

Censorship — To read or not read?

by Teresa Evans

In the last few years censorship of books has grown immensely. The American Library Association for Intellectual Freedom has reported three times as many incidents of school censorship between 1975 and 1979 as in the preceding ten years. Since 1980 there were about 1000 reported attempts to ban or restrict books in the public school system. However, only ten to twenty percent of all cases are reported.

One survey taken by the Association of American Publishers stated 19 percent of the school administrators and 30 percent of the librarians responding reported censorship challenges within the past year. In one third of the cases, the challenge succeeded in getting the books restricted, removed or destroyed.

Almost every type of book is being challenged. Many include *Huckleberry Finn* and *Mary Poppins* for "minority stereotyping"; *Robin Hood* for its "condones stealing"

and *I Want to be a Nurse* for its "sexist portrayal of male and female roles."

Censors are usually parents and other community residents of all backgrounds who are concerned about the reading habits of their children and who speak only for themselves. Thus the personal standard of one parent or a small group of parents is mistaken for a community standard. A minority ends up dictating to the majority.

Censors are better organized and more militant now, which explains the explosion of censorship. Dozens of national advocacy groups have sprung up in the last few years. With computerized mailings, newsletters and other tools, they supply local parent groups with printed ammunition and help them organize demonstrations.

The country's largest textbook review service called the Non-Profit Education Research Analyst, run by Mel and Norma Gabler, are the movements' most powerful influence. The Gablers analyze up to 60 text

books a year and send detailed reviews and information to an estimated 13,000 persons and groups across the country. Their biggest success has been the Texas State Textbook Committee, which has a say over ten percent of all textbooks in the country. Eighteen "objectionable texts were removed with the help of this group. The Gablers oppose the teaching of evolution, anything to 'undermine' religion, patriotism, parental authority and the free enterprise system."

School boards and school authorities often back down too quickly. According to AAP Survey, half of all reported censorship attacks that succeed, do so without formal hearings or the use of any established procedure for examining the books.

West Chicago Community High School has yet to have an individual register a formal complaint against a book or censor a book contained in its library. Cheryl Lamaster, the head librarian is in charge of buying new books for the learning resource

center. Every month Lamaster reads book reviews done by professionals and booklists of current best sellers. In buying non-fiction books, Lamaster chooses books students would use to gain information for research papers or books teachers would use in their curriculum. Fiction books are selected from recommendations in magazines such as the *School Library Journal* or by the popularity of the author.

"You can't buy many books without four letter words, but not every other word should be one because it has no purpose," stated Lamaster. "I bought a few books which never made it to the shelf. They were not appropriate. They didn't need some of those pages," added Lamaster. "A parent complained once about a poetry book. I told them to fill out a form but they never returned it. The whole book only had one four letter word. We buy things of value," said Lamaster.

Journalism class notes staff's ideas

by Journalism II Class

"We must always remember to be polite to students," said superintendent Richard Kamm. Kamm feels that it is up to the teachers to set a good example for the students.

Recently, the Journalism II class interviewed several school staff members, those questioned generally felt that teacher-student relationships are good and that the students are well-behaved.

Many of the teachers interviewed enjoy teaching high school because they believe it is the ideal age for learning. William Sargent, band director, feels that you can do more things with a high school band than with a grade school one. Terry Strohm, German teacher, said that she couldn't teach at an elementary level because the kids have too much energy.

Dr. Kamm never seriously considered being an administrator at another level. His background had always been in high school. He said, "High school and elementary fields

are basically interchangeable as far as administrative work is concerned." But he thinks administrating at a college level is totally different.

Stress is a common factor in teaching. Tim Kanold, math teacher, claims the major cause of stress is "not having enough time to do all of the required things." To relieve this stress, many teachers get involved in other activities. Some of these include coaching a sport, writing books and lecturing.

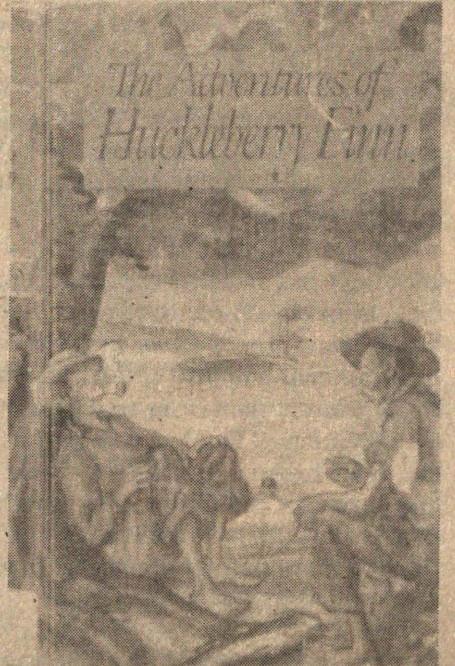
Most teachers look forward to having almost three months of vacation. However, some teachers don't just lounge around during this time. Mr. Sargent is a part time bartender and Kamm continues to administrate during the summer, receiving twenty vacation days.

Many teachers also travel. Carol Miller, biology teacher, claims, "Travel is very important to education."

Overall, the staff interviewed seemed to be pleased with the discipline code. Mrs. Miller states, "I can see a definite improvement within the last six to seven years." Dr. Kamm felt that violence should never be used to curb bad behavior.

However, many of the people interviewed thought that certain improvement may be made. Steve Kimmery, P.E. teacher, felt that the system is made by good, honest, people and it's a good one, but there are always things wrong with any system.

When asked about one thing they would change, many of the staff members mentioned motivation. George Strecker, social studies teacher, would like more students that exhibit "intellectual curiosity." Mr. Kimmery said he would like to see the motivation of students increase to the awareness of who they are, and what they are. "We have so many kids who sit and wait and never become," said Kimmery.



"Huckleberry Finn" is one of the books being challenged. (photo by Mike Sitarz)

The Bridge

In-depth looks at movies, heartthrobs, presidential election and more from 1976.

See inside —

West Chicago Community High School

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Music dept. to attend state contest

by Ingrid Ievans

The West Chicago Community High School Concert Choir along with choirs from Glenbard South, St. Charles and Dixon high schools participated in the 19th Annual Choral Clinic Festival. The four choirs performed at Illinois State University on February 26.

Choirs are chosen mainly on the basis of previous concert tapes sent to the university. This was the second time West Chicago had been chosen to participate. The first time was in 1975. Each choir performed a thirty minute concert and received a professional musicianship critique. This also lasted for thirty minutes.

Each school had a chance to listen to the other choirs during the day as well as perform with the I.S.U. Concert Choir at 3 p.m.

All five choirs were required to sing: "Cantique de Jean Racine" by Gabriel Faure and "Almighty God" by Will James. Among selections sung by West Chicago are: "TurtleDove" by Vaughn Williams, "Three Madrigals" by Diemer, "Lord At All Times" by Mendelssohn and "Fame" by Michael Gore.

Besides attending the clinic, the choir

State music contest to be held on March 6 at Oswego High School.

will participate in the state music contest to be held on Saturday, March 6 at Oswego High School in Oswego. About 100 students will be involved in choral, band, and orchestral events during the day. Among the larger groups participating are the Brass and Woodwind Choirs, Swing Choir, String Choir and the Madrigal Choir.



These are various awards VICA has received for its many accomplishments. (photo by Mike Sitarz)

Students undergo surgery

by Karen Reitz

Ed Rahe, Steve Haag and Allegra Kottkamp are just three of the many students at West Chicago who had to spend part of the last three months in the hospital for various reasons.

