

THE MAXWELL INQUIRERS

William H. Maxwell Vocational High School
Brooklyn, New York

Volume #2
Issue #4
December 1998



An Interview with Ms. Bloom

by Ayesha Jones



The teacher I interviewed was Ms. Bloom. Ms. Bloom is a new member of the Math Department in Maxwell. She teaches Sequential Math one and two. She finds Maxwell to be a wonderful environment where the teachers are willing to put all their time and effort into helping children.

Ms. Bloom studied psychology in college and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in science and psychology. When I asked her how she came to be a teacher she replied, "Well, my studies have only just begun. Becoming a teacher is only the beginning. I will continue with my education." I also asked her what inspired her to become a teacher. She stated, "I grew up with teachers in my home and in my family and watching

them help children has been a wonderful influence on my career. Helping children is an extraordinary experience and very worthwhile."

My last question dealt with what she hopes to accomplish here at Maxwell. She said, "Success is knowing that what I've taught and given will make even the least bit of difference in a child's education and life. Through this I gain a sense of reward."

Future Business Leaders of America: Fall District Meeting

by FBLA Members

On November 6, 1998, eight members of the FBLA and one advisor attended the FBLA fall district meeting. Maxwell was represented at the meeting by Maria Beato, Stephanie Camacho, Juana Collado, Mildred Hungria, Edwin Ortiz,



Karen Perry, Natalie Rougier and Joselyn Torres. The members were advised by Ms. Paris. The meeting was held at Norman Thomas High School in Manhattan.

Many workshops took place at the meeting. Some of the workshops were "What is FBLA?", "Running for State Office", and "Chapter of the Year". Members attended workshops in pairs to participate in discussions on the topics introduced in the workshops. In addition to the workshops, many important people were introduced in the main auditorium. They discussed the tasks of the FBLA.

Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the trip. We were very happy and honored to represent our school and the FBLA Club. We expect this year to be the best year yet for the FBLA and hope other students will become interested in becoming a member. If you are interested in joining the Future Business Leaders of America Club, contact Ms. Paris or any of the members listed above.

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Have Problems? **Ask Maxine!**



Leave your letters for "Maxine" in The Maxwell Inquirers' mailbox in the main office. "Maxine" will consult with the experts and respond to you in the next issue of **The Maxwell Inquirers.**

EDITORIAL POLICY

The purpose of this publication is to inform the Maxwell community about issues and events relevant to the life of the community members of William H. Maxwell Vocational High School. The views presented are not necessarily those of The Maxwell Inquirers; however, all published materials are fact-based. The Maxwell Inquirers reserves the right to edit and/or censor all materials prior to publication.

Please Note: Columns reflect the opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the view of The Maxwell Inquirers staff as a whole.

Letters to The Inquirers



As you all know, the holiday season is around the corner. Everyone is ready for their winter vacation. During our vacation there will be many recreational possibilities and choices concerning movies.



A movie that should be a pick for everyone is The Prince of Egypt. This movie is based on an epic tale from The Bible. This cartoon film tells the story of Moses from the moment he was found floating in the Nile as a baby and rescued by a woman who becomes his new mother. His upbringing and his power form the heart of this film.

The Prince of Egypt is full of wonderful animated pictures and scenes. The amazing splitting of the Red Sea is beautiful and contains a powerful religious message. I hope that during your vacation, you view this film.

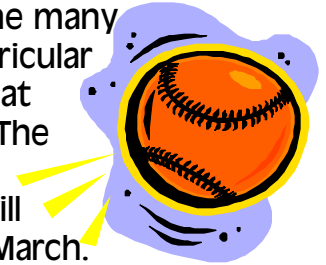
I pray that everyone has a holiday season filled with happiness. Have a safe vacation.

Edwin Ortiz

Softball

by Tiffany Smith

Softball is a game like baseball, but it is played with a larger, softer ball. Softball is one of the many extra curricular activities at Maxwell. The softball season will begin in March.



The team will play fifteen games.

Last year's record was five and ten. The team won five games and lost ten games. The team was comprised of a lot of rookie players, including myself. The team went through many highs and lows during the season and formed lasting rivalries with other teams.

Hopefully, this year there will be some changes such as winning more games, getting new players, buying new uniforms and having more batting opportunities. We have at least seven veteran players returning from last year's team and expect to do very well this year.

Mr. Juliano coaches the team. If you are interested in learning more about softball and the team, visit Mr. Juliano in the Social Studies Office.

"Violence Prevention Month"

January is violence prevention month. As a part of the recognition of the need to work to prevent violence, Maxwell's SPARK program has planned several activities. Special classroom presentations concerning violence prevention will take place. On January 7, 1999 the Peer Players will present their production of "Moving Too Fast". Look for pamphlets on violence prevention that will be distributed throughout the month.

