Glitzy Gala Attracts Sellout Audience

by Diana Bernard

Lights flashed and cameras clicked as the paparazzi crowded around the numerous waving celebrities ascending the stairs of the Norman J. Pattiz Concert Hall being dedicated that night.

Among the celebrity guests were Mayor Tom Bradley, Leonard Britton, Kim Carnes, Natalie Cole, Greg Davis, Dr. Demento, Andre Fisher, Alan Gershman, Melanie Griffith, Styx Hooper, Don Johnson, Casey and Jean Kasem, Melissa Manchester, Donna Mills, Tom Petty, D.A. In Reiner and his wife, Municipal Court Judge Diane Wayne, an alumnus of Hamilton. In the numerous presentations to Pattiz, Leonard Britton, Superintendent of LA Schools, said, "This is a Gala celebration of the working together of parents and teachers, to bring about quality music instruction within the realm of the environment." Of Pattiz, others said, "The highest gift of all is to give back," and "his name will live forever on the front of this auditorium." When Pattiz arose to speak, he was given a standing ovation by all who attended. He thanked all of the other sponsors of Hamilton, and the audience, saying that they were Please See GALA, Page 3

Doc Severinsen leads his band, Xebron on stage at Gala.

Photo by Matt Abarbanel


Spring Council Has Full Agenda

by Larry Crane

The Spring Student Council has been elected, has taken office, and is working at full speed. With its twenty four members, Student Council plans to make this semester the best ever. The first job of the Spring Council was to put the finishing touches on the February 10th Winter Fantasy Dance. The eight new members were able to "learn the ropes quickly and help plan activities for the spring semester."

In addition to the normal class sponsored noon dances and food sales, the Spring 1989 Student Council plans to implement some needed and controversial changes. Student Council has heard many complaints that students are unable to get food at nutrition because increasing enrollment has created longer lines. In reaction to these complaints, a committee has been formed to investigate the possibility of subtracting one minute from each seven minute passing periods. The time would be added to nutrition and would increase it from fifteen to twenty minutes.

A committee has also been formed to try to gain off-campus lunch passes for eligible seniors. The requirements will include a high grade point average, strong attendance, and a notarized signature from the students.

MARCH IS PERFECT ATTENDANCE MONTH

Students who are present in all their classes every day for the month of March will attend the Perfect Attendance Month Assembly during their Period 4 classes on Thursday, April 6. Eligibility will be determined by attendance verification sheets, which students will circulate among their teachers on March 31. Students who have had no absences or only approved absences will have their completed sheets verified by the Attendance Office after Period 6. If their perfect attendance is confirmed, they will receive a ticket for admission to the assembly, which will feature a performance by the Academy of Music's Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

parents. The committee has already collected data which concludes that local businesses are in favor of off-campus lunch passes for seniors. The proposal is currently being written and will soon be submitted to the administration.

Plans are under way to investigate the possibilities of a Hamilton Constitutional change. One of the main considerations of the committee is to allow Student Council members to be elected for yearly terms instead of the current policy of semester offices. The committee notes that full year terms will allow Council to have greater continuity and be more productive. Spring semester elections will be held to fill the positions of those students who do not wish to continue in Council.

The issue of changing the school colors has not been forgotten. In response to an uproar about changing the colors, a committee has been formed to further examine any decisions and their implications. The committee has stated that more students must vote in order to gain fair and accurate results. The committee has noted they are angry that people have complained about the results of the last election even though they had been too apathetic to vote. In a recent interview with the committee, one member stated: "We, (student council), can inform students of what is going to be on the ballot, circulate registration forms, and put up posters telling students to vote, but we cannot force people to do anything."

Student Council members are working closely with KDAY radio and are participating in the station's "Images" program for high schools. The program, which has already brought "Sugga and Spice" to Hamilton, will culminate with Hamilton students taking requests and being guest deejays on KDAY on April 6.

