

The Living Room Times

All the Noise that's fit to print... Weekly!

303rd overall edition — Twenty-seventh regular edition of 1995-1996 season

Monday, May 20, 1996

SCHOOL
DAYS
LEFT UNTIL
VACATION:  24

NHS baseball playoff run in home stretch

Indians must win 2 of 3

Newington baseball coach Bob Mayer said from the very beginning that his goal was to make the state tournament. And he said from the beginning that this year's team could do it. "We're going to be close," Mayer said back in mid-April. "This is the first year since I've been here where I can honestly say that we've been close." He said that pitching would be the key to success, and that the Indians had to keep gaining confidence.

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"Geometry Olympics" Update, page 2

MKMS Williamsburg trip ends, page 8



Above: Jesus, played by Rob Esposito, sings during Thursday's opening night performance of *Jesus Christ Superstar* at Martin Kellogg. The play, put on by the Newington Inferfaith Association, ran through Sunday.

More pictures of the play, pages 3-6

Times reconsiders changing name

Newspaper will definitely be written less often next year, but it might still be called *Living Room Times*

After stunning the school two weeks ago by announcing that his paper would probably "call it quits" after this year, *Living Room Times* chief editor Brendan Loy began to rethink whether he should rename the newspaper when he starts

writing a publication which should come out 15 to 20 times a year in 1996-97.

Although no final decision has yet been reached, Loy now thinks it is likely that the *Times* will continue in some form.

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Planning the
Top Ten Edition:
We need your help!
page 8

Critical week for “Geometry Olympics”

130 points will be at stake on quiz and test this week

CHANGES IN “OLYMPICS” LAST WEEK

- **Italian team:** Matt Dusel and Suzanne Santomeno quit Olympics. Jenny Manzi joins, then quits.
- **Irish team:** Erica Brannan joins Olympics.
- **Unified team:** Augitus Karambinas joins Olympics.
- **British team:** Matt Thomsen breaks his leg, causing him to be out of school Monday through Thursday and meaning he missed one 45-point quiz. He returned Friday, but will probably take a good part of next week to catch up.
- **No team:** Sarah Rolfe and Kristin Grigerick decide not to join Olympics at all.

Can Brendan Loy maintain his lead over Sara Colpitts? Will Joey Ploszay stay in the class’s upper echelon, or is he just a fluke? Will Shaun Sullivan continue his return to first-term form? Will Matt Thomsen maintain his high position despite missing four days of school? Will Todd Stigliano extend his streak of two consecutive perfect scores, and if he does, will Liz Janelle be able to keep up? With only the top four Italians still on the team, can Italy get back into the thick of things?

All those questions will be answered this week as students in Mr. Ruggiero’s fourth-period “Geometry Olympics” take a 30-point quiz today and a 100-point test sometime midweek.

Ruggiero was absent Friday, causing the quiz to be delayed to today. The Chapter 11 test, originally scheduled for either Monday or Tuesday, will presumably be taken Tuesday or Wednesday.

130 possible points will be added in the next few days. That’s nearly a 60% increase over the 225 already awarded.

That large number of points is likely to determine a lot when it comes to the “Olympic” standings. The fight for first place is a one-point race, the battle for third includes five people all within five points of each other (including Matt Thomsen, based on his projected grade), and the eleven people between #8 and #18 are separated by only thirteen points.

What all of that means is that major leaderboard changes can be expected this week, especially with each no-partial-credit short-answer problem on the quiz (and, probably, the test) worth three points. And with only 19 days left before final exams start, this week will be critical in determining who will be left standing as the “Olympics” begin to enter the home stretch.

The battle between Loy and Colpitts is likely to remain fairly close, since neither student is liable to get more than one or two wrong on a quiz. However, with each problem worth three points, any mistake on the part of Loy or Colpitts could eventually make a huge difference.

Of more immediate concern in the fight for third place. Joey Ploszay has the edge right now, but he is only one point ahead of Shaun Sullivan. The status of Matt Thomsen, statistically in fifth now, isn’t really known, as he was absent Monday through Thursday of last week. He’ll have to make up the 45-point quiz he missed, and take today’s quiz and the test later in the week. Can he maintain his A- average and “Fab Five” position after missing five days of school? “I don’t know,” Thomsen said Friday. “I think I can handle it, probably.” Also vying for position close to the third-place battle are Liz Janelle and Todd Stigliano. Stigs has had two consecutive perfect scores on 45-point quizzes, while Janelle got a 45/45 on just the last quiz. She has a one point lead over the Stigman.

