

# The Review

James Whitcomb Riley H.S.

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## Committee has been formed to examine the problems and devise solutions for the issue of **Discipline**

By *Krista Van Fleit*  
Editor-in-chief

Action has been taken as a result of the recent teacher negotiations to correct some flaws in the discipline system in the South Bend Community School Corporation (SBCSC).

The National Education Association (NEA) polled South Bend teachers to determine their main concerns regarding discipline. Results of this survey will be used in formulating a discipline policy to eliminate corporal punishment in their contracts, beginning April 1992.

Richard W. Beeching, Uniserve Director of the NEA, said the discipline committee was the best way to come up with an alternative to corporal punishment and to create long range solutions.

Teachers agreed to eliminate corporal punishment from their contracts as long as a viable alternative was given them. The committee was set up to find this alternative.

"The problems are so widespread and complex the committee was the best way to do it (address them)," said Beeching.

According to John Woodruff, head of the discipline committee and a teacher at LaSalle High School, the committee is still in its infancy stage. At present, it is in the process of gathering information from parents, teachers, and students. Administrators and teachers will work together on the committee to brainstorm for solutions.

He also said that public meetings will be held to allow parents' input. Students will also have input, but the committee has not yet devised a way to gather it.

Woodruff said he has heard talk about adopting discipline procedures used in other states, but has rejected that option because he thinks that, "1600 people with college educations (SBCSC teachers and administrators) hopefully can come up with so-

lutions themselves."

James Spears, faculty representative for the NEA, conducted the survey among Riley faculty members. The results show that the teachers' main concerns in this building are:

- *Allowing violent or serious felony offenders in the juvenile justice system or violators of serious SBCSC policies to be kept in school or moved to another school. School should be a safe, drug free place.*

- *Lack of uniform treatment based on race, sex,*

*or athletic ability. Athletes, in particular, have been treated better than other offenders.*

- *Insubordination and rudeness, threats and mouthiness to adults, teachers, teachers' aids, administrators and other staff.*

- *Hall conduct that is out of hand, including swearing, boys not keeping hands to themselves, students being mouthy when asked by a teacher or other adult to stop their misbehavior, students running in the halls, screaming, and being obnoxious.*

- *Truancies and excessive absences are tolerated for too long, causing the attendance policy to be a mockery.*

- *Students who are allowed to remain in school with all F grades and/or massive absences.*

- *Inappropriate, suggestive T-shirts and other apparel and items brought into the school, such as tape players.*

- *Students who have been repeatedly assigned to in-school suspension or suspended without any change in behavior. Repeat offenders need a bottom line.*

The first five items were listed on every response turned in, according to Spears. The last three items were listed on 85 percent of the sheets turned in.

The committee will use



these responses to develop its discipline plan.

The teachers' complaints appear to have validity. Carolyn Peterson, teacher at Washington High School, and member of the NEA's crisis committee which handled all the contingencies of the near strike last month, listed the following four instances of severe discipline problems that have occurred in the SBCSC within the last five years:

**Scenario one:** A student physically assaulted a female teacher resulting in her hospitalization. The student was removed from school until the next fall, when the student was due processed to another school. Staff at the new school was

notified that the student had a history of assaulting females, and were advised not to place the student in a female's class. Despite this warning, the student was placed with a female teacher. Although nobody was injured, the student was hard to deal with, and many people hesitated to discipline him for fear of another incident.

**Scenario two:** Four students got into an argument. A fight broke out, and one student's head went through a glass panel. The victim stayed at the home high school, while the other three were due processed to other buildings.

**Scenario three:** A student was found with guns in the trunk of his car, which was in the school parking lot. The student was due processed to another school. There the student walked the halls wearing a beeper and flashing money and expensive items to impress other students.

**Scenario four:** A student was due processed out of one high school because of involvement in gang leadership. This student was not accepted by his new classmates, and was viciously assaulted. The new student was due processed a second time, and the students directly involved in the fight were due processed to other schools, as well.

At present, the most fre-

quently used disciplinary alternatives for dealing with serious offenders are in-school suspension (called C.O.R.E. - Continuing Opportunities to Revitalize Education), out of school suspension, and due processing students to other high schools.

### Expulsion

Expulsion is an option which administrators may resort to, and corporal punishment is nearly non-existent at the high school level.

"We do expel serious offenders," said Monte Sriver, SBCSC superintendent.

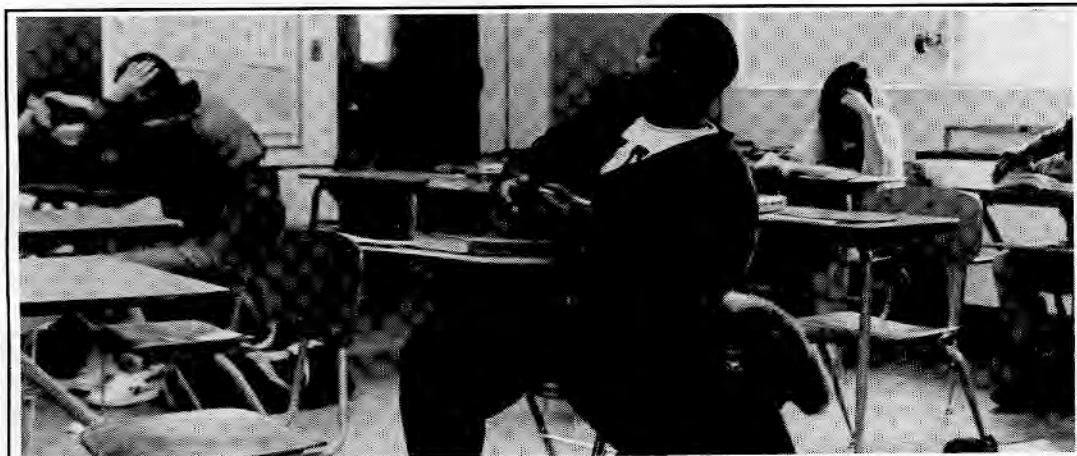
He defined a serious offender as someone who was in possession of any kind of weapon, anyone who uses hard drugs, or commits an assault on a staff member.

When asked why the students in the preceding scenarios weren't expelled, Sriver said he could not comment on individual cases.

A student has a chance to present his/her case to one hearing examiner or a hearing panel before that student is expelled, according to Sriver.

The examiner or panel takes all evidence into consideration and then recommends a disciplinary action to Sriver. He makes the final decision. However, while he can give the stu-

**Discipline: See Flip side**



Tim Mc Intosh, freshman, Luke Wilder, sophomore, Rachel Jacobs, freshman, Misty Wilson, sophomore, Devon Stokes, junior, and Ryan Taylor, freshman, (left to right) are sitting in C.O.R.E. with a substitute. On the average, they were sent two assignments to do in C.O.R.E. (photo by Santiago Flores).



## Editorial

### Pedestrians at risk when crossing the street

There is a sign on the street in front of the parking lot on Fellows Street that clearly states no parking, stopping or standing; however, parents are always dropping students off there before school. This is dangerous for both students walking into school and students driving to the parking lot.