Other projects that Student Council will be working on include the campus beautification competition, the Accreditation process, and a "Super Dance" at Magic Mountain to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation. Student Council is sure that with the cooperation and support of all students, this semester can be a great one.
Garcia Quits Board Race

by Ozzy Paredes

Mr. Gary Garcia, who currently teaches American Literature and E.S.L. here at Hamilton High School, announced on Wednesday, March 8th, that he is withdrawing from the upcoming L.A. Board of Education race and throwing his support to Mark Slavkin, right, who is a Hamilton graduate from the class of '79.

Mr. Garcia, who had been endorsed by organizations such as the Association of Mexican-American Educators, the Westwood Democratic Club, and the American Political Association, expressed hope that his supporters would understand his decision to withdraw.

As a closing remark, Mr. Garcia wishes to express an additional reason for his decision to leave the race:

"I am deeply committed to my students. If I leave this is an important time to put an extra effort into teaching to maintain my student's confidence in our educational system. They have been very supportive of me in my desire to run for the board. Now, however, I think I may be most supportive of them by choosing not to divert any of my attention from teaching."
Virtuoso Pianists Vie In Concerto Competition

by Rebecca Field

A truly breathtaking and enlightening piano concerto competition recently took place in the Norman J. Pattiz Concert Hall. The competition, which was held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, featured brilliant performances by seven pianists. The contenders, all members of the Master and Artist Piano Classes, were, in order of appearance: Liva Andreeva, Carolina Billow, Natasha Randolph, Diana Bernard, Jaqueline Taylor, Jenny Mah, and Vernell Brown. Dr. William Teaford, instructor of the Master and Artist Piano Classes, performed the orchestral parts to the Concerti.

Winners in the recent Concerto competition are L - R: Vernell Brown (3rd place), Jaqueline Taylor (2nd place), and Jenny Mah (1st place).

Their performances were magnificent, executed with precision and marked with the intense expressiveness exhibited by musicians who are fully absorbed in the delivery of their pieces. It is amazing that high school students, some as young as 15 years old, are capable of performances of such professional caliber.

The pianists were scored by three judges, each of whom could award up to 40 points to each performer, making a combined possible total of 120 points. Jim Berk, Academy of Music Coordinator, read the names of the winners, and perhaps the upset of the evening came when he announced who had placed third, Vernell Brown, whose extraordinary talent has gained him national recognition, had been the sure winner. His heart stopping performance of Edvard Grieg's "Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16" drew remarks of "Oh, wow!" And "he's so good," from astounded listeners, and it seemed the general consensus among the audience (myself included), that his point total would certainly exceed the 111.5 that he had received.

The second place winner was Jaqueline Taylor, whose superb runs and masterful execution of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Concerto in C Major, K. 467" placed her above Vernell with 114 points.

The performer who pulled the rug out from under was Jenny Mah, who took the win with 116 points. Her piece was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Concerto in A Major, K. 488." Her delivery was enchanting, and she perhaps displayed qualities which only trained judges could truly identify as constituting a "winning" performance. As the winner, Jenny has the privilege of performing as a soloist with the Hamilton Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Robert Chaney on Thursday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m.

On a final note, I would like to comment on the surprisingly small audience which attended the piano concerto competition, and I would like to express that, in light of the current effort to unite Hamilton's three schools, we should all learn to recognize, appreciate, and celebrate the talent which exists within our school.

HAMI TOP 10 ON KDAY APRIL 6

...showing their support by being there.

The music that followed was absolutely stupendous. Led by Mr. Sidney Lassaigne, the Hamilton High School Music Academy Jazz Ensemble played their hearts out for the Gala. The majority in the audience was absolutely breath-taking by the performance, both as a group and when soloists stepped out and showed their stuff. No foot in the auditorium could keep from tapping to the Jazz Ensemble's lively and spellbinding performances. Dr. Demento, whose "Working Girl," said, "They were a whole lot better than the high school band I was in." Drummer Styx Hooper commented, "They were incredible. The proficiency of the students, and their being 'in tune' and to see how hard they're working on their instruments was exciting. I see a lot of talent in this school." Alan Gershman of the schoolboard said, "The band was extraordinary. They were really professional, and I think everybody here was just, Wow!" Miami Vice Superstar, Don Johnson, commented that the Music Academy program seemed a marvelous opportunity for children, and his fiancee Melanie Griffith of the hit movie, "Working Girl," said, "I love to listen to good music and I just came here to support the people who make good music."