The first person, Ed Rahe, a senior at West Chicago received his injury while sledding with his brother at Elsen's Hill on Gary Mill's road in Winfield. Ed's first thought about his injury was that he had dislocated his knee, then he thought he had broken his hip. It wasn't until his brother came back with help that Ed found he had suffered a broken femur (top bone in his right leg.) Ed stayed in the hospital for nine days, and has been out of school for nearly three months. He walks on crutches and has no restrictions concerning his leg except to stop doing what he's doing when his leg starts to hurt. Ed's biggest disappointment about his injury is now he won't be able to finish out the year on the swim team. Ed saw his doctor on February twenty-third to see if he could come back to school.

Senior, Steve Haag has been missing tendons, muscle and cartilage in his right thumb since birth. The missing tendons, muscle, and cartilage enabled him to move his thumb in all different directions. Although Steve and his parents had known

about his thumb all of his life, they never thought it would give him much trouble. It wasn't until Steve started wrestling in his freshmen year that his thumb began to give him problems. Steve kept losing matches because he couldn't get a good grip on his opponent. Steve had to undergo a four hour operation to help stabilize his thumb. During the operation, muscle was taken from the side of his little finger and transferred to his thumb. Steve has two pins that fuse the joint and run all the way down his thumb. He still does not know if the operation was successful.

Sophomore, Allegra Kottkamp, has been suffering from a slipping knee cap on her right leg since birth. Allegra spent five days in the hospital after her surgery on December 18. Before deciding to have the operation she tried leg braces and exercises but neither worked. Allegra's knee condition was caused when the muscles on one side of the knee cap tightened more than the muscles on the other side. Allegra missed two and a half weeks of school and had to walk on crutches for some time. Some of Allegra's restrictions are running, jumping and participating in P.E. until April. Allegra also has to attend physical therapy classes three times a week.

VICA club involves 80

by Eric Brosted

The Vocational Industrial Club of America (VICA) has been at WCCHS for ten years and has a membership of approximately 80 students.

Students in IRO (Inter Related Occupations program) or CWT (Cooperative Work Training program), the school's two work programs, must join VICA. The main point of VICA is to give a student a chance to put the skills he or she has learned, to test. Leadership is also heavily stressed, and members must budget the money they bring in for the club.

VICA holds fund raisers and works at football concession stands to raise money for club activities. These activities include a trip to the VICA state convention, employer appreciation banquet, and many local activities. "The kids run the club completely, if they don't want to spend money on any social things they don't have to," said Doug Vandermark, head of IRO.

The VICA state convention gets students from all over the state to compete in different job skills, such as air conditioning, auto mechanics and job interviews, totaling about 50 different fields in all. Students compete for about \$200,000 in prizes, including full scholarships. Two WCCHS students made it to the national competition, which is one step up from state. Paul Junkrowski, head of CWT, said that when someone wins at the state competition "It looks very nice on a job resume to say you were a state champ."

The CWT program and the IRO program have been going on at WCCHS longer than VICA. "VICA ties in leadership skills with job skills, and teaches teamwork," said Vandermark.

Bobinski vs. Peacock — and the age-old determiners of the schools' class rank

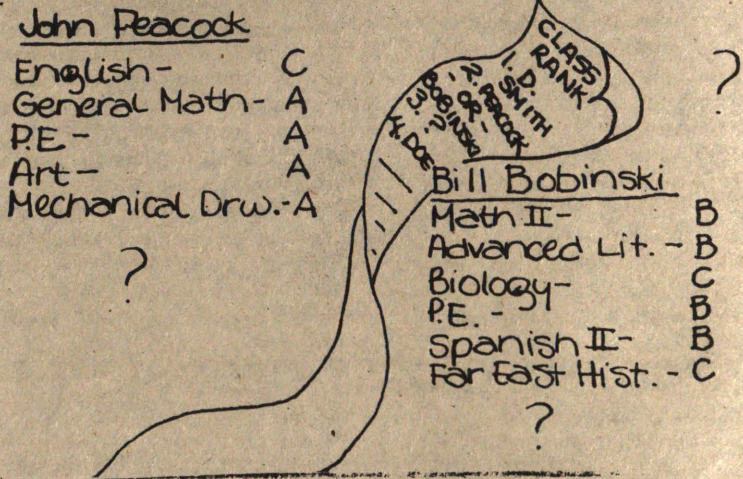
Rank, as denoted in Webster's New World Dictionary, means a high "degree of quality." Class rank, in our school, means virtually the same, the better students are ranked higher, and the poorer students are ranked lower. Is this system, categorizing students, necessary and just?

The class rank system is definitely necessary. In applying to colleges, students' rank and percentage, along with grade point average, are required in the application forms. The class rank is also necessary in determining such honors as valedictorian and salutatorian. Many clubs may also require students to have a certain grade point average along with a certain percentile rank for eligibility.

Okay, fine. That is all said and done, and the conclusion therefore is that class rank is necessary and is important, but is it just? Just, as defined by the same aforementioned dictionary, means "right, fair, impartial, deserved and merited." Is the class rank right? Sure, categorizing students by their grades alone is "right," almost sounds like the Caste System in India. Is the class rank system fair, impartial, deserved and merited? Here lies the problem.

The class rank in our school is based on grades and grades alone, yet knowledge assures that "people" cannot survive on grades alone. This, then, is an obvious contradiction. Here is a hypothetical situation to illustrate our school's ethics in determining the class rank: John Peacock is a freshman with five classes, which are: English, General Math, P.E., Art, and Mechanical Drawing. He has received A's in all of his classes with the exception of English, in which he has received a C. Bill Bobinski is also a freshman attending six classes with one study hall. His courses are: Geometry, Advanced Literature, Biology, P.E., Spanish II, and Far East History. He has received B's in all classes except a C in Biology and History. When averaging the grades, Peacock has a very high B average and Bobinski has a C average.

Now, according to our school's ranking system, Peacock would receive



a higher ranking. Straight out, that might seem fair, but compare the students. Peacock has five fairly easy classes while Bobinski has a nearly full load comprised of fairly advanced courses. Shouldn't Bobinski's efforts and degree of difficulty in his classes also be a determining factor to his rank, which in four years may be a determiner in his acceptance to a college? Should the student who goes through four years of high school with bread and butter courses such as "Basketweaving" out rank the "achiever" type student? Is it worth it for the "high achiever" student to struggle with the harder courses, possibly risking his grades, only to be out ranked by the Art and Typing student?

The point that **The Bridge** is trying to bring across, is that in the situation of the class rank, which is important to students' futures, classes should be weighed. It may be a difficult system to develop, yet the fruitfulness of this kind of a system would be more beneficial and even a challenge to all students.

Investigative report

A day in the life ...

by Delanie Jenkins

In-school suspension, rumors of chains and leg shackles, brainwashing, trauma and silence. After hearing these rumors, and many teachers' praises to the effectiveness of in-school suspension, I tried my hand at an "undercover investigation." Somehow, someway, I had to get in. Being a "fairly" good kid with a "fairly" good record made getting into in-school suspension somewhat difficult. My front of being caught smoking, led to one day in the "hole."

