

The Raider Review



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The Raider Review

Winter 2005

World grieves for Tsunami victims

By: Rachel Berkrot

Over a week before the tsunami hit, alarms shrilled in the offices of scientists that study natural disasters. These scientists, unlike scientists in Asia, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka knew that the disaster was coming, and tried to warn the people that would become victims. However, the people of those countries didn't have the technology and communication equipment to receive the message. There was nothing anyone could do.



Over the weekend of New Years, a huge natural disaster occurred in Asia, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. This was one of the biggest tsunamis in history resulting in the largest death tolls ever. So far, the death count is over 170,000 people. The giant tidal waves have caused so much destruction that elephants from India were brought over to help clear the land. Still, millions of people are injured and suffering. There are people, including children that are searching for their families. If students wish to donate money they can do so in the cafeteria during lunch. Our hearts go out to all those suffering survivors, for their loss. People around the world are doing all they can to help. We hope that you will contribute as well.

World's Fair

By: Micah Elizabeth Sy

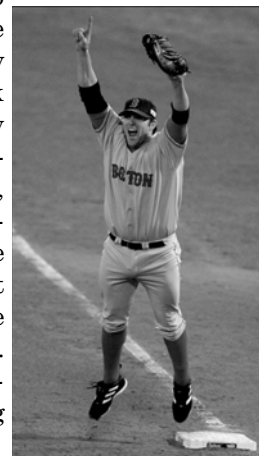
Every school year, all seventh graders go through World Cultures classes during the most of the second quarter. World Cultures is when 7th graders are put into groups with other students of the same COG to be assigned a country to do research and projects in. This year, the Omega COG did the continents of Asia and Africa while the Delta COG did the continents of South America. All through World Cultures, students are given a new schedule so they are always with their group and their

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After 86 Years Sox win World Series

By Iame Manucci

The Boston Red Sox won their first World Series since 1918. The Curse of the Bambino is now officially broken, putting the Red Sox into history books as the only team in baseball history to come back from a 3-0 series lead and also the only team in sports history to win a comeback from a 3-0 lead. David Ortiz, 1B, and Manny Ramirez, LF, both top players on the Boston Red Sox were awarded American League MVPs. It was a well-deserved victory for the great team the Red Sox had this year. Hopefully, they can comeback next season with all their key players as strong as they ended this one.



Annual Pig Races spur excitement

By: Allie Robles and Lauren Cascio

On Wednesday November 3, 2004 Dolan Middle School held their annual Pig Race. For the 6th grade the running classes were Ms. Hutter, Mrs. Vonella, Mrs. Jablonsky, and Mrs. Mallozzi. Mrs. Mallozzi's homeroom placed first, then Ms. Hutter, Mrs. Jablonsky, and finally Mrs. Vonella. For the 7th grade there was Ms. Lessin, Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Corbi, and Ms. Gutierrez. In first was Mrs. Corbi, then Mrs. Lessin, then Mrs. Ryan and finally Ms. Gutierrez. Then for the 8th grade were Ms. Johnson, Mr. Bell, Mr. Knowe, and Mr. Burleson. In first was Ms. Johnson, then Mr. Bell, then Mr. Knowe, and finally Mr. Burleson. After that all of the winners had to compete for the final championship. The 3 contestants were Mrs. Mallozzi, Mrs. Corbi, and final Ms. Johnson. In first was Mrs. Corbi, then Mrs. Johnson, and finally Mrs. Mallozzi. It was a very exciting race.



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regular classes are formatted to have projects to do for the groups. These are the projects students did for each class:

Social Studies: Trifold boards depicting the culture of the group's country

Math: Line and Bar graphs, Maps of their countries, and Storefronts

Language Arts: Research paper about their country

Reading: Storytelling of folktales from the group's countries and quilt squares representing their country

Science: Dioramas of the country's biome and finding recipes for their country.

At the most, World Cultures lasted for two full weeks and took over classes. Not all classes though, as students were still going to Art/Music, Physical Education, and Applied Science, all classes that were excluded from World Cultures. During those two weeks however, professional storytellers came in from the Ferguson Library to have the students get the feel of the experience of storytelling and get to hear folktales, too.