“GEOMETRY OLYMPICS” TOP EIGHTEEN

1.	Brendan Loy Ireland	215/225 95.56%
2.	Sara Colpitts Great Britain	214/225 95.11%
3.	Joey Ploszay Ireland	204/225 90.67%
4.	Shaun Sullivan Ireland	203/225 90.22%
5.	Matt Thomsen Great Britain	162/180 90.00%
6.	Liz Janelle Ireland	200/225 88.89%
7.	Todd Stigliano Italy	199/225 88.44%
8.	Carrie Ripley Ireland	195/225 86.67%
9.	Mary Bellizzi Canada	194/225 86.22%
10.	Chris Banach Canada	193/225 85.78%
11.	Claudio Gualtieri Italy	191/225 84.89%
12.	Jaimie Kwassman Italy	190/225 84.44%
13.	Lauren Caputa Italy	187/225 83.11%
14.	Erica Brannan Ireland	186/225 82.67%
14.	Milan Cisar Ireland	186/225 82.67%
16.	Keith Druckenmiller Great Britain	184/225 81.78%
17.	Ahmed Avila unified	183/225 81.33%
18.	Dan Stoddard Great Britain	182/225 80.89%

PICTURES FROM THE PLAY



Above Left: Judas (played by Melissa Roth) sings “Heaven on Their Minds” in Scene Two of Act One. **Above Right:** In Scene 4, Mary Magdalene (Amy Drouin) tells Jesus (Rob Esposito) that “Everything’s Alright.” **Below Left:** Jesus (Esposito) yells at Judas (Roth) in Scene 3. **Below Right:** Simon (Sandy Rodrigues) sings to Jesus (Esposito) and tells him, “You’ll get the power and the glory forever and ever and ever.” **Far Below:** Deciding in Scene 5 what to do about “Jesus-mania” are a priest played by Eileen Banach, high priest Caiaphas (Sean Vivier), Annas (Ryan Boorman), and another priest, played by Kate Harbeson.



PICTURES FROM THE PLAY



Far Above Left: Jesus (Rob Esposito) sings while Caiaphas (Sean Vivier) looks on skeptically in Scene 6.

Far Above Right: Jesus (Esposito) is followed by disciples carrying palms, also in Scene 6.

Above: In Scene 9, Jesus's followers crowd around him and beg that he touch them so they will be healed.

Below Left: Pilate (Lisa Labowski) sings about her dream in Scene 8. **Below Right:** In Scene 9, drug dealers played by Kate Harbeson and Tina Lentini face off about whose turf they're on.



PICTURES FROM THE PLAY



Far Above Left: Mary Magdalene (Amy Drouin) tells Jesus (Rob Esposito) not to worry...

Far Above Right: ...but Jesus doesn't take her advice, and is comforted by a disciple.

Above Left: In Scene 7, Simon (Sandy Rodrigues) sings to Jesus (Esposito)

Above Right: Mary Magdalene (Drouin) sings about Jesus: "I don't know how to love him," she says.

Below Left: Back in Scene 4, Jesus holds his hands up as his followers sing "Hosanna."

Below Right: With Caiaphas (Sean Vivier) and another priest (Eileen Banach) looking on, Judas (Melissa Roth) sings "Damned For All Time" in the final scene of Act One.



PICTURES FROM THE PLAY



Above: The Maid by the Fire (Tina Lentini) accuses Peter (Mike Martocchio) of knowing Jesus. **Right:** Peter (Martocchio) shows his shame after he denied that he ever knew Jesus.

Below Left: Herod (Sue Lavery) taunts Jesus with his song.

Below Right: Pilate (Lisa Labowski) and Caiaphas (Sean Vivier) argue about whether to crucify Jesus.

Far Below Left: Jesus (Rob Esposito) holds up the cup of his blood. **Far Below Right:** Jesus (Esposito) is crucified.