The day before I was to "do my time," some of my teachers, who had become aware of my punishment, questioned me as to my behavior and even acted different towards me, as if I was a "bad" person. Now, I cannot define the "bad" person, and I do not know the common definition. What I do know, is that I already felt my relationships with peers, teachers and parapos lowering several degrees, and even disintegrating on the trust level, before I had served my in-school suspension.

I started my next day excited yet tense. I entered the ungodly blue room, stated my name and number of days to serve, and seated myself along with the five other members of this in-school suspension session. With tongue in cheek I thought I was prepared for seven and one half hours of silence ... little did I know.

Within 15 minutes, the contract, to be signed, and school handbook

test, to be passed, were handed out. The contract stated the behavior rules required, such as: no walking around the room except during the five minute passing period, and no speaking without raising your hand, also with the exception of the five minute passing period. It also stated what was expected of me and the resulting consequences if these rules were not followed. My signature, agreeing to the rules, with the knowledge of the consequences, was required at the bottom. I was also required to take the handbook test. If I did poorly the first time, by missing more than four questions, I would be allowed to review the handbook and correct my wrong answers until I got them right. I passed with the aid of the school song bonus question.

After all of that was completed, I was handed an autobiography sheet with instructions and questions to be honestly answered. I was told that anything written was confidential and that I could not be punished for any written slander about the school or administrator. By reading the questions, I got the idea that my four page essay, on myself and relations, would be promptly analyzed upon turning it in. The prying questions ranged from subjects on friends and family, school life and religion, to how many fights I have been in and why.

Next on the agenda to keep my time occupied, brain healthy and hands busy was a P.E. assignment. Since I am currently in volleyball, I received a volleyball quiz and wordsearch. It was the high point of my day I am sure.

At approximately 11:05, we all briskly walked to the field house to physically exert ourselves if we chose to do so. By this time five new members had joined our ranks and one had been sent to the dean for "bad behavior." When we returned to the ugly old dingy blue room, I had already finished all assignments sent in by my teachers and all in-school suspension assignments, and I was beginning to climb the walls. Thankfully, lunchtime arrived at 12:35 and I soothed my rumbling stomach with Johnny Mozetti, yuck.

We returned to the room 30 minutes later and I spent the next three and one half hours studying the cracks on the floor, observing the people around me, imagining the blue room as a white padded cell, and lastly, sitting in silence. I seriously thought I was cracking up.

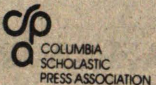
The last 15 minutes of the day went by like 15 more hours, and when the bell rang I was literally shaking. I wanted to cry and even breathe a sigh of relief but I couldn't, the blue walls were lurking.

Reflecting, days later, about this "wonderful" undercover event, I realized that if a paraparo had not come every hour, except during the lunch hours, to escort us to the washrooms, and if I had not been able to breathe normally everytime the passing period bell rang, as I sat in my desk when everyone rushed to the door to peek out the window, I would most likely be closer to insanity than I already am at this very moment.

One of the ideas behind in-school suspension is to make the student not want to do anything to go back. In my case it did not take leg shackles and chains to accomplish this, it was silence that did it all. Another thing I learned for sure ... I will not soon volunteer myself for an undercover investigation.

The Bridge

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Letters to the editor are not to exceed 250 words and must be legibly signed. Only one signature per letter will be allowed. We reserve the right to edit if necessary, for length or libelous material.

Content and editorial policy are determined by the editors with concurrence of The Bridge editorial staff. The adviser acts in the capacity of a professional consultant. The opinions expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the student body or the high school.

Thirteen years together

Do you remember the people you went to kindergarten with? Many seniors in our high school have gone to school with the same people for 13 years. However, when asked if they were still friends, only a few still were.

Jerry Cruz, who went to school from kindergarten through eighth grade at Benjamin said he's still friends with "certain people" from his grade school. "I still see lots of them in the halls, but only a few remember to say 'hi,'" revealed Jerry.

"I can tolerate most of them," stated Andy Ivanecky, who started his school days at Gary school.

Stephanie Wienecke, who attended both Gary and St. Mary's Schools said, "I can't even remember who was in our kindergarten class." Other students also had trouble recalling their kindergarten classmates. Andy Ivanecky said he didn't remember hav-

ing kindergarten with Sondra Grauer and it came as a 'total shock' to find out they've been in school together so long. Dan Keck remembers only one person from kindergarten, Mike Karp.

One reason that students may have a hard time remembering who was in their kindergarten class is the number of grade schools that feed into the high school. The list includes Gary, Lincoln, McAuley, Turner, Benjamin, Winfield, St. John's, St. Mary's, Indian Knoll and Pioneer Schools. Of these schools, more than half send their students to West Chicago Junior High School.

In the pictures accompanying this article, the kindergarten class from Gary School in 1969 is on the left. We then found out which of these students are now seniors at WCCHS. Their pictures from this year were put in the same order in the picture on the right. Do you remember who was in your kindergarten class?



Class of 1982 as kindergarten students at Gary School in 1969.



Class of 1982 as seniors at West Chicago High School in 1982. Photo by Mike Sitarz

Stress can hurt teens

by Debbie Hookham

A teen-age friend of yours could suffer a heart attack or stroke today, and a twentieth century epidemic called hypertension is the cause. Hypertension, or high blood pressure, affects 60 million Americans and is known as the "silent killer" since there are often no symptoms, according to the National Institute of Health.

Blood pressure is the force that moves the blood through the circulatory system from the heart. It is measured by two numbers. The top number is the systolic pressure which is measured when the heart beats. The lower number, or diastolic number, is measured when the heart rests between beats. So when your blood pressure is being taken, the systolic number is the number when your doctor first hears your heart beat. When he doesn't hear it anymore, the corresponding number is the diastolic pressure. For adults, a systolic pressure of over 150 is considered high and a diastolic pressure over 90 is considered high.

High blood pressure can narrow large and small blood vessels. In major arteries it accelerates the formation of fatty deposits

tends to increase with age.

Being overweight is another risk factor. A weight loss of even ten pounds can lower blood pressure. Regular exercise will also cut down on the risk of developing hypertension.

Hypertension runs in families, so teens with hypertensive parents are at a greater risk than those without. This is partly a genetic inheritance, but also relates to shared lifestyles. Black families have twice the risk of developing hypertension. Age also affects the risk. In young adulthood, men are more susceptible, but women catch up later in life.

High salt intake is another area where teens can lower the risk of hypertension. Prepared foods especially have a lot of salt, as do restaurant foods. Many people are in the habit of salting their food automatically, when a taste would show that there was no need for additional salt.

A research study has been started with students in a small academy west of Aurora, to try to find out whether moderate reductions in sodium will lower the blood pressure in students with normal pressures. The researchers hope to find that long-term reduction in salt can prevent blood pressure from rising to disease levels later in life. The focus in the study is similar to those of other studies, that is, preventing the disease. As Rose Stamler, instrumental in many research studies, stated in Northwestern's report, "Mass diseases have always been controlled by primary prevention, that is, by preventing them from developing in the first place".

A detection of high blood pressure at an early age may also help parents, according to an article in the *Chicago Sun Times*. These parents would benefit from following the right diet, exercising and not smoking.

"Too many people write off hypertension and think they will not be affected until old age," said Aronson. He feels that by getting teens to think about their health now, they will be able to take precautions and be healthier when they are older.

Millions of parents in the U.S. don't realize that their children have high blood pressure. The reason for this is that most of the research has been aimed at adults.

in the artery wall. When these arteries become too narrow, the blood supply to the heart, brain, kidneys or legs is cut off, causing serious illness or death.