Now that World Cultures are over, students and teachers alike are relieved to let go of all that stress they have been having for two weeks and go back to regular classes. Students are given the chance to show their families and friends the work they have done and the interesting facts they learned about their assigned country and enjoy fabulous food from all over the world. Students also get the opportunity to see themselves, and their classmates, telling folktales on tape!

Krispy Kreme Donuts: Get Them While They're Hot

By: Janz-Ashley Navalta and Maria Bakaj

This year, Dolan had our annual school fundraiser for Krispy Kreme Doughnuts to raise money for the school. The sale dates were Friday, October 22nd to Thursday,

November 4th. The doughnuts were delivered to Dolan on Wednesday, November 10th. If you were not able to pick up your orders on that day you could call the school to arrange other options. The doughnuts were sold for \$6.00 a dozen. If you ordered 4 or more boxes your orders were delivered to your homeroom. This year Dolan sold 800 dozen doughnuts.

Canned Food Drive

By Janz -Ashley Navalta and Maria Bakaj

The canned food drive started on Monday, November 6, 2004, and ended on Monday, November 15th. The canned goods that were collected were given to the food bank to be given to people who need food for Thanksgiving. This year, Dolan collected a total of 2,386 cans and dried foods. This amount was not as great as the past two following years that totaled around 15,000 cans. Mr. Knowe's room contributed greatly to this year's total bringing in around 1,309 cans, while Ms. Mallozzi's contributed much of the rest.

Breast Cancer Awareness

By Micah Sy

The month of October was National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Millions of dollars are given to different charities around the world to raise money for breast cancer research. Breast cancer is when a tumor develops in the breast. There are only five techniques used for curing breast cancer they are: surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, hormonal therapy, and biologic therapy. All of these procedures have certain risks and scientists are still looking for a safer cure for this disease. Over 45,000 women in the U.S. alone and over 150,000 more women are diagnosed each year. Breast cancer is the 2nd leading cause of death in women.

Hunger World Wide

By Micah Sy

Did you know that each last bite of a sandwich and every half eaten or not finished food item could save the life of a hungry child? Over 8 billion children around the world are poor and starving. Some are suffering from diseases that are caused by the food they eat and the environment that surrounds it. You would probably say, "at least they have food." But would you eat beans with mush on plates that were left on the dirt floor outside? A lot of the food that hungry places have, are barely clean. Children are catching diseases like the nodding disease and neurological diarrhea, which both stop the child from growing and creates brain damage. But then on the other hand, we have children who don't have food at all. They suffer the stomach pains and then they die of the hunger.



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Varsity Cheerleading

Written By: Rebecca Hasak

The Varsity Cheerleading squad consists of 18 amazing cheerleaders. They are Alex Coughlin, Jamielyn Lorenti, Adrianna Robles, Lauren Cascio, Cassie Mailhot, Joy Lorusso, Lauren Ortegon, Lia Markaki, Ashley Pelham, Mariah Velez, Rocki Colacurcio, Jessica Milsom, Jessica Jallouk, Alyssa Dalley, Rebecca Hasak, Sarah Edwards, Larissa Perez, Kaitlyn Donnelly. They practiced for about an hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:00. Also, on the weekends they cheered at the football games. Towards the end of the season the squad competed in an exhibition with all of the other schools in Stamford. Good luck to the varsity cheerleaders of Dolan Middle School!



JV Cheerleading

This year's JV cheerleading squad is amazingly talented. The JV coach, Kari Hunter, will be helping them with their half time dance and cheers for the crowd. The JV cheerleaders have dedicated their time to practice 3 times a week. As you know, if you've seen the games, the JV squad entertains the crowd with their loud and cheerful voices. Even during time outs they entertain the crowd by dancing to Cotton Eye Joe and Peanut Butter Jelly. The JV squad also has very good sportsmanship. All of the cheerleaders always surprise the crowd with a great performance! The cheerleaders are Kayla, Kaley, Jessel, Michelle, Katie D, Katie C, Rachel R, Kaitlyn, Nicole, Alex, Victoria, Allie, Adrienne, Katrina, Rachel C, and Niki. Now, their coach will be helping them for their exhibition routine. I'm sure that their exhibition routine will also be terrific and we know that it's true because the JV squad is hard working. That's some information about the wonderful JV Cheerleading Squad.