**TOP TEN THINGS
OVERHEARD
DURING O.J.'S
TRIP TO
ENGLAND**

10. "They're golf gloves, O.J. They're supposed to be tight"
9. "You'll only need your passport, O.J., not the fake beard and \$10,000 cash"
8. "So you're also claiming that Mr. Fuhrman planted these mini-bar charges?"
7. "One adult ticket for the Jack the Ripper Museum, please"
6. "Let me get this straight: what we call 'football,' you Americans call 'soccer.' And what we call 'guilty,' you call 'not guilty' "
5. "If I knew it was going to be this chilly, I would have brought my knit cap"
4. "British Airways lost my luggage -- just like Robert Kardashian did!"
3. "For the last time, A.C., people here drive on the other side of the road!"
2. (in British accent) "Bloody O.J. can't bloody get his bloody gloves on!"
1. "Elementary, my dear Watson...he did it"

*Late Show With David Letterman
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Tuesday, May 14, 1996*

**LATE SHOW
TOP
TEN**

**TOP TEN
FAVORITE
CALIFORNIA
NAMES**

**(As presented by actual
California residents
with the names)**

10. Dick Hertz
9. Phil McCracken
8. Anita Legg
7. Harry Dong
6. George Tittmann
5. Justa Duck
4. Dick Weed
3. Teddy Bair
2. Harry Bush
1. Dick Head

*Late Show With David Letterman
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Wednesday, May 7, 1996*

**TOP TEN
OTHER REASONS
BOB DOLE
IS LEAVING
THE SENATE**

10. Tired of other senators always taking his pulse
9. Landed lead in the new blockbuster, "Even Grumpier Old Men"
8. Microwave in Senate kitchen makes his pacemaker jump like a nervous kangaroo
7. He's finally given up on figuring out what the hell Strom Thurmond is saying
6. Free hookers and booze just don't mean that much anymore
5. Wants to get his share of social security before the whole system goes bust
4. Bob Dole wants Bob Dole to have time for Bob Dole to learn how to use pronouns
3. Since the introduction of the Arch Deluxe, hardly ever leaves McDonald's
2. Wants to devote his full attention to losing to Clinton
1. Really misses grabbing asses with Packwood

*Late Show With David Letterman
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Thursday, May 16, 1996*

The Living Room Times would like to print another Top Ten Edition, but we need your help! **For details, please see the next page!**

Preparing Top Ten Edition, *Living Room Times* needs your help!!!

The final five weeks of the school year are here, and the *Living Room Times* is preparing a grand finale to wrap up its third season of publishing, first at NHS.

The first of two special editions scheduled to come out in the last two weeks of the year is the second annual Top Ten Edition, which would probably be released at the end of the last week before final exams, on either Thursday or Friday.

I say “would” be released, not “will” be, because the Top Ten Edition is not certain to be printed at all. In order to get the issue out, chief editor Brendan Loy and the *Times* need your help! We need at least seven or eight Top Ten lists—hopefully a lot more—written by students and teachers by Friday, June 7! That’s less than three weeks away!

The Top Ten Edition will involve students in another way, as well. If we can get permission from principal Paul Hoey, there will be a Top Ten vote over the next week or two in Mr. Ruggiero’s classroom. Students will be able to vote on their ten favorite David Letterman Top Ten lists printed in the *Times* this year. If this vote is allowed to go forward, students in all three of Ruggiero’s freshman classes will be given copies of the best of the *Late Show* Top Tens this year, as well as a ballot for them to choose their ten favorite of those lists. They will place their choices in a ballot box located in Room 226, Ruggiero’s classroom. NHS students who are not in a Ruggiero class during the classes including freshmen can get ballots from Brendan Loy, and then cast their vote in Ruggiero’s room at their convenience.

Times may live to see another year Publishing schedule will change in '96-'97, but name might not

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“It never really occurred to me that I could just write the newspaper less often but still call it *The Living Room Times*. I was originally planning to stop completely, and then I thought, ‘Well, maybe I’ll write something next year just to keep the tradition going.’ It never really dawned on me that the ‘something’ could be a new version of the *Times*.”

That idea finally came to Loy two weeks ago when several students suggested the idea.