According to Dr. Andrew Aronson, a specialist at the University of Chicago, millions of parents in the U.S. don't realize that their children have high blood pressure. The reason for this is that most of the research has been aimed at adults.

Aronson is the co-director of the new Pediatric Hypertension Clinic at Wylar Children's Hospital, and hopes to prove that childhood is the time to take preventative measures against this disease. He noted that many pediatricians do not take their patients' blood pressure regularly because they tend to change so much. However, Aronson still feels that readings should be taken once a year after children are six months old. This is especially true since the readings are the only way of detecting high blood pressure.

Environment, stress, educational level, and economic well-being all seem to be related to risk of high blood pressure, according to a report put out by Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Another factor that puts people at a high risk is high normal pressure. This is pressure that is still in the normal range but is on the high side. Young people especially should take precautions now to cut down on the risk of developing high blood pressure later in life, since blood pressure

Family 'reruns' cause mix-ups

by Polly Hall

What is it like to be at the same school as your brother or sister? This question was asked of several students at WCCHS.

Most of the students asked either enjoyed having the brother or sister around, or they never saw each other. "I don't mind at all," said sophomore Steve Bahlmann. "He (brother Dave) lets me tag along with him and his friends which I like a lot. I have my own friends, but it's fun to hang around with him and his older friends." Dave Bahlmann replied that he doesn't notice it anymore because there has always been one of the family in school with him.

Fighting at home and in school are two different things for most of the students. John Watanabe laughingly said that he and his sister Diana sometimes have, "slap

fight, punch fights, and even food fights, but no knife fights — they're too messy." Diana contradicted him by revealing that they don't see each other enough to fight. Both agreed that this was the case in school. Dave and Steve Bahlmann don't fight in school either. "We keep it at home so we won't embarrass each other." Dave remarked. However, at home they fight about everything — including things that happen at school.

Parents seem to stress individuality. Tammie Fauver, sophomore, said that her parents never say things like, "Why can't you be more like Bill?" "They know we can't stand it," she declared. Backing up this statement was older brother Bill, a senior, who said, "Of course they don't say that — we're different sexes!"

Kim Ayers, a freshman, said that her teachers call her Kris a lot because most of them had Kris for a student. "Mr. LaMaster has me second hour," revealed Kim, "and Kris fifth hour — he always messes that one up!" Dave and Steve Bahlmann have the same problem. However, this has only come about since Steve got a crew cut. "His hair used to be blonde, but now that he's gotten it cut it's brown, so I guess that's why they mistake our names," remarked Dave.

Some teachers compare Steve and Kim with their brother and sister. It doesn't bother them, but they feel that since they are individuals they should be able to be themselves without pressure from their siblings.

In most cases individuality was also found in musical tastes. Growing up together influenced the music preferred in only one case. Dave and Steve (both musicians themselves) like the same music. They attribute this to the fact that Steve is around Dave a lot, and therefore developed his musical tastes through his brother.

What's your salt I.Q.?

Here's a little quiz about the hidden sources of salt in our diets. Which has more salt? The answers may surprise you.

1. One stalk of raw celery or a half-pound of raw cucumber?
2. One 12 oz. beer or a cup of beef bouillon?
3. One cup all-purpose flour or a cup of self-rising flour?
4. One ounce All-Bran cereal or one ounce of potato chips?
5. An 8 oz. sirloin steak or 8 oz. of corned beef?
6. One pound salted butter or one pound salted margarine?
7. Pancake mix or pancakes made from scratch?

Reprinted with permission from TODAY, magazine of Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Answers:
 1. The stalk of celery (50 mg. sodium) is higher than the much larger quantity of cucumber (14 mg.).
 2. The bouillon cube has the beer beat hands down with 960 mg. to the beer's 25 mg.
 3. Self-rising flour had 1566 mg. of sodium per cup to 2 mg. in all-purpose flour.
 4. All-Bran has more (370 mg.) than the potato chips (283 mg.), but the All-Bran contains far more nutrients than the potato chips.
 5. Corned beef is a thirst-provoking 3950 mg. compared with 136 for the sirloin.
 6. The margarine is saltier at 140 mg. than butter at 117 mg., but butter is higher in cholesterol and saturated fats than margarine.
 7. Processing adds sodium. One cup of the mix has 2623 mg. sodium. If no salt is added to homemade pancakes, the sodium content will be minimal.



Paul Michael Glaser and David Soul stars of TV's *Starsky and Hutch*

Peanuts or cars for presidency

by Sue Lindenmeier

The year was 1976 and across the country millions of Americans are preparing for the celebration of the nation's 200th birthday. At the same time two major candidates are preparing for a day which will decide their fate. The two men, Gerald Ford and James E. Carter, were striving for the office of the presidency.

Ford, a Republican, had already made history. He was the first to be appointed to the office of the Vice-Presidency and the first Vice-President to replace a president who had resigned. He is up against Carter, a rural peanut farmer from Georgia. Carter's experience in governmental affairs included once being the governor from Georgia.

Ford had entered the year with an approval rating of 39%. Despite these seemingly low ratings, Ford "felt confident." He was a man who had been a representative from Michigan (prior to his role as President) for 25 years. Ford stated he "wanted very much to make it on his own" and, "be elected to a full term of the Presidency." He had never lost an election before. Ford nearly succeeded. After the most dramatic comeback in the history of public-opinion polling, he lost the presidency to Democrat Carter by 2.1 percentage points.

Carter's win, in the opinion of many, was credited by the support from the south, the industrial Northeast, organized labor, minorities and the liberal communities. He even made a better than usual showing for a democratic candidate in the midwest.

Carter's rural background made him unique among Democratic nominees, but his coalition was a great deal like the ones by his predecessors. His goal was to have "an aggressive and imaginative new government."

With this election came lopsided Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress. For eight years the government had been evenly balanced, but with the election brought a 2-1 Democratic advantage in the Senate.

The year rounded out quietly in Congress. President Ford, his cabinet and Congress prepared for the changes the new President would bring with him.

Where were you What was happening

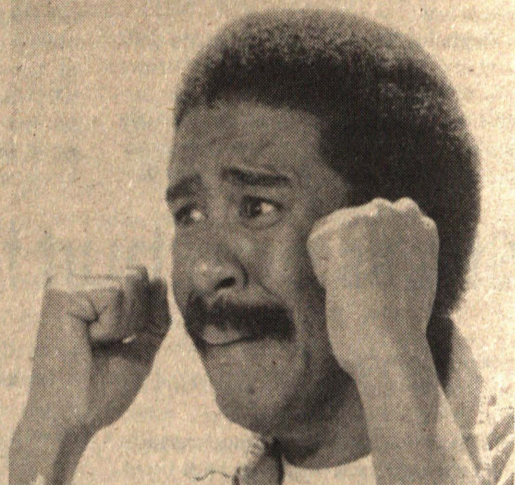
by John Watanabe

If you were one of those average Americans who spent their relaxing weekends at the movies, you were one of the very few who did.

The historic year of America's 200th *b-day* and the presidential election of a Georgia peanut farmer turned out to be a disappointing and depressing year for the film industry. After two consecutive years of giant increases in box office receipts, there was an equally significant downhill trend in attendance in 1976. By the fall of '76, box office totals showed a decline of 10 to 15 percent from 1975's all-time peak of well over \$2 billion gross.