Cross Country

By: Rebecca Hasak

The kids of cross-country did an amazing job and had fun doing it too. Their coach, Mrs. Deleo, pushed them hard and always believed in them. The team members were Kelly Anderson, Daniel Bishop, Shayna Colon., Michael Correa, Julie Costello, Alyssa Dalley, Christie DelVaglio, Marcus DuNucci, Nick Hollendonner, Becca Hasak, Moriah Lorusso., Bryan Morales, Laurie Pochette, Rachel Topper, Simon Villegas, Byron Farzam., Scott Caporizzo, Peter Ballo, Neil Ali, Francisco Olivencia, and Richard Desmond. They competed in three meets with all of the other middle schools. In the championship meet we came in fourth place. Everyone did a great job and they hope to have the same turn out next year as they did this year.

JV Football

This year Dolan Middle School is a host to a very successful Junior Varsity football team. There are 7 JV teams. Games are held on Saturdays and Sundays at various times. Football practice is held everyday after school. Grades and progress reports are made available to the head coach so they can track those athletes who are not performing well in class. This is to make sure the activity they are involved in is not seriously affecting their school performance. The JV players include both sixth and seventh graders.

Boys' Basketball

By Kris Anne Bonifacio & Maria Bakaj & Janz Ashley Navalta

Being on the Boys' Basketball team is very special this year because not very many people are on it. The boys practice every day except Fridays after school from 3:00-4:00 P.M. Mr. Pellizzari heads the basketball team. The team members include Eric Joyner, Jamar Rowe, Jesse Solano, Kevin Pacheco, Anthony Jubles, Jonathan Villeda, David Farriss, Kerri Nashe, Sean Scott, Ken Collins, Chris Lorusso, Ronald Thorpe, and Chordale Booker. Their first game was on January 24th. We wish the basketball team good luck!

Learn Strong Bracelets

Dolan Middle School has recently finished selling navy blue Learn Strong Bracelets. They're exactly like the now popular Live Strong bracelets made by Lance Armstrong and cost \$2 a piece. You can see any of our administrators and most of our teachers wearing them around the school. They look great and help pay for our field trips and other events at our school. If you want to buy a Learn Strong bracelet you can ask your homeroom teacher or go to the office.

Mr. Snell

By: Desantila Gjata

Our school has acquired a new security guard. Billy Snell has been a great help to our school system and he has provided a great amount of security for everyone. He is



also a fun loving guy and he definitely communicates with us in a fun way. Billy likes to play basketball and he is somewhat of a small comedian. He really knows kids and can deal with any type of trouble. Whenever an administrator

calls him on, he's there. Billy does a lot for us. He does things like secure hallways, control large crowds, stop fights, and create peace. He keeps everyone safe and whenever you're having a problem, Billy finds some type of way to fix it. He's everyone's friend. And since he is new, be sure to say hi when you see him around!

Mrs. Johnson

By: Jamielyn Lorenti

Ms. Johnson is a teacher in Delta 8. When she was younger she lived in Stamford and went to Ryle and Franklin Elementary School. She also went to Dolan Middle School and Stamford High School. When she graduated high school, she went to three different colleges. The colleges are University of Connecticut, Southern Connecticut University, and the University of Bridgeport. She became a teacher because she always thought of different ways to teach people, then the way her teacher taught them. She made easier ways. Ms. Johnson decided to teach at Dolan because it was the only school that offered her a job. Ms. Johnson loves playing softball, singing in a band, skiing, and taking her children places in nature. Her biggest influence is her dad because he's the coolest man on the earth. Her advise to kids is that no matter how hard it is don't quit! Get your education! Education is key!

Staff Interviews

Mr. Goodrich

By: Ginger M. and Maria A.