When many of the people stop in front of the side entrance, they do not use their turn signals. This means that they stop in the middle of the street with no warning. Students have to slam on their brakes and go around the car, many times into oncoming traffic. Now that the weather is getting bad and roads are slippery, this is especially hazardous.

After the parents have let their children out of the car, they pull out into the street with no warning. People pulling into the parking lot aren't expecting the cars to pull out in front of them, and have to dodge them to avoid an accident.

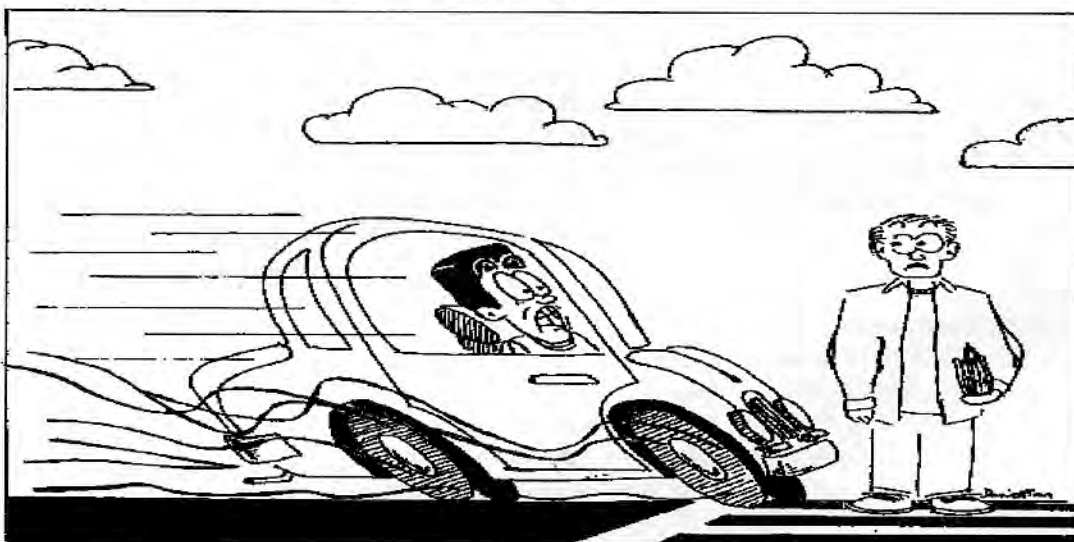
Students crossing the street to walk up the stairs into the school are also put in danger. Many times when they are going to walk in front of the stopped cars, the drivers decide to pull away from the school. There is a conflict between the driver and the pedestrian over who will go first, and sometimes they both proceed at the same time. This is dangerous and could cause an accident.

Fellows street at the entrance of the parking lot is not wide enough to allow people to stop. When cars try and go around they often end up in the wrong lane, which causes problems with drivers coming the other way.

There are two solutions for this problem: students should tell their parents not to drop them off there, and administrators should work to enforce this rule.

Students should tell their parents to drop them off in front of the school at the Ewing Street entrance. This is the proper place and would save a lot of trouble for both the parents and students.

Administrators and security guards should also enforce the rule. They could stand outside and tell the people not to stop and let their kids out at that door. If they just stood outside before school, many people would be intimidated and not stop there anyway.



Letters  
to the  
Editor

#### POLICY

*The Review reserves the right to edit the content of any letter without altering its intent. All letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request and with good reason.*

### Marijuana - parking lot controversy

While standing in the alley, which is against the rules, my boyfriend was taken to the office for smelling of marijuana. When he was written up for this offense, the accusation was smoking pot in the parking lot. We weren't smoking anything in the alley and when I asked the security guards later why this was said, they couldn't explain it. They said they knew we weren't smoking pot in the parking lot. Yet, my parents and his parents were told that we were, and now my boyfriend is suspended for five days and won't be admitted back into the school without a drug test. He achieved honor roll last grading period and now this suspension will hurt his grades not to mention the fact that we both realize that you can't trust some people. We've both lost any respect for this school that we may have had.

Jenna Hill

### Unfair treatment displayed by staff

I think the treatment of students by certain people here at Riley High School is totally unfair. They favor and pay attention only to a small minority. These people give them special favors such as walking the halls without passes, getting out of the lunch room to go to the restroom when there is five minutes until the bell rings (violating the rule), etc. Then there are those of us who appreciate these people's jobs, but don't get any slack. We're sent back to classes to get passes, even when they know we're up to no trouble, and are forbidden to go to the restroom or outside when there's five minutes left before the bell at lunch time. Shouldn't the rules apply to everyone?

Anonymous

### Compliments to the school paper

I just want to take some time to write and say what an awesome job you guys are doing on the paper. It's no wonder you won all those awards!

I always look forward to the paper coming out, and I read it cover to cover the minute I get it.

Your articles are so well written, your artwork is superb, and the layout is excellent.

I also love the new features you added, like the 'Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down' list, the 'The Voice', and the 'Top Ten List'.

I don't think the students here realize what a professional and "killer" paper you guys put together. I want to commend you on a good job WELL-DONE!

Amy Harris

The Review is published by the Publications staff at Riley High School, 405 E. Ewing, South Bend, Indiana, 46613. The intent of The Review is to inform the public of events occurring within and outside the school. Any opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinions of The Review, except for the editorials in the Viewpoints section. The Review gives the right to print others' opinions, but is unbiased and does not support them.

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## Sexual harassment:

# It happened to me

*By* Jen Carlson  
Advertising Manager

I have heard of sexual harassment happening to other people before but I never thought it would happen to me. My experience occurred two years ago. I was working at a fast food restaurant in July of 1989. Two weeks after I started, a new employee, Dave (alias) came to work for us. I was assigned to train him.

Within a couple of weeks, he was whistling at me. I didn't really think anything of it because all girls get whistled at throughout their lives. After some time, it stopped. I felt he was just having some harmless fun.

In the fall that year I started to go out with someone. Dave knew my boyfriend. They would talk when they saw each other, but they weren't good friends.

As time went on we were all like a family at work. We would laugh together and get upset together, we would even argue among ourselves.

Well I think Dave took advantage of this. His whistling started again and he even got my phone number from the company address book. Not only was he whistling at me but calling me. I was friendly to him at first. I didn't know what his intentions were at that time. I wish I had.

In the weeks that passed, Dave's (harmless) fun began to get worse. I didn't know what to do. He would accidentally bump into me and touch me on my backside. I would always push him away and try to stay away from him but it wasn't easy. He'd follow me around the restaurant.

His passes started to get really bad. He was now trying to put ice down my shirt and at the same time put his hand down as far as he could reach. He had asked me to have sex with him, which I flatly refused. He would also grab the front of me below the waist. If I was on the telephone, he would come up and kiss me on the cheek. It made me feel awful.