After two previous blockbuster years of earthquakes, a blazing building, a mechanical shark, and a pea soup-spitting demon, there wasn't much to cheer about in '76 film. The top grossing new entry in America's Bicentennial and election year was, coincidentally, a film that dealt with happenings in U.S. politics — *All the President's Men*, the story of the uncovering of the Watergate cover-up. This celebrated motion picture, starring Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman, not only emerged as the year's most profitable film, but also the most widely acclaimed — four stars were commonly seen beside the film's title in newspapers everywhere.

Jaws, the monstrosity popular phenomenon of 1975 and the all-time box office champ during this time, set off a wave of imitations; mainly a number of "B" pictures featuring villainous actions from Marlin Perkins' *Animal Kingdom*. Among them were *Bug* (giant cockroaches), *Grizzly* (a rampaging bear), and *Squirm* (carnivorous worms). A more prominent entree among exploited terror films was *The Omen*, which had a healthy life at the box office amidst



Comic Richard Pryor starred in *Car Wash*

mixed reviews. This movie concerning an infant Antichrist later gave birth to two critically-declined and less successful sequels.

One sequel film that caught the eye of movie buffs and oldtime film lovers was *That's Entertainment, Part 2*, the second compilation of MGM movie musical excerpts featuring Fred Astaire, Gene Kelly, Judy Garland, and other golden idols from the heyday of "when movies were movies."

The funny bones of American moviegoers were seldom tickled during this lowdown year. Among the few comedies that managed to strike box office lightning were *The Bad News Bears*, a funny Little League baseball take-off starring Walter Matthau and Tatum O'Neal; and *Silent Movie*, Mel Brooks' parody in which mime Marcel Marceau made his talking debut.

The black cinema was making a noticeable transformation from its early "blaxploitation" crime thrillers (like *Shaft*, *Coffy*, and *Sweet Sweetback's Baaad Asssss Song*) to more carefree entertainments. The most successful item from this category was the Sidney Poitier-Bill Cosby hit, *Let's Do It Again*, a People's Choice Awards favorite picture nominee that spawned two sequels. Among other noteworthy black films were *Norman ... Is That You?*, an uproarious, underrated yarn starring Redd Foxx and Pearl Bailey; *The Bingo Long Traveling All-Stars and Motor Kings*, a baseball comedy starring Billy Dee Williams and James Earl Jones; and that wonderful-to-dance-to comedy, *Car Wash*, which spawned a 3 million-selling hit song of the same name. It is interesting to note that the latter two films featured red-hot comic Richard Pryor, who, today, is the only black entertainer enjoying a successful career in

Hey sports fans ... where were you?

by Dave Barry

The sports scene in 1976 was filled with excitement. For many the highlight of the year was the World Series.

The Cincinnati Reds had a spectacular season which ended when they won their second consecutive World Series title. Cincinnati managed to sweep four straight games from the New York Yankees to take the Series. Johnny Bench played outstanding baseball for the Reds in the World Series, despite a .234 batting average for the season. The late Thurman Munson played heroically for the losing Yankees, batting a remarkable .529 for the Series.

The Summer Olympic Games held in Montreal, Canada, were an even more spectacular event. The Winter Olympics were held in Innsbruck, Austria in February. The Winter Games were dominated by the Soviet Union and East Germany. However, Dorothy Hamill dazzled the world with her breathtaking performance in figure skating.

The Summer Olympics were highlighted by a 14-year-old from Romania named Nadia Comaneci. Comaneci won three gold medals, one silver and one bronze. She became the first gymnast to ever earn a perfect score of 10 from the judges.

The U.S. won the gold medal in basketball by beating the Russian team. Another bright moment for the U.S. came when Bruce Jenner took the gold medal in the decathlon, by setting a new world record.

In professional football the Oakland Raiders emerged as **... the summer Olympics held in Montreal, Canada were an event dominated by Russia and East Germany, but Dorothy Hamill dazzled the world with her performance in figure skating ...**

Super Bowl victors. They were able to beat the Minnesota Vikings easily, with a final score of 32-14. Fred Biletnikoff, a wide receiver with the Raiders for twelve years, was voted the game's Most Valuable Player.

Other big names in sports during 1976 included Muhammad Ali. While Ali's fighting skills were quickly vanishing, he managed to pull in over \$12 million in title-fight purses during the year. Bill Walton dominated pro basketball in '76 with his finest season. These are only a few of the athletes who helped make 1976 an interesting year in sports.

Tragedies felt 'round the world

by Amy Zurawski

Many tragedies rocked 1976, causing deaths and disasters all over the world.

There was a deadly string of earthquakes in Italy, China, Turkey and Guatemala. On July 27, 665,235 people lost their lives in China from one of these devastating earthquakes.

There was drought throughout Europe and the Midwest causing a shortage of grain where it was needed in the poverty stricken areas of Africa.

At the turn of the year, a man hunt was still on for the men who were responsible for the bombing that took place in the baggage claim area of the New York LaGuardia airport. A bombing in Washington killed the prominent Chilean exile, Orlando Letelier. A Dublin bombing killed British ambassador T. E. Eivart Biggs.

There were riots in South Africa and guerilla forces used in Rhodesia against white rule. Lebanon fell to Spain by armed forces and Angola was also participating in this bloody civil war.

A mining disaster in Owenfort, Kentucky killed 29 people when supports collapsed that held the entrances open.

There were several airplane crashes in '76 including the fiery end of flight number 625,981 and a Turkish DC-10.

On June 6 a telen dam collapsed in Idaho causing extensive flooding and damage to the area.

On October 24 a fire in a Bronx social club, that started from a grease fire, killed 25 people.

The tanker "Olympic" grounded and caused an oil spill of 3,150,000 gallons. In June, a barge grounded in the St. Lawrence Seaway spilling 300,000 gallons of precious oil.



Fred Astaire and Judy Garland team up for *That's Entertainment, part 2*.

ou in 1976? in the movies ...

movies.
In the 1976 presentation of the annual Academy Awards, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* took off with the top honors, receiving Oscar statues for the best film, best actor (Jack Nicholson), best actress (Louise Fletcher), best director, (Milos Forman), and best adapted screenplay (Lawrence Hauben and Bo Goldman). Lee Grant won best supporting actress for her role in *Shampoo*, and the octogenarian comedian George Burns became a born-again movie star after winning best supporting actor for *The Sunshine Boys*.

The team of director Martin Scorsese and film star Robert De Niro, who brought us such brutal films as *Mean Streets* and *Raging Bull*, worked together on the highly-acclaimed 1976 movie *Taxi Driver*, which still remains today as Scorsese's most financially successful work. *Taxi Driver*, the story of a lonely cab driver who wants to clean up the horror-filled city, stirred up controversy five years later as the film that might have influenced John Hinckley's assassination attempt on President Reagan. *Taxi Driver* won the 1976 Cannes Film Festival's grand prize as best picture.

Initially rejected by the Cannes Film Festival, Alan Parker's *Bugsy Malone* turned out to be the most popular film on the program there and it went on to enjoy huge success in the British cinema (it did mediocre business in the U.S.). *Bugsy Malone* was an inventive and delightful musical-comedy featuring an all-children cast as 1930's gangsters, who possessed tommy guns that shot whipped cream instead of bullets. Among the kiddies who acted in this romp were Jodie Foster and future teenybopper idol Scott Baio.

Rock 'n' roll singer David Bowie made an impressive film

debut as a rock star from an alien planet in the 1976 sci-fi cult epic, *The Man Who Fell to Earth*, a British production shot in the U.S.