This year Dolan is a host to a very fun math teacher from Delta 7, Mr. Goodrich. We asked him a few questions and he gave us some creative answers.

Raider Review: Where did you go to school?

Mr. Goodrich: I went to college in Bristol, Rhode Island at Roger Williams University. I went to high school at Haldane High School in Cold Spring, NY. I played football and baseball in school.

Raider Review: Where did you grow up?

Mr. Goodrich: I grew up in New York. I spent my whole life there up until college.

Raider Review: Why did you become a teacher?

Mr. Goodrich: Because I really like working with kids. Plus math is the best subject ever. Also, as a teacher you have the opportunity to coach, which is something I look forward to doing.

Raider Review: Why did you choose to teach at Dolan?

Mr. Goodrich: Because I really like the Stamford area. I also heard many good things about Dolan.

Raider Review: What are your hobbies?

Mr. Goodrich: Snowboarding, playing football, and baseball.

Raider Review: Who has been the biggest influence in your life?

Mr. Goodrich: My grandfather, I have always been very close to him. Every Sunday I go to his house and watch football with him on NFL Sunday ticket.

Raider Review: Do you have any advice for kids?

Mr. Goodrich: Always try your hardest.

Raider Review: Did you teach at any other school?

Mr. Goodrich: Yes, I taught at Barrington High School in Rhode Island. I also coached the baseball team there.

Raider Review: Do you like Dolan better?

Mr. Goodrich: I think Dolan is a great school, the students here are fun and interesting and the faculty is very nice.

Raider Review: Has your experience so far been up to you expectation?

Mr. Goodrich: Yes, it has been beyond my expectations. I really enjoy myself here.



Staff Interviews cont'd

Mrs. Jablonsky

By: Rachel Berkrot

Mrs. Jablonsky just began teaching here at Dolan this year. She is the new Omega 6 reading teacher. When she was younger she went to St. Cecelia's elementary school, St. Gabes Middle School, and Stamford Catholic High School. She also went to three colleges, Southern CT State University, Sacred Heart University, and The University of Bridgeport to receive her masters. Mrs. Jablonsky was raised in Stamford and has lived here all her life. "The main reason I became a teacher", she says, "is because I love kids." She says that the reason she chose to teach at Dolan is because she had heard wonderful things about the school and was given an opportunity to come and work here. "My hobbies are of course reading, cooking and eating chocolate", she says in humorous voice. When she was asked who had been the biggest influence in her life, she thought about it a while and finally said, "My father was the biggest influence because he always encouraged me to try my best in everything and to never give up". The advice she has for students is, "Always try your best in everything you do."



Mr. Alterman

By: Becca Hasak

Mr. Alterman is a new seventh grade math teacher here at Dolan. This is his first year teaching here and he likes it very much. When he came to Dolan, he met with Mr. Rinaldi and was just so impressed with him; he knew that Dolan was perfect for him. He grew up in Trumbull, CT, and went to college at Quinnipac. Mr. Alterman said that he wanted to be-



come a teacher because he really enjoys math. He also likes being a part of things when people learn new things. In his spare time he loves to play football, volunteer with the Trumbull buster football team, and visit Toronto. His two influences were a teacher at his school, whose nickname was "Bio Bob", and his family members. The only advice he has for kids is from Jimmy V. It is "Don't give up. Don't ever give up."

African Drums

By: Desantila Gjata

If you hear drums rolling and cowbells ringing, you know it's the African Drum group getting ready for their first performance at the winter concert. It is directed by Mr. Rizzi and played by some of our very own students here at Dolan. They will be playing music that enhances culture and originates from Africa. It is a group of wonderfully talented kids.

You have to memorize all sorts of rhythms and beats and then blend them together without getting confused.



Not only is there drumming, but there is also dancing. A group of girls will be performing dances based on the cultural music. Their clothes are also inspired by the culture. So don't miss this year's winter concert because the African Drum group will be there and they're going to ROCK!

