

Irvington Varsity "I" Club Newsletter

Vito Miele

P. O. Box 184

Lavallette, NJ 08735

(732) 793-6689

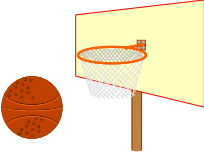
E-mail: VarsityI@aol.com

Web site: <http://www.varsityi.com>



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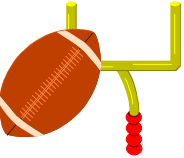
HI FOLKS:

Labor day, summer is over. How was your summer, did you have a good vacation? Is there some thing interesting about your vacation that you would like to have your classmates and fellow teammates know about? Did the grandchildren visit with you? What did you do this summer? How about sharing some of the summer incidents with us.

This pass July we received notification of two of our active members who fell and broke their hips. This all occurred after the July Newsletter and therefore I was unable to tell you about it. However I did come up with this program of all the people in our group who have Computers. I was able to send email letters to those people who have computers, so if you wish to get news in between Newsletters, please, write me or notify me of your email address and I will put you on our e-mail list.



We only expect to use this method when injuries happen or deaths occur in between Newsletter. It is our hope that the people who receive this News earlier or in between will in some way spread the information to classmates or others who may be classmates of the injured. The gentlemen who fell and broke their hips within a week of each other are Paul Lipkin '36, now living in Florida, and Ed Heim '29, living in Pt Pleasant N.J. from the years of graduation you can see that these gentlemen are old trimmers Both gentlemen are coming along fine and are now in rehab.

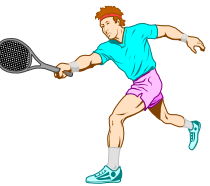


In no way do we expect to use this Newsletter as an Obituary Column. Or to notify you of some person misfortune, we will try to notify you via email and the computer. For all those folks with Computers our email address is located at the top of this first page of the Newsletter.

Now I would like to add a little humor to the Newsletter. The following was taken from our Church Bulletin. I hope you enjoy it, I did.

A taxi passenger tapped the driver on the shoulder to ask him something. The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the footpath and stopped centimeters from a shop window. For a second everything went quite in the cab. Then the driver said, "Look mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the daylights out of me"

The passenger apologized and said he didn't realize that a little tap could scare him so much. The driver replied, "Sorry, it's not really your fault. Today is the first day as a cab driver. I've been driving hearses for the last 25 years."



We all know about what is going on in the community that we all lived in and was educated at Irvington High by some wonderful teachers, who have left lasting memories with us. I now found out information that is very revealing to what is going on in our former community. This information concerns approximately five ex Irvington High scholars. Dorothy Hecht, now living in Convent Station, Ruth Bonner, living in Union, Myrtle Hodapp, living in Springfield, and the sisters, Trudy Held and Amy Held, all living in Union. I don't have their graduating years but these women, some widowed, are all close to eighty years old.

On Sunday mornings they jump into their autos and attend Church, of course they pick each other up and attend in a group. You are going to be surprised where they attend Church. They are all members of the First Congregational Christian Church located across the street from Irvington High School, to be more specific, the church on the old Jacobi Florist property, right next to the brook.

I asked why they attend there, and the response was we like the Reverend. Rev. Watson, a black female minister who has done wonders for the church. There are approximately fifteen white women and fifty blacks in the congregation who pray together so the Town will survive with the white and blacks praying for its survival.

Now that takes guts by these women coming from out of Town after reading in the papers, of the rapes, murders, stolen cars, Irvington fire fighters seeking Police escorts because when called and attending fires the crowds shooting fire works at them making it impossible to fight the fire. When the white police shoot and kill a black habitual violator, they want an investigation by a new created civilian review board.

As recent as Sun. July 29, two Irvington men were charged with shooting at a barbecue in nearby Maplewood. "The gunshots were going off so fast I knew somebody would be dead," a 60-year-old woman who lives on the street recalled yesterday. "After that I couldn't go back to sleep."