Most of the year's film projects ended up being major disappointments. Among the duds receiving negative reviews and drawing small crowds were *The Missouri Breaks*, starring Marlon Brando and Jack Nicholson; *Buffalo Bill and the Indians*, a Western directed by Robert Altman; *The Front*, starring Woody Allen in his first dramatic role; *Rooster Cogburn*, co-starring those old Hollywood gems, John Wayne and Katherine Hepburn; *The Duchess and the Dirtwater Fox*, a comedy that marked a low point in Goldie Hawn's career; and *Family Plot*, Alfred Hitchcock's 53rd (and last) cinematic work that was nowhere near as accomplished as some of his old classics.

Stanley (2001, *A Clockwork Orange*) Kubrick's *Barry Lyndon* met with uneven critiques and even more unimpressive results in movie house attendance when it was released in the U.S. in December 1975. However, when *Barry Lyndon* was distributed throughout Europe in late 1976, it received thunderous raves and became one of the highest-grossing films in such countries as France, Sweden, and West Germany.

The slumbering box office year of 1976 closed with a promising keynote that would turn the film industry upside down — a colossal, \$24 million remake of *King Kong*. This overly hyped-up production created so much interest prior to its opening that *King Kong*, instead of the presidential candidates, appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine during the November election week. When *King Kong* was released at Christmas time, millions of moviegoers were goin' ape and the film led the way for a big blockbuster film year for 1977.

The biggest birthday bash in 200 years

by Silvia Belicke

It was almost six years ago that America celebrated probably the third biggest event in its' history. It was preceded in time by the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. It was an event celebrated by adults, youngsters, and senior citizens together. Even foreign countries and dignitaries joined into this "gala" celebration. This was the Bicentennial — the country's 200th birthday.

Almost everyone did something that year to contribute to making it the biggest and most memorable birthday party ever. School children all over the country put on plays commemorating Washington, the House of Congress, and Ben Franklin. They would break into "states" and have debates over issues concerning that time period, which Patrick Henry gave his persuasive speech. Or they made "time capsules" where they would bury things from our time period, waiting to be "discovered" at a later date.

Adults also joined into the "party" by various means. Women in particular got together and made quilting, a renewed sewing art. Whole afternoons would be given to sewing the brightly colored patches of cloth together to form a quilted blanket. Whole families joined together for the

"Great Bicentennial Wagon Train." On remodeled, real McCoy wagons, families drove from the east coast to the west coast following the Oregon Trail where it was possible, while making stops at county fairs along the way. County fairs featured everything from old-fashioned craft booths to stands selling "Buycentennial" items. Towns put on special theatrical performances with plays like *1776* appearing frequently.

Various historical sites were popular attractions that year too. To get into areas like Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., hotel reservations had to be made two years in advance. Getting in and out of those areas was traffic congestion at its worst. Thousands of tourists flocked to see the Liberty Bell and Boston, scene of the Boston Tea Party.

But America and its' popular weren't the only ones celebrating that year. In London, England an exposition for America's Bicentennial was held. Philadelphia's Liberty Bell even got a visit from King Carlos of Spain.

But, on July 4, 1976, America's celebration went up in a blaze of fireworks resounding through the nation.



Rock idol Peter Frampton came alive in '76

Teen faves of music and show

by Lauren Vogt

The year 1976 saw its share of teenage heart throbs, both on T.V. and in the music business

A five man band from Edinburgh, Scotland captured many teenyboppers' hearts all over the world. The Bay City Rollers had already produced four albums with the hit singles *Money Honey*, *Rock 'n' Roll Love Letter*, and *Saturday Night* topping the charts. In 1976, the Rollers' latest hit was *I Only Want To Be With You* off their album *Dedication*. Early in '76, Eric Faulkner, Leslie McKeown, Derek Longmuir, and Stuart "Woody" Wood said good-bye to their long time partner Alan Longmuir, who retired from the group after many years in the music business. BCR introduced their newest member, Ian Mitchell, who toured with the band for several months before quitting the group in the latter part of the year. Though BCR continued on with still more new members, the group's popularity steadily declined after 1976.

The hit detective series *Starsky and Hutch* debuted in '76 with heart throbs Paul Michael Glaser and David Soul in the starring roles. The show depicted street-wise California cops David Starsky and Kenneth Hutchenson fighting for truth, justice, and the American way. Starsky and Hutch took nothing from nobody, and kept the series running for four seasons.

Another cops and robbers series was in full swing in 1976, but this time it featured women as the detectives who

... the show depicted street-wise California cops David Starsky and Kenneth Hutchenson fighting for truth, justice and the American way ...

worked for an unseen character known as Charlie. *Charlie's Angels* starred Farrah Fawcett-Majors, Kate Jackson and Jaclyn Smith in the title roles and ran for five seasons with several character changes. Besides giving male viewers something to look at, *Charlie's Angels* also proved that crime can be fought in designer jeans and high heeled shoes.

British singer Peter Frampton rocked the music business with his famous *Frampton Comes Alive!* album and the rock group KISS was still basking in the glow from their *Alive!* album from the year before.

Donny and Marie opened their hit T.V. show in 1976, backed by the entire Osmond family.

Welcome Back, Kotter began airing in 1975, and by '76 John Travolta was on the lips of every red-blooded American girl. Travolta eventually left the show to continue on with his film career.

Happy Days debuted in 1974 and continued its success even up to today. Henry "The Fonz" Winkler captured many hearts in his role as the motorcycle riding heart throb.

Shaun Cassidy began rising in popularity during '76 though the *Hardy Boys* had not yet started. Cassidy and actor/singer Lief Garrett competed for young girls' hearts all through 1976.



The Bay City Rollers sent a "rock and roll love letter" to fans all over the world.

A summer of fun "On Golden Pond"

by John Watanabe

Ladies and gentlemen, it is time once again to stand on a podium and bring up that disturbing question, "Why aren't there more wholesome entertainments suited for the entire family?" In this day and age, just about every movie Hollywood cranks out is aimed at the teenage audience. During the past few years, movie studios have distributed an umpteenth number of **Animal House** and **Halloween** rip-offs; daring, exploitative films that teach impressionable teens "private lessons" and the improper way to use a razor.

But hold on. Universal Pictures now proudly presents a little gem entitled **On Golden Pond**, a film that joins works like

designed for "children of all ages". **On Golden Pond** is a story that deals with old age, the generation gap, love — all the aspects centered around families and their relationships.

The plot follows the lives of three generations, featuring the aging couple of Norman (Henry Fonda) and Ethel (Katherine Hepburn) Thayer spending their forty-eighth summer on Golden Pond. This summer is Norman's eightieth birthday, and on hand to celebrate this occasion are the Thayers' daughter, Chelsea (Jane Fonda), her new boyfriend, Bill Ray (Dabney Coleman), and his son, Billy (Doug McKeon). The young couple soon depart for a vacation in Europe,



Norman (Henry Fonda) and Ethel (Katherine Hepburn) Thayer spend their forty-eighth summer on Golden Pond.



Chelsea returns to find her father gets along better with her son than her.

Kramer vs. Kramer and **Ordinary People** among the trend of brilliant and beneficial "family movies". When this reviewer says "family movie", please do not think of some of those sugary-sweet Disney yarns that are

leaving little Billy with the elderly couple at the lake. Norman and Billy have a blast together, spending much of their time going fishing. **On Golden Pond** features some sharp, vivid cinematography of nature,

providing beautiful images and a natural quiet tone to the film.