The plan announced two weeks ago today in the 300th edition was to stop writing the *Times* after this year, but to write a newspaper next year which would have a different name and would be written once or twice each month instead of once or twice each week.

The new plan: The schedule for next year will still be once or twice a month, but the name of the newspaper, or at least part of the name, might be *The Living Room Times*. The final decision will be announced in the season finale on June 21, the last day of this school year.

MKMS seventh grade returns from trip Arrive home from Williamsburg into *Superstar* crowd

Every year at about this time, Martin Kellogg’s seventh grade students arrive home after their weeklong trip to Washington and Williamsburg filled with fantastic memories which will last a lifetime.

Also every year at about this time, parents of those seventh graders come to Kellogg simultaneously happy and sad to see their kids return. They drive in a few minutes before the bus, filling the MKMS parking lot.



But this year, things were different. Because this year, the parking lot was *already* filled before the parents even got there.

“Jesus Christ Superstar” made things a little more hectic than usual for the 1996 return home. The three buses which went on the trip had to go to the school’s back parking lot—and even there, there was little room to park because of the play.

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Seventh graders, teachers happy to be home after fun week in Williamsburg

(Continued from page 8)

Despite the difficulties, parents found their kids and took them home for a weekend where the students were, hopefully, able to relax after the exhausting trip.

Also tracking down a few of those kids—as well as several teacher-chaperones—was *Times* chief editor Brendan Loy, who went to Kellogg Friday night for the big arrival.

He asked everyone what they thought of this year's trip, and what their favorite part was.

"It was good," Frank Gualtieri, brother of Newington High freshman Claudio Gualtieri, said of the trip. His favorite part? "I don't know. Everything."

Nadia Colangelo, a cousin of the Gualtieri brothers, described the trip as "wonderful." Her favorite parts were "Ford's Theater, or the special night thing."

"It was fine," said Michelle Vivier, whose brother Sean goes to NHS. She especially enjoyed "getting my hair parted differently. That was my favorite part of the whole trip."

"It was wonderful," said teacher/chaperone Mr Rob. Wonderful time. Very happy to be home and, oh, tired." His favorite part? "Right now, arriving."

"It was wonderful," echoed Mr. Spitzer, who sounded quite exhausted. "We saw a lot of stuff. The weather was great." His favorite part? "Right now."

Mrs. Mann described the trip as "Awesome. Absolutely awesome" and said her favorite part was "The kids. They were great! They were excellent!"

"It was fantastic," MKMS principal Amzie Brown said enthusiastically. "I had two groups and they were wonderful."

"It was a great trip, Brendan!" exclaimed Mrs. Lynch, formerly Mrs. Flynn. "My favorite part was probably Wednesday, Williamsburg. Tuesday night, Ghost tour."

"The trip was probably *the* best ever, kidwise," declared Mrs. Weber, who does a great deal of the planning for the trip. "Not the best weather. It wasn't hot, though, so that's good. Just a little. My favorite part—Oh, I always like Colonial Williamsburg. That's why we go. That's my favorite part."

And what did Mrs. Santilli, the Kellogg nurse, think of the trip? "Oh, it's very nice," she said hurriedly, then added, "I'm tired right now."

The Wallace trip to Williamsburg was from April 15th through the 19th, the week before April Vacation.



Above: The three Dattco buses that took the Kellogg seventh graders to Williamsburg pull into the school's back parking lot Friday night.



Above: Parents wait anxiously for their kids to get off the bus. In the background is Bus Three, the first bus shows in the picture at left.

Baseball team must win 2 of 3 for tourney bid

(Continued from page 1)

It's much simpler than that now. 17 games into their 20-game season, the Indians have shown they *can* make the tournament. At 8-9, they have been flirting with a .500 record all year.

The question isn't whether they'll be close. They *are* close. They question isn't whether they can. They *can*. They question is whether they will.

Newington has 3 games left. They must win 2 to have a .500 record, which is what is needed to qualify for the tournament.

Their first game is today against a team they should beat, Hall (2-11). Then it gets tougher. Tomorrow, they play Windsor (12-5), a team which will want revenge against Newington after a 13-2 trouncing earlier this year. Wednesday, the Indians take on #4 Berlin (12-3).