I always felt that I was a nice person. I didn't want to be mean but, Dave was sure getting mean. No matter what I did, he still kept coming back. I finally broke down and told my manager. He had a private conference with Dave and wrote him up. (In most places of business, if you get written up three times, you're terminated.)

That's all that happened to him. He still kept on coming. Nothing would stop him. So the next time he tried something, I kicked him right where it counts. Didn't do a thing! By this time I was getting frustrated.

Dave now was beginning to get very aggressive. My boyfriend had threatened him but Dave remained undaunted. He would now throw me on the ground and try to touch me in as many places as he could. It got so bad that he would even do it in front of other male employees. They watched me helplessly fighting him and struggling to get free. They did nothing to help me, and they got a laugh at my expense.

Well it wasn't funny to me any more. This was causing problems for me, not only at work but at home. I would come home in a really bad mood and take it out

on my family. My boyfriend thought that I was leading Dave on. That caused problems for us. This guy was just ruining my life. What did I possibly do to have this happen?

I was nice to him. I wasn't overly nice but friendly. How could I possibly have been giving him the wrong impression? The thought of pressing charges came to mind.

My family had discussed this option. It was an option that I didn't want to deal with. I decided to quit. It was a shame that a successful place of business couldn't even keep one employee from harassing me. I wasn't going to take my chances. I put in my resignation. In the meantime, I asked not to work with him and if I were assigned work with him, I asked that he be kept away from me.

It is very humiliating to have a male degrade you in a sexual manner. His behavior was especially degrading because he commanded an audience. I felt we were involved in a dime store peep show. I never felt guilty about the whole situation, but I do feel stronger. I watch my back now, and believe I can spot another Dave.

Losing my job and not having a steady income has made my life difficult. For one and a half years I was an upstanding employee.

I had a hard time getting another job. I've been ridiculed and cross examined. Now that I am finally reemployed, I'm trying to live a normal life. With patience and understanding, I'm hoping to finally put the past behind me.



## What is your worst holiday memory?



"I thought I wasn't getting any presents because my family hid them from me."

**Amy Wojciechowski**  
freshman

"I was cutting down my tree and it fell on me."

**Michael Ottman**  
freshman



"I was kicked out on New Year's when I came home at 4 a.m."

**Alex Sously**  
sophomore

"We had to get another tree and it was teeny. Our big ornaments didn't fit on it."

**David Hairston**  
sophomore



"I haven't had any because I haven't been caught being naughty."

**Michelle Grundy**  
junior

"I ate too much and got sick on Thanksgiving."

**Henry Graham**  
junior

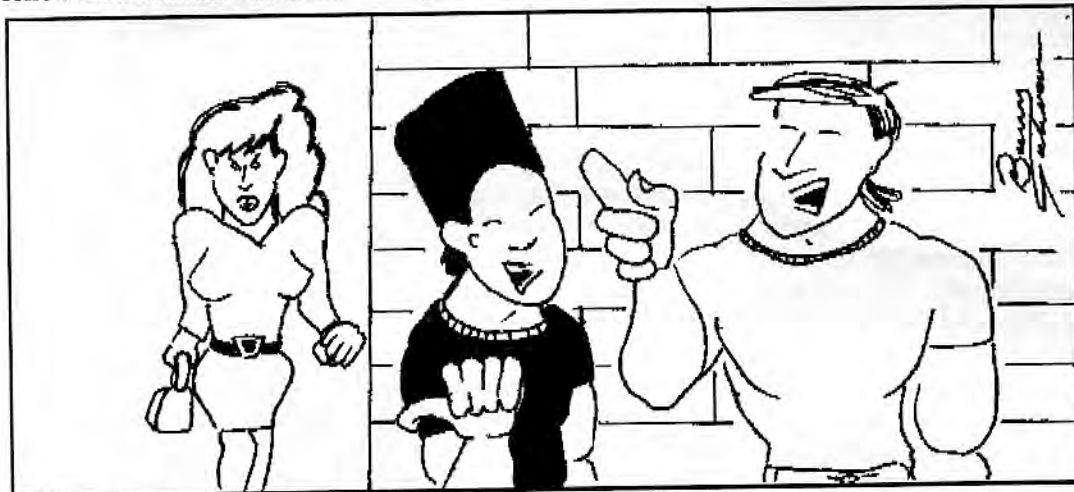
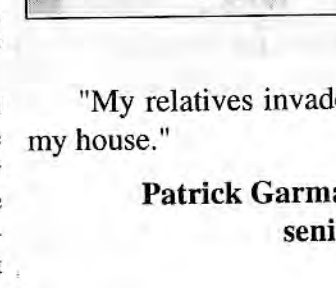


"My brother was arrested."

**Kim Deka**  
senior

"My relatives invaded my house."

**Patrick Garman**  
senior



## Inequality in holiday celebrations evident

*By* Lindsey Cohn  
Staff Reporter

Riley is a school that is made up of many people that come from different backgrounds and cultures. Since it is a public school, Riley supposedly believes in diversity and equality.

From what I've observed during the early stages of the "holiday" season, I don't believe that Riley is such a diverse school.

I was walking down the main hall on the third floor of Riley, when I noticed a bulletin board that said, "Christmas Around the World." Underneath the sign, "Merry Christmas" was written in sixteen different languages,

followed by the name of the country in which the language is spoken!

As I continued down the hallway, I didn't see any references to the other religious holidays. The only holiday that is being promoted in the hallways and in the classrooms is Christmas!

Riley is not the only place this inequality is found. Restaurants, television and radio stations are also guilty of a lack of respect for diversity.

For example, I was sitting in Hacienda when I heard Christmas songs being played. Then, at another time, I turned on the radio only to hear more Christmas songs!

I'm not saying that the Christmas decorations and songs should all be put away; but if there is one holiday that is being represented in a public place, then all of the different holidays should be represented, too.

If it is not possible to include Hanukkah and other holiday decorations and songs along with the Christmas decorations and songs, then maybe there shouldn't be any holiday decorations at all.

It is time that people of all faiths and cultures celebrate the holidays for what they are really are: a time to share and help those around you. Respecting diversity and co-operating are the first steps to accomplishing that goal.



# There's no place like home!

## Divorce adds stress to the holidays

By Lindsey Cohn  
Staff Reporter

Most people's impression of the holiday season is a family gathered together for a holiday meal, singing holiday songs and opening each other's presents, while surrounded by an atmosphere full of love.

Unfortunately, in modern times, more and more families are splitting up, and giving "family holiday celebration," a brand new meaning.

In a few cases, the families will still celebrate together, but many teens will divide the time between the parents. Nick Relias, sophomore and child of divorced parents, said that he plans on spending Christmas Eve with his mother and Christmas Day with his father.

Meanwhile, Jeff Berebitsky, who is also a sophomore, says that his parents go to each other's houses during Hanukkah in order to celebrate with their children at the same time.

Children that celebrate separately with each parent react in different ways.

"Usually the child acts pretty withdrawn, depressed and sometimes angry because things have changed and they're not the way they used to be. The adjustment of celebrating with split families is new and different. Being angry lets people know that they are hurting," said JoAnna Wagonmaker M.A., from the Northern Indiana Asso-

ciates in Psychology.