When Chelsea returns from Europe a month later, she unsurprisingly discovers that her father takes more of a liking to the boy than to her. Throughout her life, Chelsea has had a cold, distant relationship with her father.

Along with the uncomfortable relationships between the different generations, the story also deals with old age. Old age is a subject which moviemakers rarely take seriously. Elderly people in movies have often been portrayed as cutie-pie old men (like George Burns as ex-vaudevillians or God); eccentric, foul-mouthed grannies who ride motorcycles (Ruth Gordon in **Harold and Maude** and Clint Eastwood's "Which Way" comedies); and trembling Arte Johnson-type senile-supremes (like that "windbag" maid in **10**). Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn, two oldies-but-goldies of the American cinema, display honest portrayals of aging folks through scenes of good

humor, poignancy and warmth.

The performances of the Fondas and Hepburn have, deservedly, received much critical acclaim and are red-hot picks for this year's Academy Awards. There are two other performances in this film that must not be ignored. After appearing in such mindless fluff as **Nine to Five** and **Modern Problems**, Dabney Coleman makes a fine contribution to this serious film, particularly in a riveting scene where he is trapped in an awkward conversation with Norman. Doug McKeon acts wonderfully as the smart-mouthed but gradually likeable 13-year old, and he also plays an important part in the story.

On Golden Pond was directed with finesse by Mark Rydell, whose last theatrical release as the highly-acclaimed 1979 hit, **The Rose**. This year, Rydell has brought us a much quieter and more agreeable film that is bound to grace the stage on Mr. Oscar's show. Rating for **On Golden Pond**: three and a half-stars.

Give me a goldfish for breakfast

by Jim Oswald

The usual response to the question, "What kind of pet do you have?" is a dog or a cat, or occasionally even a goldfish or hamster. However, senior Mike Bytner has something a little bit unusual. Her name is Mandy, and she's a nine month old raccoon.

Mike has Mandy because the man who owned her before said that she kept getting into things, and he wanted to get her stuffed. Then Mike agreed to take the raccoon for himself.

"I feed her puppy chow," Mike said, and went on, "She will eat anything dogs like."

"On special occasions I will give her a goldfish, and on her birthday she will get a live rainbow trout."

Mike said that the main problem he has

with Mandy is that when she is let out of her cage he has a difficult time getting her back in.

Mike also worries about people keeping wild animals caged. He warns, "Most people shouldn't have raccoons as pets because one must be patient with them." To own a wild animal, a person needs a state license which costs \$10.

Dennis Schar, a senior, also had some unusual pets — two piranhas. "They are mean, and not too many people have them," he explained.

"I fed them goldfish, grasshoppers, and once a dead baby rabbit," he laughed.

Dennis finally had to sell them because they started getting too big, and feeding them was expensive.

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We-go has 'TEEN semi-finalist

by Debbie Hookham

Caroline Fritsch, a junior at We-go, is a regional semi-finalist in "TEEN magazine's Great Model Search." She is one of the 16 semi-finalists featured in the March issue of "TEEN".

Caroline entered the contest by filling out the application blank in an issue of the magazine just to "see what would happen". "After I sent it in, I never really thought about it anymore," Caroline admits.

There are 16 semi-finalists from each of six geographical regions per month. Two

Her mother is also a model, and has been modeling since Caroline was young. "When you live with somebody who models all the time, it grows on you," says Caroline.

Caroline is considered a child model since she's 5'3". She explained that this is decided by height instead of age, and as long as she's under 5'6" she will be considered a child model.

We-go people

finalists will be chosen from each region and along with four "at large" candidates will be invited to the Great Model Search Pageant in November. These finalists will then be judged again on poise, personality, and physical appearance and a winner will be chosen.

Caroline began modeling last November.

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We-go '82 track season underway

by Craig Kafar

Most of the school's attention is focused on football and basketball — but what about sports like track?

The '82 season is underway and members of the track team have been practicing after school every day. In the beginning of the program the practices are mainly conditioning while in weeks to come, individual training starts.

John Engel, on the track team for his second year, participates in the 2-mile run and 1-mile run. John says "my expectations are to run under 10 minutes in the 2 mile run. He also says "I plan to break the sophomore record of 10:08 in the 2-mile run."

Tim Lambert, another long distance runner participating in the 2-mile run says, "As

a team we plan to go down state in the 2 mile relay." The loss of anchor runner Craig Carr should only effect them a little because Lambert says, "We have a new freshman coming in and taking his place." Jeannette Stuart runs in the events of 220 yard dash, 440 yard relay, and the 100 yard dash. "Beth Brand, who has the school record in the shot put, and senior, Debbie Kuykendall, could be a great loss to the team," says Stuart. Closing out the season in 2nd place last year for the JV, Jeannette says "We should be close to getting 2nd in conference this year too."

Mr. Voelz has taken over as head coach of the boys' track team this year while Mr. Kazcowski has moved to assistant coach. The coaches feel that they have their hands full in training the Wildcats this year.



Sophomore Rich Visgnes races to a photo-finish. (photo courtesy of yearbook)



Holly Bitner flies over a hurdle in practice. (photo courtesy of yearbook)

Athletes 'rare breed'

by Bill Recchia

Superstition is a very common trait among athletes. It can range from wearing the same socks for every game to eating the same meal before every contest.

Soccer Coach Steve Kimery feels that a superstition is often confused with a ritual or routine, when an athlete always needs to do things the same way.

"I believe as young people begin to grow and are in the growing process, their skills aren't refined so they don't do things with the same consistency, and this causes superstition," added Kimery.

Kimery feels that there are both positive

and negative aspects to superstitions. He thinks that if the routine is always carried out, it is a definite positive for the athlete.

"On the other hand," Kimery claims, "if the routine is not carried out, it may put a mental hamper on the athlete." He feels that the athlete may worry more about not carrying out the routine than the actual contest.

Even though almost every athlete has superstitions of his own, Kimery believes that they have little effect in how the athlete does in the competition. Kimery then added, "Athletes are a rare breed, always looking for that little magic."

Coach Meyer considers Blue Demon's future

by Bill Recchia

As you walk into the office of DePaul Blue Demon Coach Ray Meyer, you are surrounded by his many achievements. Awards and trophies fill the room which reflects many years of successful coaching.

When the coach entered his office, the nervousness I had suddenly disappeared as I was greeted with a warm handshake and a smile.

After the preliminary introductions, the talk got right to basketball and DePaul's chances in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament.

DePaul lost their first game in the tournament last year to Saint Joseph's University of Pennsylvania, where they stalled throughout the game. In a recent game this year between the same teams, DePaul escaped with a one point victory in another stall type of game.

The coach feels that the experience of facing a stall game against Saint Joseph's this year will be helpful to DePaul in the tournament. "We never saw one (a stall) until we played Saint Joe's last year in the tourney."

Coach Meyer claims that this year's team is more balanced than last years. He feels that this will help them in the long run because if one player doesn't have a great game, there are four other players who are able to pick up the slack.

Out of all the regionals in the tourney, Coach Meyer would like his team to play out west. "We've always had good success out west," he claimed.

Meyer says that the key factor to success

in the tournament is defense, and he uses the University of Indiana's first place finish last year as an example. "Their defense was flawless. Defense is constant every night as to where offense will vary," he added.