When a female tax payer goes before the Town Council and request that the Town put up portable toilets on her street because she is tired of seeing her children step in the urine of the prostitutes who urinate wherever they wish.

I mention all the bad things that are going on in our Town to emphasize to you how Brave these women are to attend the Sunday services at their Church. Maybe they feel the Lord will protect them as churchgoers. Or they feel that their cars will not be stolen because they are so close to the police headquarters. Or they feel all the criminals are sleeping at that hour as they may have been up late Sat. night.

Again I ask you to give thanks to these brave ladies for their nerve in going into the Lions Den. Myrtle Hodapp, Ruth Bonner, Dorothy Hecht, and the sisters Trudy and Amy Held. God bless you all Ladies.

BITS AND PIECES:

I got news clipping from Bill Miele'65, now living in No. Carolina that he found in the Raleigh News and Observer. **CHUCK TAYLOR'S RUBBER SOUL'** All you fellows who played basketball wore Chuck Taylor's. It was the only shoe at one time. They were versatile, they were high fashion, and they were every schoolboy's dream. Long before Nike lined Michael Jordan's pockets with gold for reckoning that he preferred their high tech basketball shoes, long before such shoes were engineered with the complexity of a space shuttle by scientist in the Great Northwest, a salesman named Chuck Taylor made some shoes with his name on them famous.

The Chuck Taylor Converse All Star canvas basketball shoe, high top or low top, reigned for more than 40 years. Taylor; a player before the times of high profile professional fame, complained to his bosses at Converse in Chicago, where he was a salesman, that his feet hurt after he played basketball. He redesigned their All Star

Shoe, which had been created in 1917 and it, became Chuck Taylor All Star in 1922.

Another date now stands in that history: a few days ago, the assembly line of the company's last American plant in Lumberton N.C. stopped for good, here after the "Made in USA" stamp on the heel will be gone, the shoes will be made in Indonesia.

The reason Bill sent me this article is that when I had my business Miele's Sporting Goods for 38 years at Irvington Center, Bill who worked with me on many occasions, sold many Chuck Taylor Basketball Shoes. It was one of our best sellers.

Eras end, fashions fade. Free trade has no reverence for tradition., so several hundred North Carolinians have to find other livelihoods and a little more "American graffiti" is erased.

You, the athlete and basketball player all wanted and wore "Chuck Taylor shoes".

ERNEST CLEMENCE '45 Dear Vito: Just a few facts about my life since leaving I.H.S. in '45 1 Navy – 15 months, 2 Upsala College 1947 –51 no football since I banged up my left shoulder playing semi pro with the Irvington Clippers Semi Pro means the other team got paid, we didn't. 3. Married 12/23/50 celebrated 50th 12/23/00

2 children- Pamela and David 3 grandchildren

Amy – all Big Sky in volleyball at Cal. State Northridge

Matthew – All Southern Cal. In football at Saugos High School.

Rachel – Varsity soccer and Volleyball at Saugos

I moved to California in 1965 and enjoying life ever since. I'm a lousy golfer (handicap 42?) but play twice a week.

BOB WEISENBACH'40 writes from Panama City Fl. And sending along a clipping of the 1940 baseball team. And stated, " I don't think the accomplishment of the 1940 team received their due" Seven of the regulars were All State or All State mentioned. Eleven of the team spoke Polish! We had no future Pro stars, mainly because the war interrupted. I have lost contact with the men on this team because I have spent 31 years in the Military and have lost contact with many. I would like to have some info on Norm Smith, Fran Higgins, Elmer Trihart and Fran Lutisan.

Vito: I appreciate all your work for the " I " Club and Irvington Best of Health to you. Signed BobWeisenberg #322

SAUL DONNER '37 There was a wonderful article from the Leisure Village News by Pat Hipp sent to me about Saul Donner. He's the guy who has to take all the photos, get the finger prints, check with the FBI, the coroner, follow up the smallest lead like a dry cleaner's marking. He has one tough job- where there is a body, train wrecks, airplane crashes, and he's there. And here's the beauty part; Serious sleuth that he is, he's a nice guy, he has a sense of humor. He drives around with a license plate that reads HAVFUN. He's a great person and his name is Saul Donner.