Wagonmaker continued by saying that parents are usually so involved in the hustle and bustle of the season that the child's feelings are often neglected.

A couple ways that a parent can tell that a child is depressed or withdrawn is by his or her behavior. "They won't do what they're told, they'll say things like, 'this isn't fair, you don't love me anymore,' and they'll test their parent's love by breaking rules," said Wagonmaker.

Julie Smith, sophomore and friend of Maggie Stephenson, sophomore and a child of divorced parents, said that Stephenson suffers a bit during the holidays. "She (Stephenson) got real depressed last year because she hadn't seen her dad in awhile," said Smith.

Stephenson said, "I went over to my mom's house for Thanksgiving and I was treated like I wasn't even there. Then my dad came into my mom's house. There was a lot of arguing and coldness in the room between my parents."

On the other hand, people like Berebitsky aren't emotionally affected by the divorce. Sharna Marcus, a friend of Berebitsky's, said, "He's more concerned with presents, and his family deals well with the situation."

The differences between families that cope well with each other and those that don't center on the communication between

family members, according to Wagonmaker.

Families that cope well are honest with the children, the parents are civil despite their differences, and the children can talk about their visits with each parent openly, according to Wagonmaker.

In families which have trouble coping, the adjustment period is longer, the bitterness they feel toward each other is unresolved, the children show signs of stress, and old business is often left unfinished.

Stephenson's family doesn't get along well. She said, "It's because my parents can't control their anger. It was an ugly divorce, there were a lot of hurt feelings, and nothing was able to be healed."

The parents of divorced children believe spending time with their children is a top priority. Dreama Findley, a divorced mother, said that her children spend Christmas Eve with her and Christmas Day with their father.

Another factor that may complicate the situation is the intrusion of step-parents and step-children. Through his mother's remarriage, Relias now has a step-father, one step-brother and two step-sisters, in addition to his own brother and two sisters.

One reason why the Relias family can't celebrate together is because his step-father would be there, and Relias' real father wouldn't like that.

The only time Relias actually sees his step-brother and step-sisters is on Christmas when he's at his mother's house. "I never have anything to do with them, and my brother and I stick with my dad."

Lauren Wiand, mother of Beth Hooton, sophomore, was divorced and remarried. She said dividing her time between her children and her new hus-

**"Most of all, all that I could ever wish for, is that my parents could be friends and treat each other like equal human beings."**

Maggie Stephenson

band causes stress.

Although the holidays are a stressful time for everyone, a divorce affects the lives and emotions of the entire family.

Stephenson said, "Since my parents don't get along, and I live with my dad, and my sisters live with my mom, it puts me in the middle of their (the parents) fighting. For my sisters, there are a lot of bad things that are said about me and my dad in my mom's house. So, that makes my sisters get mad at my dad and me."

The Berebitsky family is the exact opposite. This makes the holidays more pleasant for them. Berebitsky said, "During Passover, my dad comes over to my house to eat with us. While we're eating, we usually talk and joke around a lot. We don't argue, and the atmosphere around the dinner table is very comfortable."

Children from harmonious households suffer less. Charles Kaser, freshman, has parents that get along most of the time. When his parents first got divorced, Kaser said that he was a little sad, but it was nothing major.

In order to help, both parents can sit down with the child and explain that it's not the child's fault. They need to explain that while they have trouble living with each other, and stopped loving each other, they'll never stop loving the child said Wagonmaker.

A divorce affects the relationship between the parents and their child. For Berebitsky and

Kaser, the primary effect of the divorce is the fact that they don't see and talk to both parents as much as they would if the parents were still married.

For others, like Relias and his parents, things have changed. "I fight more with my mom. I guess I'm meaner to her now, but my dad is cooler now."

The relationship between the divorced parents also affects the child. Since Stephenson's parents don't get along, she said, "Most of all, all that I could ever wish for, is that my parents could be friends and treat each other like equal human beings."

Some tips that Wagonmaker offers for teenagers on how to handle the stress and loneliness of being divided between two families are: 1) to find preferably an adult to talk to (a friend's parent, a counselor, a trusted teacher, 2) don't try to get your parents back together, and, 3) find something to do in order to help relieve your stress at home (sports, extra-curricular activities, babysitting).

In order for parents to act sensitive and fair during the holidays, some of Wagonmaker's ideas are: 1) to ask the children what they would like to do, and 2) to try to be civil to the other parent for the sake of the children.

According to Wagonmaker, "Adults are the ones that screw up the children. It's not the children's fault. They (the children) are able to adjust to just about anything."

**"I went over to my mom's house for Thanksgiving and I was treated like I wasn't even there. Then my dad came into my mom's house. There was a lot of arguing and coldness in the room between my parents."**

Maggie Stephenson





## Christmas in the hospital

By Amanda Abigt  
Sports Editor

"All that I want to do is go home!" I said. After all, this was Christmas and that is where I belonged.

Last December I was a patient in the cardiac unit at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. Although I was supposed to be released a week before Christmas, my visit was being extended due to a bout with the flu.

Being sick over Christmas isn't the greatest, but through the whole ordeal I learned a few things. I learned that I was very lucky and that I had a lot of people who care about me. Lots of the sick kids were going to be there for a long time and there was little chance of them making it home for the holidays. If I got well soon, I could go home.

### Wondering

I was told that if I didn't start walking soon and holding down food that I was going to be kept for an extra four days. That would mean I would get home on December 26. I was devastated. Christmas has always been special at my house. It is a time that is spent with family and friends. The thought of not being home hurt more than anything. I simply had to get home. It never dawned on me how much being there meant to me until it was

nearly taken away.

On the road to a speedy recovery, the hospital staff was great. Santa look-a-likes could be found everywhere. Most of the doctors donned Santa hats and reindeer ears. They went out of their way to bring Christmas cheer to the many sick children. These people were determined to make everyone happy despite the circumstances.

### Visitors

There were many special visitors that stopped by to spread a little happiness. Along with many 'Santas' there were the Indianapolis Colts and their cheerleaders, the Indiana Pacers, and a few magicians. These people also managed to bring about many smiles amidst the drab conditions.

Along with the people, the decorations helped a lot. When you look at a normal strand of Christmas lights and stockings, you don't really stop and think about how simple things can affect people and their moods. The decorations in the hospital gave many people a lift when they seemed to need it most.

Sometimes when I was feeling especially low, I would climb out of bed and go to the lobby to stare at the twelve foot Christmas tree. It was decorated with strands of white lights and ornaments that the kids in the adolescent level had made. One night when I was feeling exceptionally low, I went downstairs to see the

tree. I wasn't alone. There was a little girl about 10 years old and her mother. They were talking about past Christmases. Suddenly, the little girl looked at her mom and said, "Will I be here next Christmas?"

I was shocked. Little kids shouldn't have to worry about stuff like that. That was when I realized just how lucky I was.