After a short intermission, the audience filed back in just to be rocked off their feet and out the door again by the sounds of Doc Severinsen and his band, Xebron. The music boomed throughout the newly renovated auditorium, brilliantly loud, and spellbinding. Doc Severinsen said on behalf of himself and Xebron that they were "honored to share the stage with the likes of the members of the Academy Band," and that "some of the members of the Tonight Show band had better be real careful." He went on to say not to forget what the Gala was really about - the Academy of Music being seen not only as fantastic performers, but as people.

Mr. Norman Pattiz took a minute of his time to tell us his thoughts on the Gala, the Music Academy, and Hamilton. About the Music Academy: "It's not hard to get excited about something like that with the potential it's got." About the Gala: "I think that the highlight of the concert was the Academy band; everyone was here to hear the Academy band - tonight was their night to shine." Concerning the auditorium: "I think the auditorium is beautiful - it's just a world class concert hall. I never thought that (the auditorium I graduated in) would be named after me someday - in fact, I don't think it's sunk in yet." About involvement in the Music Academy program: "We've got a lot more people involved, and I think that getting more people involved would do an admirable accomplishment. If many illustrious music corporations would think of their high school music program, I think you'll see a lot of interesting things start to happen."

Mr. Berk, Assistant Principal of Hamilton and Coordinator of the Music Academy said, "I am extremely satisfied with the results of the Gala. It was different from last year - we took a different approach, and I don't think it could have been any better than it was. It made about $110,000. It was a celebration of all of Hamilton High School. This was just the beginning - there's going to be a lot more to come."

Seeing the results of this year, many are excited and looking forward to next year's Gala. Says Berk, "It's going to be bigger and better."
HOW DO YOU FEEL THE GANG SITUATION IN L.A. SCHOOLS SHOULD BE HANDLED?

DAVID MOCH, JUNIOR

"There are many ways of preventing and slowing down gangs. In school, people who call them gangsters. I call them 'wanna-bees', because anyone who profiles colors, gold, symbols, and any way of character is just trying to make a statement. The administration in the different high schools needs to set a standard of what to wear. This way no one can possibly be accused and gang related problems can be avoided. Also security at the mostly 'gang' populated schools needs to be tightened so that the schools may carry on a lot safer and better. 'Gangsters' should try to be helped. They should be encouraged to participate in some kind of activity: sports, clubs, shows, etc. Don't treat them like unwanted creatures; show some care and encourage them. Do this and you're on the right track to a possible termination of undesired conflicts; and a safer feeling around your high school campus.

The Federalist

REBECCA FIELD, SOPHOMORE

"Whether or not it is openly apparent within the school, most students are aware that a gang problem within several Los Angeles High Schools does exist. Gangers are a major cause of drug dealing, violent crimes and deterioration in our community, and high school students are all in a position to be affected by them, whether they are victimized in a gang related crime, or drawn into a gang at their school or in their neighborhood. In order to help rectify the present situation, I think that schools need to inform students at an earlier age as to the harsh consequences of becoming involved with gangs and law enforcement should impose more severe penalties upon gang members who are convicted of crimes so as to discourage young people who might otherwise consider joining a gang. There are many influential forces which direct a high school students moral and social development, yet none of these structures seems capable of, or willing to put forth total commitment, and the only way to achieve total solution is to reach deeply enough into the problem."

GLENDAY OLIVARES, SENIOR

"In my opinion, there is no real way to stop gangs and their violence. But there are ways to prevent gangs from forming. Kids need a better education. The school board should enforce that kids stay in school. This way they will have something to do and will not be able to ditch school, which will prevent them from hanging out with those so-called "homeboys" and "homegirls". This in turn will eliminate the possibility of gang members organizing to commit felonies. I think that all gangs are stupid because everyone is killing each other for just a name. It's like the same race is killing the race. Hispanics against Hispanics, Blacks against Blacks, and so on."

