatively new addition to the dance, filtering in over the last 20 years. The idea began with school spirit wear and gradually escalated to a full-blown costuming epidemic for juniors and seniors, which has stuck, much to the amusement of many of the participants attending the dance.

There are always a few typical choices including firemen, policemen, cowboys, cheerleaders and football players, but students are also creative. So it's no wonder

that some, as junior Katie Reppert, a member of the 80s Punk theme group, stated "really wanted to try something that hadn't been done before."

Such appeared to be a concern for many this year, judging from the variety of costumes produced. A few particularly unusual ones were Mario and princesses, togas, and nerds and vixens. Senior Henry Harding, of the nerds and vixens group, asserted, "I wanted to make sure we looked as

ridiculous as possible."

Some also attempted to extend their theme throughout the evening in restaurant and transportation choices. The cheerleaders and football players group dined at ESPN

Zone, and the nerds and vixens rode in a school bus and ate at Ed Debevic's. Henry stated, "I think extending the theme throughout the evening really added to the experience, and kind of added an interesting twist on the event."

While themes were varied, all the groups seemed to agree that "Homecoming is so much more fun with a theme." Hopefully, this junior-senior tradition shall continue for many years to come.



Dresses seen at Homecoming

PHOTO BY TARA WILLIAMS

### OPINIONS



A response to the tragedy of September 11th.

### FEATURES



No Letters for Brooklyn?

### SPORTS



Sophomore sports are a splash.

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## Principal Baumann returns to New Trier

By Rishi Natarajan

During hard times, in a state of concern and heightened alert, on October 9<sup>th</sup> Principal Wesley Baumann returned to New Trier, offering some familiarity and comfort to the people in our community. After August 28, when Baumann underwent emergency heart surgery for a dissected aorta, Baumann's return has expedited the school's return to normal after the 9/11 attacks on America.

The dissected aorta was a grave condition, 80% of all people who experience this problem do not survive past the first day after surgery. After the incident, Baumann has a "greater appreciation for life."



Principal Wes Baumann

Four different people completed Baumann's numerous tasks. The administration is arranged in a model that allows it to continue its duties despite the absence of one of its members. Superintendent Dr. Henry Bangser, Assistant Superintendent for curriculum and instruction Betty Brockelman, Assistant Principal for Administrative Services Debbie Stacey, and the Assistant Principal for Student Services Mr. Jon White split up Baumann's duties.

The administrators met often to coordinate their efforts to complete Baumann's tasks. This would ordinarily be unnecessary, for Baumann is always in contact with all four administrators. Dr. Henry Bangser, however, took the role of coordinator to insure that all tasks were completed on time.

Upon his return, Baumann reentered his hectic life as principal. He began attending department chair meetings over retirement, summer school meetings, school board meetings, and parent-teacher conferences registration.

Baumann, originally slated to return to New Trier in November, convinced his doctors to let him return in the second week in

October. His doctors, however, placed some guidelines on his work. Although Baumann attempts to work a maximum of four hours a day, the amount of work he is responsible often requires him to work seven hours a day. "Little by little, I'm resuming my normal activities," he remarks. Baumann often works with a "split-schedule," that is one in which he works at school for a couple of hours, goes home to rest, and returns back to school to finish his day. This is extremely convenient for him because he lives close to school. He plans to return to a full schedule by December.

Baumann's medical condition is his blood pressure. He is required to keep it within 110-120, a low and very restricted region. He now takes two types of medication, namely Toprol and Zestril, which both control blood pressure.

Baumann's family is also delighted in his rapid recovery. "My children are relieved in that I did survive and I'll be able to enjoy my grandchildren," commented Baumann. His wife, however, now keeps "close tabs" on him.

Students and faculty share similar feelings about Baumann's return. "I'm very happy to see that Mr. Baumann has returned," commented sophomore Jennifer Wright.

Baumann explains about his feelings upon return to school: "It is good medicine. I get a high from being back here [New Trier]."

Baumann is undoubtedly the most diligent person at New Trier High School. Baumann's work is ubiquitous throughout the school, for without him various things would not exist the way that it does in its current state.

Baumann responds to the community: "I am so appreciative of the assistance from the faculty, students, and community. The support has been fantastic. I can't pay back for the wonderful support my family and I have received over the past two months."