On December 23, I was told that I could go home for the holidays. Despite still being very sick I had convinced them that I was ready. As I got ready to leave the hospital I realized how lucky I was to be going home for good. So many of these kids were going to be here for so long and I was upset about possibly not making it home for Christmas.

### True meaning

Through all of that I found one of the very true meanings of Christmas. Through everything, my family stood by me. They cheered me up when I was down and most assuredly helped me to get well quickly. No matter what, they were there for me. Without them I know that I wouldn't have made it. They are the true meaning of the holidays. I also realized that I shouldn't take anything for granted. You never know what you have until it's taken away. Appreciate it while it's there. You'll never know just how lucky you are until you meet people who are less fortunate.

## Choosing between parents isn't easy

By Trisha Vaughn  
Senior Staff Reporter

Eight years ago, when my parents divorced, I never thought I would be spending Christmas with two different, extended families.

Each of my parents, since the divorce, has taken on a new partner to spend their life with. I have come to accept this, but not without a whole lot of heartbreak.

### Memories

I remember the first Christmas without my father at home. I felt so empty. I remember sitting in front of the Christmas tree in awe over all the presents, and then it dawned on me when my mother was the only one who walked down the stairs: No dad!

I couldn't understand why he wasn't with us. The only thing I felt was anger and hatred for my father because he chose another family over us.

All I could think was: "We were his first family, we were here before they were. How dare he." How does a nine year old face such confusing emotions? I loved my dad, but I felt betrayed.

Each year I am pressed with the same questions: "Who are you spending Christmas day

with?" "Who are you spending Christmas Eve with?" I hate having to make these decisions. Christmas day has always been the most important day in the family, because it is an all day affair. Christmas Eve lasts only for a couple hours.

I feel whoever I spend Christmas Eve with is getting cheated out of time. For the past two years I have spent Christmas Eve with my dad and his new family. I go to his house, eat, talk, open presents and leave. I feel like it's a job. Every year the same thing happens.

Then I go home, go to bed, wake up, and the next morning I go downstairs where presents have miraculously re-appeared. I wait until my grandparents come over, and then open presents with them. My uncles, aunts, cousins, mother's boyfriend, his parents, and his children all come over.

I can't help wondering about what my dad is doing. Is he having a good time with his new family? Does it make up for the one he lost? Does he wonder about me and what I am doing? Despite all the gifts, there is still a hole in my heart.

All I can remember is how I used to have my family together. Sometimes I wish I had it

all back again. But I understand that it just cannot be. I am glad he has a new family, and somewhere to go, because I love them all dearly. And I've gained a little brother who makes it all worthwhile. I wouldn't know what it would really be like without him.

### Decisions

This year I'll probably be pressed with the same questions again. Who gets Christmas Eve and who gets Christmas day? And I will probably pick the same as last year and feel guilty all over again.

It's not because I love one more than the other, it's more out of convenience. The decision is easy for me.

Because I live with my mom I'll stay with her. It's hard to be torn at a time when everything is supposed to be happy. I don't like the situation and I cannot change it. All I can do is make the most of it.

The best suggestion I can give to anyone who is torn with the same situation I am in: take heart, your parents mean well. Just because you cannot have them both at the same time doesn't mean they don't love you. Make the best of your situation. You have been given more people to love.

Art By David Finn



## My View


Minorities face disadvantages  
Counterpoint

By Yakini Foster  
Senior Staff Reporter

Being a minority has not at all been any advantage in life. Just because I am a black female and come from a middle class family attending a predominantly white institution does not mean I will be automatically given a minority scholarship.

Society has a misinterpretation of what it is like to be black. We have never been given anything we didn't deserve. If a black person is ever awarded something, I'm sure it is only because he has earned it with hard work.

While competing in several journalism contests, I obtained awards and honorable mentions for my earnest and honest efforts. After practicing every day when I was 15, I made an All-Star summer league basketball team playing with some of the area's finest.

My sophomore year I was elected spokesperson for the Black Student Union. I achieved all of these things not by being what I am, but by being who I am.

For so many years, blacks have been unjustly denied the recognition which they so honestly deserve. Blacks such as Dr. Daniel Hale (performed the first successful heart operation), Jean Du Sable (Founder of Chicago), Lewis Latimer (creator of the patent application for the telephone), and Dr. Charles Drew (an important medical researcher who performed blood transfusions on World War II vets), the entire world owes a debt of profound gratitude. Thousands of other black writers, architects, inventors, scientists, and doctors have all gone unrecognized as well.

Since blacks have made such a valid contribution to our nation's history, shouldn't our nation contribute as well to our young black people's futures?

I feel it is only right that minorities have specialty funds solely for themselves. It is very important that we be given an equal opportunity to continue our education. After so many years of oppression, discrimination, and poverty, I believe the majority owes us a lot more than any amount a scholarship can offer.

I don't agree that every black person should qualify for a minority scholarship, and I am sure everyone won't. I feel that any black, Hispanic, or other minority trying to better themselves be given that chance. We want the same opportunity that every normal American boy should get.



Amy Harris shows her frustrations while working on the yearbook. (photo by Santiago Flores.)



It's the holiday season again. Visiting grandmas, aunts, cousins and many more "fun-to-be with" relatives are on their way. You get the annual comments on your growth and how much you look like your parents. After you've been pinched and poked until you're sore, you get stuck eating between your BIG Aunt Birtha and Uncle Fred.

Everyone eats until they're sick. The family sits around groaning about how much weight they've gained, but two seconds later they are headed for the kitchen for a snack.

Next comes the opening of the presents. While your siblings get their dream gifts, you get stuck with electrically heated underwear with matching socks. You wonder if anyone notices your fake smile as you give Aunt Birtha a big thank-you hug.

The exciting midnight mass is what follows this joyous day. You're looking forward to the relatives who always end up next to you and eventually fall asleep and kindly drool on your shoulder.

I hope your holidays are as memorable as mine.

Happy Holidays and have an awesome New Year!!!

## On Second Thought

## Average people need financial aid


By Tim Firestone  
Senior Staff Reporter

I am a 17 year old white male. I am a senior in high school. I come from a two parent middle class home. I have three brothers which are all younger than me. I am an average student with a 2.6 G.P.A. (grade point average). You would say that sounds like a typical American boy.

Unfortunately, when it comes to trying to get scholarships for college I'm too normal. I'm not black, hispanic, a girl, Polish, disabled, or anything that would qualify me for a specialty scholarship.

I admit I slacked off in school and did not make astonishing grades, but I'm no Einstein. I could have done better, but even if I had done my best, I still wonder if that would have been good enough.

I have three brothers who will be going through college. My parents make \$55,000 a year combined. That might sound good to some, but when you figure a college education will cost on the average \$40,000 for four years of schooling, that isn't that much.

My only hope is to qualify for financial aid. Again, there is that hang up about my parents' income. It will hinder my ability to qualify compared to the poorer kids applying.

I can't give any brilliant solution, but I think people should be aware of the discrepancy.