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Why does it seem that our school's cafeteria is trying to cover up for their chronic mistakes concerning nutrition? Only since the Channel 7 News reported on our students' complaints, our cafeteria has been receiving the proper attention. The report also stated that California students are more susceptible to heart conditions and are not physically conditioned to run around a regular school track.

Hamill's response to this was to stage a Sugar Free day. Students were only allowed to purchase such foods as pretzels, trail mix, or eggs. The foods normally purchased during nutrition and lunch were taken off the shelves. Ironically, the candy store remained open! During this sugar free day, more students than normal were prompted to purchase candy, which is worse than the food on the regular menu. The whole purpose was defeated.

I feel that the sugar free items should become regulars on our menu along with the original foods that were removed. If there is an improvement to be made regarding our nutrition, it's obviously going to take more than one day.

Andre Ellis

If you're the average female college graduate, you're probably earning about $30,500 a year after a few years in your chosen field.
**Features**

**DAMON AND MATT AT THE OSCARS**

Well, it’s that time of year again. Early March, when the Academy of Motion Pictures announces the nominees for its annual Oscar Awards and every man and his dog writes an article on who they think is going to win. Well, this article is no different. What follows are our picks for the 1989 Oscar Awards in the categories of Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Director.

In the category of Best Director, both Damon and I agreed that Charles Crichton for “A Fish Called Wanda” should win, however we admit that as the underdog, he will most likely not win.

**For Best Actress, Damon favors Meryl Streep in “A Cry in the Dark.”**

In the category of Best Actor, my pick is Max Von Sydow for “Pelle The Conqueror,” and Damon chose Tom Hanks in “Big.”

Finally, for Best Picture, Damon chose “Rainman,” while I chose “Dangerous Liaisons,” the underdog again.

All in all, this year’s show, which airs March 29 on ABC at 6 p.m. PST, should be an exciting one as many less popular films such as “A Fish Called Wanda,” “Dangerous Liaisons,” and “Pelle the Conqueror,” have been nominated.

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**Time Traveling Fun With Bill and Ted**

by Damon Liebowitz

Jeff Spirool and his best friend most know Dick Clark of the 27th century and become “Time Bandits” by using Dr. Who’s time traveling telephone booth in order to pass History and save their friendship. This might sound terrible, but it all comes together to make an “excellent” movie titled “Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure.”

Bill and Ted (played by Alex Winter and Keanu Reeves) are two average 8th high school students living in San Dimas. Their only problem is if they fail History, Ted will be sent to Military school and the world’s future will be destroyed. The only chance of stopping this is for Bill and Ted to “ace” their oral report for History. Enter Rufus, (George Carlin), the Dick Clark from the 27th Century, who gives our heroes a time traveling telephone booth to round-up some of the greatest figures in history for their oral report.

Bill and Ted find themselves on a battlefield with Napoleon, (Terry Camilleri), playing poker with Billy the Kid, (Dan Shor), having dinner with Genghis Kahn, (Al Leong), and philosophizing with Socrates, (Tony Steedman).

Time travel is a forum with many different possibilities. Writers Chris Matheson and Ed Solomon have captured one and with the help of director Stephen Herek, have created a film that is humorous, creative, exciting, and fun to watch. The most outstanding aspect is the creative use of time travel which makes for many of the outlandish scenes. “Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure,” in this moviegoer’s opinion is a must see for everyone. I’ll see you at the movies.

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**Sharp Drop in JSA Membership**

by Mitch Cohen

How can a campus club with over 100 active members last year drop to 20 active members this year? Well, this is the unfortunate situation with Junior Statesmen of America, JSA. The club has been meeting regularly in Room 606 at lunch on Tuesdays for the past two years...JSA is a debating club for all interested students at Hamilton. As an active member of the club for the past three years, I have noticed the slow decline in membership.