## New Trier ranks third after first meet

By Sam Kim and Rishi Natarajan

Question: What is the probability that a one inch stick, broken into three pieces, will create a triangle? These are just some of the questions that sophomores process as they munch on Doritos®.

Filling cups of soda and placing potato chips on paper towels, members of the New Trier Math Team usually fill their stomachs with vital nutrients to fuel the brain activity needed to solve complex problems, argue over their answers, and prepare for five North Suburban Math League (NSML) meets.

The hard work and eating paid off when New Trier ranked third at the first math meet of the year on October 3.

"It feels awesome. We were off to a fantastic start, third place in a 55-team league. There was great performance by the stu-

dents.... I see much dedication from the seniors to the freshmen," comments Mr. Sally, the math team sponsor.

Naperville North came in first with 306 points out of a total of 350. I.M.S.A. was second with 299, and New Trier followed with 253 points. Evanston was, however, close behind New Trier with 242 points.

Meet #2, yesterday, with the overall theme of probability, was also an enormous success for all involved in the meet.

"We have a great chance of finishing in the top 3 [at the State competition]. I.M.S.A. and Naperville North are hard to beat. But if we work hard we can give them a run for their money," Sally predicts.

A plausible vision, considering New Trier was 5<sup>th</sup> at State last year.



Sophomore Math Team

photo courtesy of www.newtrier.k12.il.us

photo by Tara Williams

## Sophomores to take the PLAN

By Rishi Natarajan

On Saturday, November 10, 2001, most sophomores will arrive at school to take the traditional three-hour PLAN test. The PLAN tests students at the sophomore level on several subjects and asks questions to help determine future career options for the test takers.

The PLAN is intended to serve as a mid-way review of progress in preparation for the ACT exam customarily taken during one's junior year. The PLAN is "designed to benefit all students" and is offered to "help sophomores gauge their academic achievements and to give them the information they need for educational and career planning."

The PLAN test will commence at 8:15 A.M. on either November 10, 2001, or December 15, 2001, the PLAN alternate date. The academic portion of the test, approximately two hours, questions students about English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science. The English section tests grammar and usage skills. The Reading covers comprehension. Meanwhile the math test covers algebra and geometry while the science test explores reasoning from data, research summaries, and conflicting viewpoints.



Sophomores take a test

photo by Tara Williams

The other portion of the exam investigates job possibilities. The test arranges 23 career areas according to major work tasks. The PLAN asks questions about everyday activities that indicate the areas that best suit to the person whom answers the set of questions. The goal of this one-hour portion of the assessment is to aid students in choosing interesting and enjoyable careers that also suit the students well.

The PLAN results, to be released in February 2002, will include a Student Report that identifies academic strengths and weaknesses, knowledge of study skills, possible career choices, and goals that should be achieved and the methods by which one should achieve these goals. This report is intended to allow the student to fully comprehend what they should do to prepare for the plethora of standardized tests that are to come as upperclassmen.

Overall, teachers, counselors, and administrators encourage the PLAN because they feel that the exam can greatly increase a student's success. It provides a comprehensive measurement of all that will greatly influence the times to come for each given student. In general, "the PLAN is a powerful predictor of success of the ACT Assessment" and other standardized tests.

## NT relief fund surpasses goal

By Rishi Natarajan and Jennifer Wright

The New Trier Relief Fund, created shortly after the terrorist attacks of September 11, continues to lend its support for the victims of the tragedy. The phenomenal efforts of the people of our school and community as a whole is a great and continuing success.

The sophomore steering committee, for example, is raising money for the fund via a raffle for an authentic American flag and the sale of New Trier red, white, and blue bumper stickers. These efforts, in conjunction with those of the upperclassmen, have combined to raise more than 10,500 for the September 11th fund. Meanwhile, the efforts of the other steering committees have proved beneficial to the efforts.

Advisories have chipped in via various methods as well, such

as selling ribbons, USA pins, and candy. Clubs and other events, such as Lagniappe, which is donating all money from ticket sales that were not used to fund the show itself, have provided funds.

The contributions, on Monday, successfully surpassed the set goal of 10,000 dollars. The new goal is to work until Veterans' Day, November 11. Organizations in the school are still working for the relief efforts: Last Wednesday, a blood drive was held for the people in New York and Washington, D.C.

If you are interested in aiding the relief fund, please contact your local steering committee representative, adviser, or adviser chair.



Little girl displays her patriotism

photo courtesy of unitewestand.org