If someone were to come out with a scholarship for only middle-class white males, people would be crying discrimination.

Well right now I'm crying discrimination. We need to help the middle-class students get money for college. They need it just like blacks, hispanics, and poor students do; maybe not as bad, but we need some help.

I don't want to say that none of it is my fault. Like I said, I could have done better. But I still feel like I'm being punished for being too normal. Society is so worried about satisfying the minorities, but for heaven's sake don't forget the majority.

When I grow up and become rich (hopefully) I promise that I will endow a scholarship for the most normal kid I can find and I will pay for his entire education. I don't care what people cry out. Someone needs to stop being so intimidated, and to start helping the middle-class.

The United States government should offer tuition tax breaks to middle class families; or perhaps should encourage a tax-free savings plan which parents can contribute to each year, penalty free.

The state of Nevada offers all of its in-state residents a nearly free education at its state-run universities. Perhaps Indiana could follow suit in this progressive legislation.

While the civil rights movement has gone a long way in helping the country's minorities; it hasn't helped the middle class one whit.

The middle class gets burned on taxes, and subsidizes all of our government programs. Why can't we, then, benefit as well?

Most of America is in the middle class. What is so wrong with being normal? That is all I ask.



## UPS-N-DOWNS

## Thumbs up

- to those who attended school on Audit Day.
- to Dominos for bringing us pizzas at lunch.
- to getting out of school for two weeks - we need a break!
- to people who pledged *The Review* singers.
- to Mr. Horvath having after school cat dissection for those interested.
- to the Physics classes with their banana cars.
- to the new lab consisting of over thirty computers.
- to the Latin classes having an opportunity to visit Rome.
- to those who have already taken the S.A.T.
- to all those who have finished their holiday shopping.

## Thumbs down

- to those who carve into the bathroom stalls.
- to a leak-in the pool.
- to people who don't use turn signals when dropping off students or turning into the parking lot
- to people who are against other people showing spirit
- to people who don't buy *The Review*.
- to pushy people in the hallways
- to people who put down cheerleaders without knowing the time and effort they put in.
- to people who are slacking off in their school work.
- to having ten page theme papers and intense take home tests to do over holiday vacation.



# Jessica Ross gets the chance of a lifetime

By *Lindsey Cohn*  
Staff Reporter

Jessica Ross, senior, will pack up her bags second semester to study the Hebrew culture in Israel first hand.

From February 5 to March 31, Ross will visit Israel on the Vivian Brown Scholarship, which is a scholarship to help Jewish teens go to Israel on some type of credit program.

This will enable Jessica to let "Israel become her textbook," according to the brochure for the Alexander Muss High School in Israel Program.

For eight weeks, Ross will go to school from Sunday to Friday afternoons. In the mornings, she will attend the program's classes (taught in English). During the morning classes, Ross and her classmates will travel in Israel, and learn about the country by sightseeing. Then, in the afternoons, a tutor will help her with her independent study classes from home.

Even though Ross has traveled to places such as Italy, France, Holland, and England, her favorite place to visit is Israel.

"When I went there, even though I was only there for a week, there was a feeling of security. I felt safe. It was like I had something in common with the whole country," said Ross.

Although Ross' parents will miss her, they feel it will be a wonderful opportunity, and hopefully a fun and educational experience.

"I hope she'll have a better understanding of the difficulties that Israel as a country faces, surrounded by the most part with unfriendly neighbors. We, as Americans, cannot understand their hostility because we don't live there," said Jill Ross, Jessica's mother.

Jack Ross, Ross's younger brother and a sophomore at Riley, feels that his sister's trip will be an enlightening experience for her. When he first heard that Jessica was leaving, his initial reaction was, "Hallelujah!" but he still plans to write and communicate with her while she's gone.

Some of the other people that are going to miss Ross are her friends. A cousin and friend of Jessica's, Allison Goldberg said, "I'll miss her. It's going to be weird not to see her every week and not talk to her every

day."

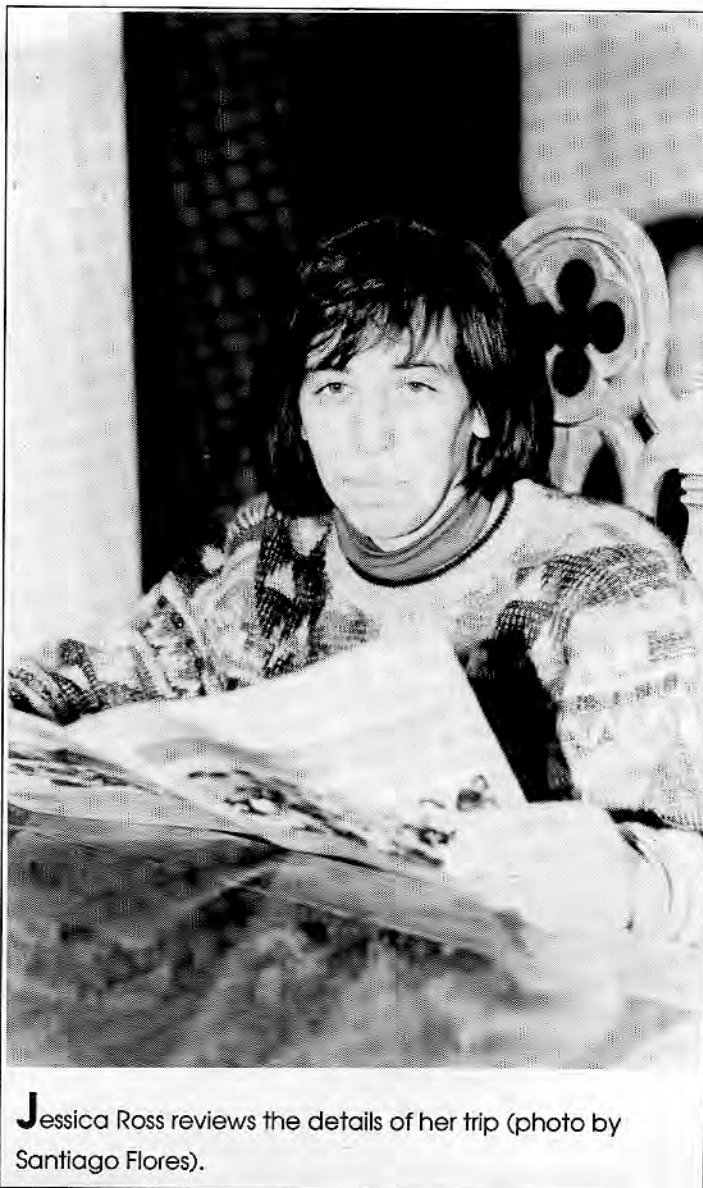
If you're ever walking down the halls at Riley, you may know Jessica as the girl with a smile that's always on her face. Her cousin, friend and freshman at Riley, Amy Fried, describes her as, "Always smiling, always there to talk to, kind, sweet, small and helpful!"

Goldberg says that Ross is very open, willing to listen to people, and definitely has her own ideas about things.