When the club meets, there are spirited debates and “thought talks” on current issues in the media as for example, capital punishment, abortion, or media censorship. Some possible reasons for a lack of participation could be topics of discussion that have gone stale and members want a wider variety of current issues to choose from. Another reason might be that there isn’t much enthusiasm felt by club members such as there was a year ago. It has come to the point where many active members would prefer not to voice an opinion on topics, or worse, not even attend meetings.

Two major JSA conventions that take place every year are the Fall and Spring State Conventions. At these meetings, students from California and Arizona come together to debate and hold “thought talks” on controversial topics. Last year at Spring State, Hamilton sent 69 members. This year, the number has fallen to about 30.

The apathy in the Hamilton Chapter has grown this year, and it is sad to see such an active club like JSA go down the so called “tubes” because of its lack of interest and participation.

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Track Teams Lose 2 Due To Small Size

According to Coach Haynes, Hamilton’s track teams are back and ready for conference challenge this season. Returning team members are Keif Scott in the distance, John Howard and Taji Bernarr. Joining the team this year are Park Long, Cherrmaine Leighton, and Karenia Inyana who all show outstanding promise.

The boys team is the smallest in many years with 12 members. This means that Hamilton will not be able to be competitive in all events, thus losing vital points to win the meets. In those events that Hami does participate in, the team usually places first and second. For the girls, the story is different as they number about 15 and this is large compared to other conference schools. The girls are expected to win most of their dual meets. In their last outing, they beat Venice by the score of 69-2. The boys lost that meet 80-32 as many events were run without Hamilton competitors. Coach Haynes agrees that lack of participation in all events will hurt the team, and, “We can only put one or two members in the distance, hurdles, and sprints.”

John Howard ran double races finishing first in the 440 yard with a time of 53.66, and placing second in the 100 meter. Park Long also running in both hurdles races placed first in the 330 yard Intermediate Hurdles with a time of 42.95, and second in the 110 Meter Hights with a time of 15.82. This season is young with five more meets compared to other conference schools.

Yanks Drop Opener To Fairfax, 8-5

Coach Dave Uyeshima stated that the team has a very good chance in the 3-A Western League this year with a longer schedule than in the past years. This season the team will play 17 games. Recently, the team finished 7th in the West Los Angeles Tournament. The starting lineup for the Varsity team this year will be: Steve Rothman at 1st base; Juan Gomez at 2nd base; Jay Fields at shortstop; Isaac Manaster at 3rd base. In the outfield will be Aaron Levy in left, John Harris in center, and Bruce James in right. In the outfield will be Aaron Levy in right, Bruce James in center, and Evan Newman in left. The battery is Ricardo Lizarraga catching for Aaron Delatorre and Chris McLeary.

The conference season opened on Tuesday, March 14 with a loss to Fairfax 8-5 as the Lions’ E. Johnson hit a pair of homeruns and had 6 RBI’s. On Tuesday, March 16, the Lions again dropped the Yankees by a score of 7 - 5. In this losing effort, Hami’s Bruce James connected for a 5th inning homer with one man aboard. The Yankees Zuckerman was called on to relieve McCreary with bases loaded, and he walked in 2 runs, and a third with a hit batter which proved to be the difference in the game.

SPORTS BRIEFS

SHAMBOURGER MAKES ALL CITY ACADEMIC TEAM

Eric Shambourger made the All City Academic Football Team with a 3.0 GPA. He will be attending the University of Hawaii next fall. His accomplishments include making the First Team All League and Conference; Second Team Westside; and Second Team All-Bay League. His reactions about making the academic football team was that he felt honored and good about himself. He said he will continue to maintain his good grades.

GIA Loses First Round Basketball Playoff

The Lady Hoopsterettes suffered defeat in the recent basketball playoff game against Eagle Rock on February 17. The game was very disappointing as the team faltered and fell 53-39. Daphne Vaughn came off the bench in the second half hoping to spark the offense. Vaughn holds the overall best offense record, but her efforts were not enough to pull the game out. She did have a strong offensive game with 14 rebounds and scoring 15 points.