Our super sleuth has been retired for quite a while now but he still keeps with the latest in the field. He is a member of the New Jersey Ass'n of Forensic Scientist. And just recently came back from one of their conventions. There are many other wonderful things said about Saul Donner in this article which proves –one thing, Irvington and its school system has produced many wonderful and talented people, and Saul Dooner is one of them.

The question is: Where did you live and what school did you attend. What do you remember about your teachers? If you write me perhaps I can give you some answers. Did you attend Chancellor, Union, Mt Vernon, Augusta, Grove, Berkeley, Myrtle, or Florence Ave school Of course I realize you all went to Irvington H. S.

Did you live on Florence Ave, Sanford Ave or one of the side streets, Perhaps you live on Clinton Ave, perhaps Chancellor Ave, or the side streets. Grove St or the side streets Springfield Ave. or the side streets. For you folks that have Computers, you can print out a map of the Town of Irvington and even your house that you used to live in. Try it, it is interesting. Remember I cannot write this Newsletter unless I get the News from you folks. You, I believe want to read about your classmates and teammates.

I cannot continue to write you about what is happening to the Town of Irvington, because the Town is lost and I do not believe it will ever come back under the influence of the people who control it. The same condition applies to Newark, East Orange, Camden, Some people cannot see beyond their nose, Example Newark, The people who are trying to rebuild under the guise of Sports teams playing Basketball or Hockey there are mistaken. The Devils have won championships and they cannot draw, the Nets have not won and cannot draw.

The perfect example is the Newark Bears, the owners convince the County and City Officials that if they built them a nice new stadium every one would be happy. Well they did, and the team instead of having crowds of 7000 have averaged 3200 people per game. Things are so bad, the deal with the Nets and Devils is being held up by the politicians because they now realize that the Owners of these clubs will be the only ones to benefit from this deal. Sure they will benefit, the only ones that will not benefit will be the Tax Payer who will be saddled with this deal for years. Newark is not the place for this type of operation. Black people cannot support this operation and it is proven that white people will not support it in a black neighborhood. They just will not attend.

Have you read the Census report of 2000? (This is the third time I am typing this portion of the Newsletter, as we are having thunderstorms in this area and I have lost material that I have type written on this computer. Every time the electricity goes off, I lose what I have typed) The census as you have seen in the Newspaper shows Irvington in the African –American shows Irvington the third highest in N.J. 60695 pop. With an 85.2 per. Black, Asbury Park has climbed to 6th place. These are two communities, I personally feel will never make a comeback. Why? Because once the African – American takes over the government or its council they feel they have captured the world and #2 in the interim the whites have all moved out and property values have decreased. There was an incident that happened during July in Asbury with African Americans that even the good African Americans will not tolerate any more.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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Bob Duda 10/22; Bill Mysko 10/6/19; John Walek 10/9/27; Joe D’Urso 10/11/32 John Maddalena 10/11/33; John McGuckin 10/13/34; Tony Lauro 10/18/40; Henry Krautter 10/24/26; John Bisset 10/24/18; Mickey Weiner 10/26/08; Richard Manning 10/29/31; John Muha 10/29/31; Roy Madsen 10/29/30; Frank Gedrowicz 10/18/08; Fred Arnold 11/1/16; Francis Scott 11/4/24; Don Burger 11/7/16; Al Oberman 11/7/24; Bob “Dixie” Sayles 11/19/34.

We cannot wish you a HAPPY BIRTHDAY unless you send your Birthday date into us.

KEEP THOSE LETTERS COMING WE ENJOY THEM AND I KNOW YOUR TEAMMATES AND CLASSMATES ALSO ENJOY HEARING ABOUT YOU.

VITO