One might think that a person wouldn't want to go to Israel because of all the terrorism; but Ross, her friends, and her family aren't too worried.

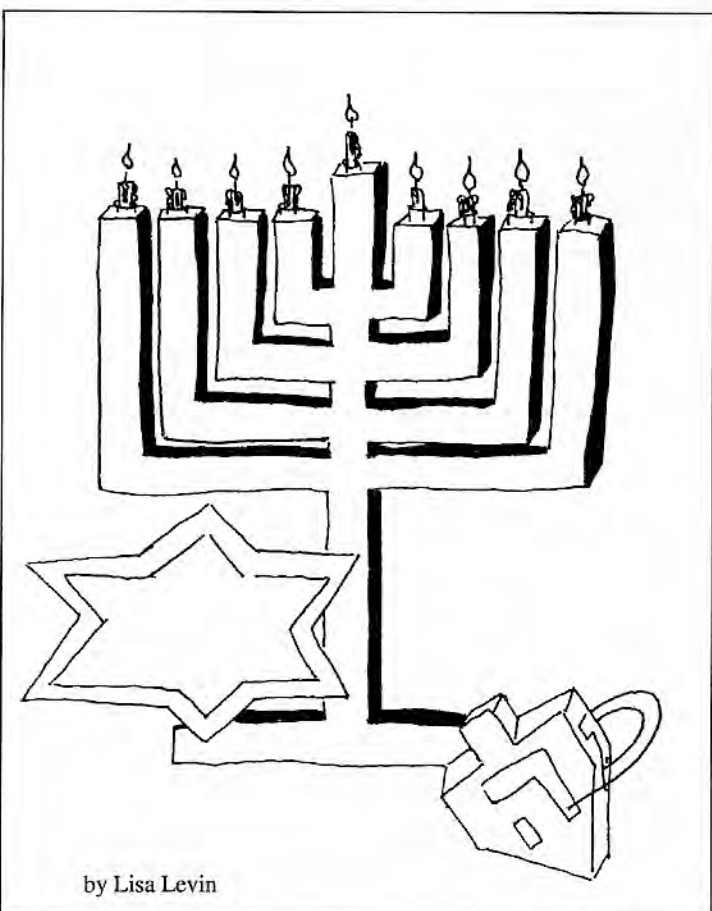
Jack Ross claims that the terrorism is exaggerated, and Goldberg feels that Jessica will be safer in Israel than she'd in New York City. According to the brochure, "Israel is statistically safer than any metropolitan area in the United States."

Although Ross plans to learn a lot from her experiences, she's already gained a lot from her travels in the past. She says that one thing she's learned is, "Even though people might have different languages, cultures, or colors, they still are human beings and they all have the same kind of emotions."



Jessica Ross reviews the details of her trip (photo by Santiago Flores).

# Hanukkah is seen in different lights



by Lisa Levin

By *Lisa Levin*  
Senior Staff Reporter

"Nase gadol haya shahm" is Hebrew for "A great miracle happened here. It is referring to the ancient defeat of the Greek army by the Jewish people. It is the basis of the holiday, Hanukkah, which started on December 2 this year.

"Gift giving is not the main point of the holiday. The main idea is lighting the candles in remembrance of the miraculous victory," commented Rabbi Joel Yormark, teacher at the South Bend Hebrew Day School.

## Gifts

Every year at this time in the season the Rabbi gets to teach his students about the victory the Jews celebrated. The Greeks had the Jews under total power, they tried to force the Jews into giving up their religion. The Jews couldn't keep the Jewish calen-

der, keep their Sabbath, study their bible; and all the Jewish girls had to sleep with the Greek governor before they could get married, it was a rule.

## History

After they defeated the Greeks they lit their Menorah (candelabrum) with only a drop of oil expected to last at the most a day, but it lasted eight days.

To some, this splendid fairy tale like past is worth remembrance, but to others that is not the case. "What does the holiday mean to me?" Lisa Miller, junior, asked, "Nothing..." then after a few seconds thought, "...presents. It never meant anything to me before either. It just meant a lot of singing and getting off of school."

Others prefer not to see it that way. Lindsey Barton, sophomore, enjoys the holiday. She said that it is a time to be closer with her family. Her sister comes home from college and her other

sister, who is in Israel studying to be a Rabbi, is contacted during Hanukkah by the phone, a rare treat.

Barton has a feeling of pride as she sets her Menorah on the windowsill for all to see. It is an electric one that can "burn" all night.

Another family that uses the electric Menorah is the Hoover family. Todd Hoover, photography teacher, is a converted Jew, so he has had the opportunity to celebrate both holidays. Christmas time for him as a child was not fun. He lived in a co-dependent family. His father, being an alcoholic, did not help matters. His holidays with his parents and sisters were terrible experiences. "The switch (from Christmas to Hanukkah) was not a difficult one," says Hoover.

Unlike some families, Hoover doesn't celebrate both Hanukkah; see Flip Side

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## Hannukkah:

Continued from page 7

both holidays. "Not at all. At first (after the switch) I wouldn't even acknowledge Christmas, now I'll acknowledge it, but I don't buy Christmas presents. Sometimes I'll go to my parents' house the day after Christmas, but never on the day."

Rabbi Yormark also feels the holidays aren't related much. "Not at all. One has nothing to do with the other," he said.

He believes that Christmas was somehow patterned after Hanukkah. Hanukkah is on the 25th day of Kislev (Jewish month on Hebrew calendar). Some people think they are similar because they both involve lighting candles. Christmas also falls on the 25th of the month.

Joel Szymanowski, junior and Miller's boyfriend, can see similarities between the two holidays. He feels there aren't as many religious families and the holidays have both been turned into a time for gift giving and family get-togethers.

If people know the origins of the holidays, they will realize they are nothing alike, said Barton. She gets annoyed when people try to turn one holiday into another. "Like a Hanukkah push," she explains.

Hoover almost thinks the holidays are competitive, but he doesn't like to use that phrase. Both holidays are in December, and both have been commercialized.

