



The High School View

The High School View is staffed and prepared entirely by students from the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, and published on their behalf by The Martha's Vineyard Times, with the generous assistance of the sponsors whose names appear below.

Vineyarders shut out Nantucket 14-0

BY ZACHARY BRESNICK

The Vineyarders won a shutout victory (14-0) against the Nantucket Whalers at Vito Capizzo Stadium last Saturday. The Vineyarders started strong, forcing a Nantucket fumble that the Vineyard recovered early in the first quarter. On the first offensive play Jacob Cardoza, sophomore running back, ran 66 yards for a touchdown, aided by senior Deshawn James's blocking. Later in the first quarter Austin Chandler, sophomore linebacker, recovered another Nantucket fumble, putting the Vineyard offense led by senior Tony Breth, quarterback, on the field. Cardoza then scored another touchdown with 38 seconds left in the first quarter.

Coach Donald Herman, who has led the Vineyard to



PHOTO BY BELLA CHIMES



PHOTO BY KRISTINE HOPKINS

(Left) Liam Smith, left, Tony Canha, right, and the Vineyarders celebrate their shutout victory against Nantucket last Saturday. (Right) Vineyard fans Charlotte Potter, top, and Michaela Rivard enjoy the exciting game.

17 of its 18 victories in the Island Cup series, described how he tries to motivate his team—or rather how he does not. “Playing the game is a motivation by itself,” said

Mr. Herman. “There is a lot of community pride for our football team, and the players didn't want to be known as the team that lost the Island Cup after a 9-year winning

streak.” To handle this pressure, the team handled game preparations a little differently for Nantucket. Said Coach Herman, “We had four practices for Nantucket

and our quarterback, Tony, returned after an injury. He managed the offense well.” “Defense had an overall great game with a few takeaways and fourth down

stops,” said junior Paul Jeffers-Mayhew. “The intensity was at a season high.”

In the fourth quarter senior Joe Turney, defensive back and team captain, intercepted the ball from Nantucket with 3:30 remaining, sealing the victory. Said senior John Henry O'Shaughnessy, “Pride was at stake. The Cup. Not taking the lead in the series.”

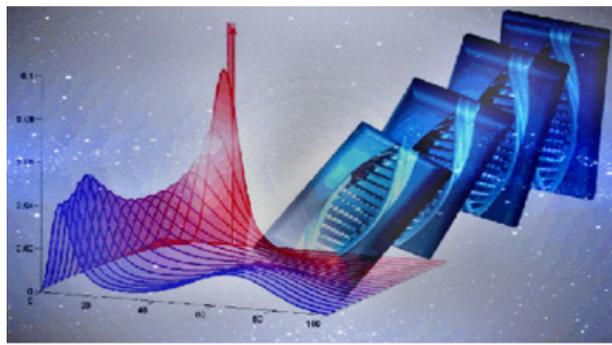
According to coach Herman, this was the first time in Island Cup history that the Vineyard won a shutout on Nantucket. The boat ride home was packed, brimming with life and excitement. The players were then greeted at the dock by fire trucks and ambulances with blazing horns and flashing lights. Both the Vineyard and Nantucket ended their season with a 5-6 record, though the Vineyard has won the Island Cup 10 years straight, and now leads the series 18-17. **MSV**

Grad works to save world from superbugs

BY NATHANIEL HORWITZ

Complex biomolecular interactions can now be mathematically conceptualized for the first time thanks to regional high school graduate Patrick Smadbeck. Working with University of Minnesota professor Yiannis Kaznessis, Mr. Smadbeck solved a series of mathematical conundrums that have confounded scientists for more than seven decades. The two are co-authors of a paper titled “A Closure Scheme for Chemical Master Equations” in the current issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, a leading scientific journal. The equations are the only complete model of probability in biomolecular networks, with implications for pharmaceutical development and biological research.

Mr. Smadbeck and his twin brother Jamie graduated from MVRHS in 2005. Both studied chemical engineering at the Massachusetts



VISUAL PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

A representation of Mr. Smadbeck's mathematical model.

Institute of Technology and currently pursue doctorates in the subject, Jamie at Princeton University and Patrick at the University of Minnesota.

Their former high school math teacher Craig Dripps has fond memories of the twins. “I taught for 38 years, and the Smadbeck twins were by far my smartest students. They taught me, actually,” said Mr. Dripps, laughing. “I remember in 2004 they successfully calculated the chances of the Red Sox winning the World Series.” Mr. Smadbeck's breakthrough relied on differential concepts, which he

learned from Mr. Dripps. When Mr. Dripps learned about Mr. Smadbeck's paper, he was not surprised. “Their minds are so extraordinary. I'm very excited and really proud of him. Those two are destined to do great things.”

Mr. Smadbeck had similar feelings towards his old math teacher. “My brother and I came out of middle school two years ahead in math, so we had Mr. Dripps for four years. He really helped us,” said Patrick. Mr. Smadbeck was modest about his work, although he admitted to its difficulty. “I started two years ago. Now we

have established a numerical solution to a series of problems previously considered unsolvable,” he said, “Now we are extending the work, trying to apply it to biomolecular problems in reality rather than theory. We've already had a couple good results, and we just need to connect the dots. We should publish again soon, and I will probably graduate this spring.”

Said Mr. Kaznessis, “Patrick has been an exceptional researcher since he joined my group four and a half years ago. Engineering relies on mathematical models, but until now describing biological systems has been far too complex.” Noting the rising threat of antibiotic-resistant superbugs, Mr. Kaznessis said, “We are trying to engineer antibiotic technologies based on lactic acids that can target food-borne pathogens. There is a lot of work to be done, but we are starting development and a couple of companies have expressed interest. Patrick's work is a step forward in our quest to understand living organisms and develop effective treatments.” **MSV**

Read this book

BY NATHANIEL HORWITZ

The young adult novel “Speak”, by Laurie Halse Anderson, should be required reading for all incoming freshmen. The protagonist, Melinda Sordino, is raped at a party the summer before freshman year. She calls the cops but is unable to speak and flees the party. Cops break up the party, arrest students, and Melinda enters high school an outcast. Her friends abandon her, her grades plummet, and her parents fail to support her, leaving Melinda sunken in depression. Throughout the year, Melinda discovers her talent at basketball and expresses herself through art, recovering from her trauma and at last confronting her attacker. “Speak”, which won more than a dozen honors and was a finalist for the National Book Award, is a tale of identity, courage, and finding one's voice. More importantly, it is a rejection of violence and victimization. As required

reading for incoming freshmen, “Speak” would encourage kindness, bravery, and confidence. It would also promote sexual assault awareness, drawing a clear line about what is acceptable, and what is evil. This is an essential step in reducing sexual violence during a time when the number of sexual assaults is on the rise.

According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), there are almost a quarter of a million sexual assaults a year in the United States, of which 60 percent are never reported. RAINN estimates that one in six women will be the victim of an attempted or completed rape.

Faced with such horrendous figures, it is hard to know where to start in the fight against sexual violence. One step would be raising awareness of not only the physical damage, but the lasting emotional harm caused by rape, and encouraging both girls and boys to speak out against their attackers. Assigning “Speak” to all incoming freshmen would be a good way to start. **MSV**

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