C.P.E.P

by Steven Wales

It's another year, this means a whole new wave of activities, and C.P.E.P is no exception. C.P.E.P. is a "kind of science program" as said by the new C.P.E.P instructor Mr. Burleson. Since Mr. Sponaugle, the previous C.P.E.P director, has retired Mr. Burleson the Omega 8 math teacher has taken his place. The class starts the year building wooden bridges that through each class become larger structures. Among the several things they make are a rollercoaster built from wood and Styrofoam tubing. These projects are built through the year and are taken to the yearly C.P.E.P day in May. The competition is to challenge and find the best project between different schools from local areas in Stamford including Greenwich, Fairfield, New Canaan, and Bridgeport. One of the awards for C.P.E.P. is best designed and unique T-shirt.

About The CMT's

By: Rachel Berkrot and Laurie Pochette

September 14th was one of the most stressful times for 6th and 8th graders. This is because they had to take the CMTs. As two sixth graders, we thought that the CMTs were challenging, as well as, easy in certain spots. Our math, reading, editing, and writing skills were tested. We were given a certain amount of time to complete each test.

For most students, CMTs are a pain in the neck because it messes up our daily schedule and it puts a lot of pressure on us. Seventh graders didn't have to take tests, but they had to show respect and keep quiet. The only enjoyable thing about the CMTs is that students receive no homework.

CMTs are taken so the state can determine how well Stamford is doing in school.

First, the teachers give all of the directions. After that the children begin the test. The room becomes so quiet you can hear a pin drop. After the tests are finished, the students exhale with relief because they have fewer tests to worry about.

When all the tests are completed, the weight on the student's shoulders is lifted. Let's just hope that in April, the tests won't be as hard as they were in September.

Halloween Costumes

By: Adrianna + Jamie

There are many different types of Halloween costumes people can wear. From our research, this is what we found...

- A Statue
- A Hotdog
- Mustard and Ketchup
- The Big Bad Wolf
- Miss Muffet
- Plug and socket
- Banana
- A Martini Glass
- A Whoopee Cushion
- A Traffic Light
- A Tissue Box
- Hot sauce
- A Tiki glass
- A Milk Carton
- An Ice Cream Sunday
- A Bowling Pin
- A Bowling ball
- Bologna
- Grapes
- A Lobster

If you would like to get any of these costumes go to www.buycostums.com.

The Grudge: Movie Review

By: Kris Anne Bonifacio

"When someone dies in the grip of a powerful rage, a curse is born. The curse gathers in that place of death. Those who encounter it will be consumed by its fury." If you love scary movies, you definitely have to see *The Grudge*. The story is about a curse set upon a house in Tokyo, Japan. An American caretaker, Karen (Sarah Michelle Gellar), is assigned as caregiver of the house after the original caretaker, Yoko, goes missing. Strange things lead Karen to a brilliant mystery and on a quest to free herself from the curse. Catch *The Grudge*, now playing in theatres everywhere.

I asked a lot of people who saw *The Grudge* what they thought about it. Critics rate it a B-. A lot of people thought the movie was very startling and scary. It was a great movie to watch if you like horror. A lot of the scenes were predictable, like the little boy being inside the closet, but that doesn't keep it from being scary and startling. It was definitely scarier than *The Ring*, and a must see movie for 2004.

What I Like About Dolan

By Lauren Schmidt

There are so many things to say about Dolan. There is so much that makes Dolan the greatest school around. Personally my favorite part about attending Dolan is hanging out with my friends. Without Dolan I wouldn't have met a lot of my close friends that I hang out with now. For the past three years I've made my friends through Dolan. Another thing that I like about Dolan is the awesome clubs and sports. At Dolan you have so many choices and so many opportunities and I like that. I can do what I please and have a great time doing.

Yearbook Club

Yearbook Club is one of the most popular activities for Dolan students. Two students are chosen from each grade and cog; O8, D8, O7, D7, O6, D6, and K6. The students get cameras and are allowed to walk around the school taking photos for the yearbook. There are pictures of clubs, activities, and students in yearbook. The students organize the pictures and pages. Ms. Bodnar and Ms. Cobri lead the club. The students organize the entire yearbook with Ms. Bodnar and Ms. Corbi.