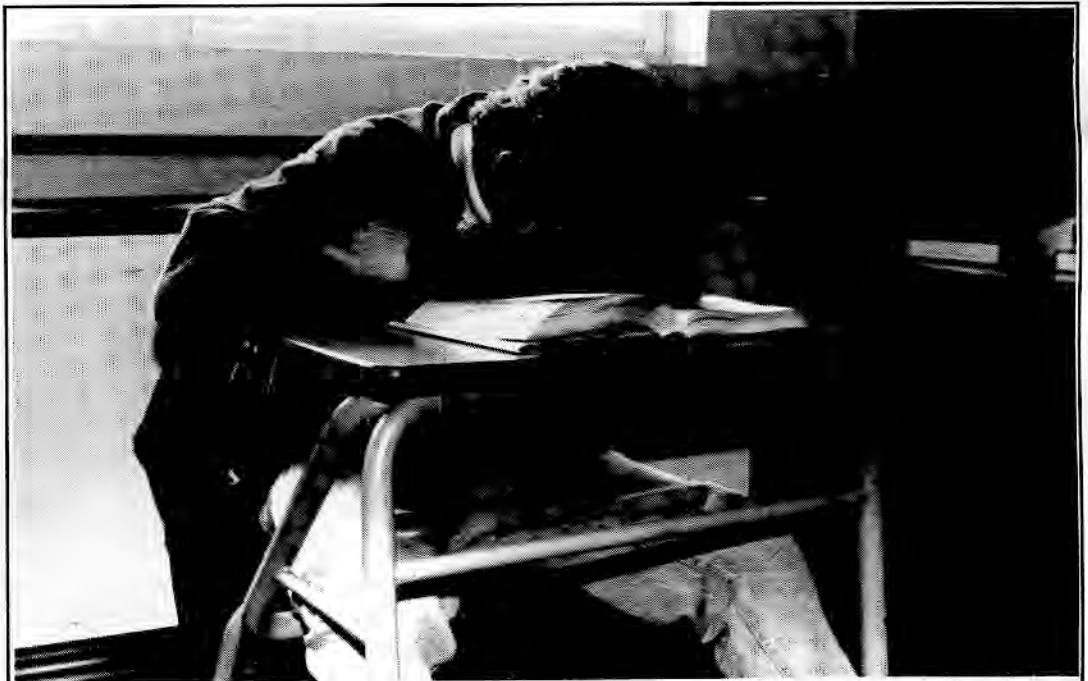
Hoover feels the holidays are taken for granted, "Sometimes," he explains, "When you're young you like to say things don't matter, but deep down or later on in life they will matter. It's just something you do, something your parents do, and your grandparents have done; and that makes it kind of special."

Szymanowski, who is not Jewish, enjoyed celebrating Miller's holiday with her. He still doesn't fully understand the holiday though, "because even Lisa doesn't know all about it," he said.

Matt Hummel, freshman, spent a Hanukkah night with his friend Howie Levin, also a freshman. He really had a good time. He enjoyed listening to the singing of the prayers and the songs that followed. He thought it seemed like a very joyous time.

His favorite part was playing "Spin the Dreidle" (a spinning top with Hebrew initials of Nese gadol haya shahm on the sides). "I learned a lot," he said, "I learned what the initials on it stood for."

"Well, there's a nun (Hebrew letter beginning the word nase) which means you get none. Then there's the gimel which means get all. The heh is for half and the shin you put one in," he answered proudly. He was referring to a game that is played with the dreidle and coins.



Devlon Stokes, junior, finished all his assignments for the day after he'd been in C.O.R.E. for about an hour. The rest of his time was spent like this (photo by Santiago Flores).

## Discipline:

Continued from page 1

dent a reduced punishment he is not allowed to increase the severity of the disciplinary action, Sriver said.

There are presently two alternatives to expulsion and due processing.

Home bound instruction is one of them. According to Sriver, a teacher would go to the student's home to teach the student.

He added that this option is rarely used.

A more popular alternative is adult education, which is the something as night school, said Sriver.

"I don't think C.O.R.E. works, it's a waste of time. I don't think lock-out works, it's a waste of time. I don't send anyone to C.O.R.E. because people who deserve C.O.R.E. don't accomplish anything in my class, so why should I assume they are going to do anything in C.O.R.E.?" said Fran Kiene, social studies teacher.

Jim Fenters, business and marketing teacher, said that he thinks administrators are generally supportive. However he adds, "I wonder what constraints they're under. I wonder how much support they have, and how much they really can do," he added.

General consensus is that the system is too lax.

"The system is not tough enough. The tougher you are the higher expectations are. Tougher punishment would be more productive," said Woodruff.

However Woodruff, at the present time, does not have solutions readily available. "If I could answer that, I'd write a book and make a million dollars," he said.

The SBCSC discipline system does not work because there is no bottom line, according to Kiene. "Rules apply one day but not the next," he said.

The system does not have a policy for handling repeat offenders.

"We used to have a street academy (Whitney Young Alternative School) for those who didn't last in a classroom situation. But because of a lack of funds and lack of foresight on the part of some administrators, we don't have it any more," said Kiene.

Spears said that the SBCSC should reinstate an alternative school program; but should insure that it is well run.

Many solutions have been tossed around among students and staff in the SBCSC.

George McCullough, Riley principal, said problem students should be doing something constructive as their penalty; he suggested mandating hours of community service.

He added that a committee would have to get together and work to find means of implementing it.

Students who have served time in C.O.R.E. have suggestions for ways that would better deter them from breaking school rules.

Don Moody, senior, said

students should have to sit through a full day, boring lecture, rather than spend time in C.O.R.E. Students would not want to have to pay attention to a speaker for that amount of time.

Another student, junior Devlon Stokes, places the blame on teacher attitudes. "If one of my teachers wouldn't have taken such a negative attitude towards me at the beginning of the year, I wouldn't have had a bad attitude towards him; and many of my discipline problems would have been solved," he said.

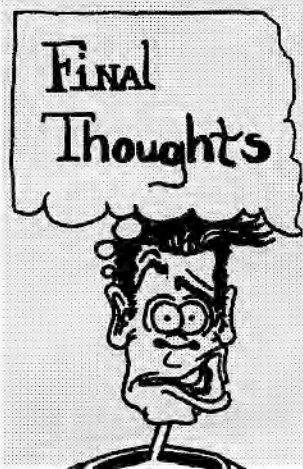
In college teacher training programs, both cooperative and peer discipline programs are being promoted.

"In cooperative discipline, all of the various factions in the school work together," said Richmond Calvin, education professor, and instructor of the discipline class at Indiana University at South Bend.

The administration, the nurse, the janitors, the cafeteria workers, and the teachers would all discipline students. The person most capable of solving a specific problem would be called in to help the others deal with problem students.

"In peer discipline, students would work to mold each other in a positive way," said Calvin.

Teachers and administrators would pick a group of student leaders from all walks of the student ranks and teach them skills such as conflict resolution, peer counseling, and positive leadership, he said.



### Winter Recess

Winter break will be from December 23 until January 3. Classes will resume January 6.

### Financial Aid Night

Financial aid night will be on January 14, at 7 p.m. in the Riley Cafeteria.

### Mid-Year Reports

On Friday, January 17, there

will be no school for students because of mid-year reports.

### Test Dates

The S.A.T. will be held January 25, April 6, May 2, and June 6.

The A.C.T. will be held February 8, April 11, and June 13.

### Rotary

Senior, Natalie Balog was selected as the Riley representative to Rotary for the last six

week period.

### Macy's Superstar

Senior, Stacey Verbanac performed in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. She received this honor because she was a National Cheerleading Association All-American Superstar.

### Recreation

The fall recreation activities that are going on at Riley will

be canceled until school resumes the week of January 6.

### Test Results

Results from the P.S.A.T. and the P.A.C.T.+ are available to be picked up in the guidance office. Scores, test booklets, and interpretive booklets will be given to students. Students can make appointments with their counselor to further explain results.