Coach Meyer feels that his team had this quality three or four weeks ago, but "we have lost it now. We aren't playing with the same intensity that we were then."

In order to beat such powers as North Carolina and Virginia, Coach Meyer feels that DePaul would have to play exceptionally well. He says that they would fare better against North Carolina because they are not extremely tall, but it would still take a great effort on their part to beat them.

As I left the office, I happened to glance out a window overlooking Alumni Hall's gymnasium, DePaul's old home basketball court (they now play at the Rosemont Horizon) where so many of Coach Ray Meyer's achievements have taken place.

We-go Sports Schedule

Boys' Track

Sat. March 6
Sat. March 13
Sat. March 20

Fenton Invitational
Naperville Relays
D.V.C. Invitational

Away 10 a.m.
Away 9:30 a.m.
Away 10 a.m.

Girls' Track

Wed. March 17
Tues. March 23v
Tues. March 30

St. Charles/Wheaton Warrenville
Addison Trail at Glenbard N.
Addison Trail at Lake Park

Home 4:30 p.m.
Away 6:30 p.m.
Away 4:30 p.m.

Boys' Basketball

March 6, 8, 11, 13
March 9, 10, 12
March 16
March 19, 20

Wheaton Central Tourney
Sectional Tournament
Super Sectional Tourney
State Finals

Away TBA
TBA, TBA
TBA TBA
TBA TBA

Girls' Basketball

Thurs. March 4
March 8-11
March 15, 17

Glenbard North
Regional Tournament
Sectionals

Away 6:30 p.m.
TBA TBA
TBA TBA

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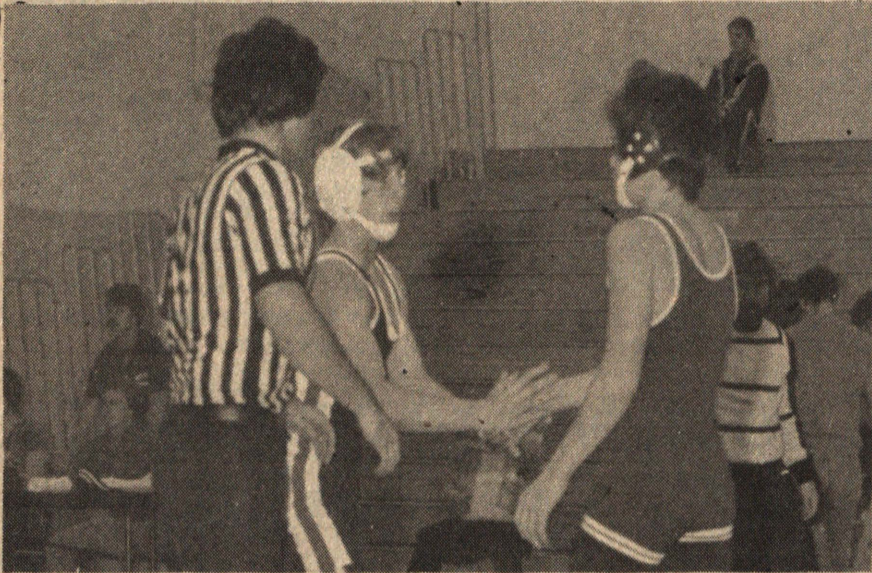
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Kraft, Turner qualify for state meets

by Dave Barry

Mike Kraft surprised no one in qualifying for the state wrestling meet. Glenbard North ran away with the February 19 meet, but Kraft managed to make himself eligible for the state tournament with apparent ease.



While other We-go wrestlers enjoyed successful seasons, Mike Kraft was the only member to qualify for state. (photo by Mike Sitarz)

Kraft has now wrestled the entire season without a single defeat. Hopefully he will have better luck in state competition than last year's disappointing outcome.

Randy Turner's close shave may have helped him achieve a time in the breaststroke which qualified him for the state swimming meet.

Turner, a senior and captain of We-go's swim team, shaved his hair down to mere razor stubble on the eve of the district meet. This "event" took place at the home of his coach, Dan Johnson. "It was mainly for the psychological advantage," Turner admitted. "But it may have even cut a fraction of a second off of my time."



Senior Randy Turner is shown here with a full head of hair. Turner made the brave decision to go bald for the state meet. (photo by Mike Sitarz)

The state swimming meet was held last Friday, with the finals on Saturday. Turner was the only swimmer from West Chicago who managed to qualify for state competition. Following his successful performance in the district meet, Turner pondered the sacrifice of his razor stubble. "I might shave it all off," he laughed, "If I get up enough nerve."

Mastering the art of skiing while drunk takes a tremendous amount of practice. Many of our school's skiers should be quite good at skiing under the influence by now.

Downhill skiing has grown in popularity in West Chicago, just as it has across the nation. Most of the Park District's ski trips sold out rather quickly. The trip to Devil's Head in Wisconsin sold out so quickly that a second bus was added, which filled up just as fast.

Many experienced skiers insist that they are better skiers after having a few drinks. They claim that the alcohol enables them to ski without fear. After getting blitzed they are no longer terrified by any of the runs or even jumps. This may be of particular value to the beginning skier. Getting bombed is almost a necessity when the slopes are jammed with people. This way you don't worry about running over other skiers or being run over yourself.

Some ski enthusiasts who have witnessed other drunk skiers find it hard to believe that drinking actually makes you a better skier. There is no doubt drinking lessens your inhibitions. However, that may not

always be an asset to the skier.

It is easy to spot the drunk skier out on the slopes. Usually they are the ones laughing hysterically and rolling around in the snow. Others may be found swearing at their uncooperative skis. The chances are, however, that the drunk skier is having a great time, even though they may be skiing horribly.

Another experience in skiing, which enjoys much less popularity, is skiing stoned. One We-go skier wears a shirt which states simply "Ski Stoned." No matter which drug is chosen, the level of danger is increased.

The next time you're out on the slopes I hope you remember to watch for any drunk or stoned skies, for your own enjoyment if nothing else. Of course, you may also decide to join in the fine art of skiing under the influence.

by Dave Barry

Congratulations should be extended to We-go's downhill ski team this season. The team managed to take first place at this year's championship competition. The races were held at Villa Olivia on February 25. According to many skiers the conditions were very poor due to the icy surface.

Some of the standouts for We-go's ski team were senior Bill Zak and sophomore Mark Bien. This is the second consecutive year in which West Chicago has had a championship downhill ski team.

There has been little progress in the physical education uniform situation. It appears that all of our school's rebellious students have conceded to wearing their stupid, ugly ridiculous gym suits. Everyone has finally realized that they have little choice but to humor their gym teachers along.

Detentions were given out to those students who continually refused to wear their We-go uniforms. However, (in most cases at least) neither teachers nor administrators contacted student's parents as they had threatened. Perhaps they were afraid of being laughed at.

In recent years West Chicago has begun a tradition of successful soccer teams. However, the past two varsity seasons have ended in playoff defeats to the powerful Wheaton-Christian high school.

Many members of this year's varsity team are already speculating about next year's soccer team. Losses and gains are being measured in an attempt to project the effectiveness of next season's team. Some of the biggest losses will be senior fullbacks Bill Hahn and Gilbert Rios. On offense, seniors Rudy Castillo and Enrique Guzman will be sorely missed.



Carlos Cuiriz was the defensive standout for the Wildcat soccer team. Cuiriz, a junior, will still be leading the defense next season. (photo by Mike Sitarz)