The Max Poll

We polled 75 members of the Maxwell community to find out when people think it's appropriate to begin talking to children about sexual matters. Most of the people we polled felt that a child's sexual education should begin in elementary school. A few thought that education of this kind is most appropriate for junior high students. Even fewer thought that high school aged children are best equipped to learn about sexual matters. Some did not give an opinion.

Thirty three people felt that sex education should begin between pre-kindergarten and the third grade. One eleventh grader stated that, "I think they should be told as soon as possible or whenever they would like to know." Twenty seven "pollees" believed that upper elementary students (4-6 grade) are ready to learn about sexual matters. Another junior said, "I think they should be told early because you shouldn't have to lie and tell fictional stories to your kids." Ten people felt that sex education should be delayed until junior high school and two people felt that sex education should wait until children are in high school. One security officer said, "I think senior high is best because you can go into more detail about what you're explaining to your kids."



Scholarship Bulletin

The NYC Board of Education is pleased to announce the National Association of Hispanic Journalists is offering scholarships to aspiring young journalists. High school seniors who are planning to attend college in the Fall of 1999 and expect to major in print or broadcast journalism are eligible to apply for the scholarships. The scholarship awards range from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00.

Scholarship recipients will be selected based on academic excellence, demonstrated interest in Journalism, and financial need. Applications and materials may be submitted in Spanish or English. Completed applications must be postmarked on or before February 26, 1999. For information and applications contact Lizzette Jeanness, Program Assistant, National Association of Hispanic Journalists, 1193 National Press Building, 529 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC. 20045.

Surfing with "Webster"



So many Web sites, so little time! Therefore, try these sites to help you with your school and personal research:

For teachers:

<http://www.capecod.net/schrockguide/>

Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators is a classified list of sites on the internet to be useful for enhancing curriculum.

For students:

<http://forum.swarthmore.edu/dr.math/dr-math.html>

This site is devoted to assisting students will mathematical questions.



After your "surf", drop me a brief line and tell me what you think of these sites.

Contest Corner

America On Line is sponsoring the **"Do the Right Thing Essay Contest."**

This contest calls for an essay about an ethical or moral choice you have made. All entries must be 3 to 6 pages long. Entries should be typed and double spaced. The due date for this contest is January 25, 1999.

The Fourth Annual Korean Heritage Essay Contest is accepting entries. The essay topic for this year is "How has the study of Korean heritage helped me in school!"

The due date for essays is January 31, 1999.

If you have questions concerning these or any other contests or wish to submit entries, see Ms. Schwartz in the English Office.



Dear Maxine...

Dear Maxine,

My boyfriend of several years is not treating me like he used to when we started the relationship. Maybe, it's because he's used to me. I was talking to a new boy for about a month and he treats me the way my boyfriend should treat me. My boyfriend found out about us. I really love my boyfriend and he loves me, so I told him I will no longer see the new boy. I don't know how to tell him because he's so sweet, cute and loving.

All screwed up

Dear Screwed Up,

I don't think you're being fair to the new boy or your boyfriend. If you are not going to see the new boy anymore, you should tell him right away. It will be difficult, but it is the right thing to do. Just tell him the truth. If you're having problems with your boyfriend, talk things

out with him or break up. Only if you break up should you pursue another relationship.

Dear Maxine,

Almost all of my life people have been making fun of me and at times I get really sad. It makes me want to cry. There is this guy in my neighborhood who is making fun of me and calling me negative names. I told him to stop making fun of me and he would not stop. He has been making fun of me since I was eleven years old. I'm now seventeen years old. I tried everything to stop him from making fun of me, but nothing works. I prayed to God for him to stop. What should I do? Is there hope and truly a chance for him to stop making fun of me?

Upset

Dear Upset,

Unfortunately, people can be very cruel to others. I suggest you do everything

you can to ignore this boy. If he knows he is getting a reaction from you, it may encourage him to continue teasing you. I think you should discuss your problem with a counselor because it sounds like this boy's bad behavior is depressing you.

Dear Maxine,

I have a big problem. You see, I was going out with this guy who is 20 years old and I am 17 years old. I figured age is just a number. Anyway, we were spending a lot of time together and after a while the time faded. He'd call me only when he wanted to and sometimes he didn't answer my beeps. So, I decided to write him a letter and let him know how I felt. After he received my letter, he never called me again. I'm really hurt by that and I feel like I just can't leave it at that. I need some answers. I need to know what went wrong. What should I do?

Secret

Dear Secret,

I know it is difficult, but you can't force this man to communicate with you. It was a cowardly way for him to end the relationship. You might be better off just accepting that it is over and moving on with your life. Don't waste any more time on the past.

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