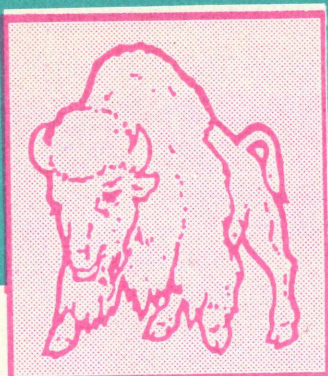




The Bison

The Buffalo Senior High School Newspaper

Buffalo Senior High • 1300 Highway 25 North • Buffalo, Minnesota 55313 • 682-6800
Volume XXXIV Issue 7 March 15, 1991

Legislation modifies education

By Prudence Ernesti

Staff Writer

Whether or not a student votes, major decisions structuring his/her life are formed by the state legislature.

For example, due to a bill being proposed, eighteen would become the new legal drop-out age at the beginning of the 1993-94 school year, if passed.

Although the bill wouldn't affect many current upperclassmen, this year's freshmen would be the first students to experience

the new law.

For years, politicians have argued the worth, and harm, of the bill.

Even with many predictions of success and "Americans reentering the World Trade Market," due to this law, some school officials are critical of the change.

"Forcing people to be in a place that they don't want to be [causes problems]," said Assistant Principal Mark Minkler.

Some insist that the new law is yet another instigator of tension.

"It's going to put a lot of stress on the schools," said Principal Nick Miller.

Keeping potential dropouts two or more years by law, could cause supervision problems.

"It's pretty difficult to handle a 16 year old that doesn't want to be in school, let alone, an 18 year old," said Minkler.

The legislation is also raising the length of the school year. Legislation plans to increase the school year, two days per year starting the 1993-94 school year and ending the 2002-03 school

year. By that time, students will be required to attend school for at least 190 days.

District 877, ahead of most school districts, already has 176.5 days, so that plan will not affect BHS until the 1996-97 school year.

Minkler said, "We should concentrate on a better job we do, and not do the job we do longer."

In other words, educators should strive for education quality, not quantity, according to Miller.

Attendance is another mat-

ter. Laws say that a student must attend school regularly. Schools must maintain records for a variety of reasons.

"It's easy to find a student in the school if anyone needs to find them," said Miller.

Students that don't follow the attendance laws are subject to the compulsory attendance laws. When the student is absent for more than seven unexcused, separate days, or seven separate hours, the school district files a truancy petition to Wright County, usually by the social worker.

Prom focuses on 'Edge of dream'

By Heather Mattson

Staff Writer

A "dream come true," Prom 1991 is scheduled for May 11.

Still in the planning stages, several factors will remain the same as last year, while others will vary.

For example, the St. Cloud Civic Center will again host the Prom dance.

"The Edge Of A Dream", will be the center theme of Prom with metallic colors of basic black, hot pink, aqua, yellow, and red, depicting a city skyline.

Traditionally, the junior class puts on the Prom as a courtesy for the seniors. The main planning for this year's prom is the responsibility of the junior class officers.

Advising the group Julie Swaggart, junior class advisor, assists in making preparations.

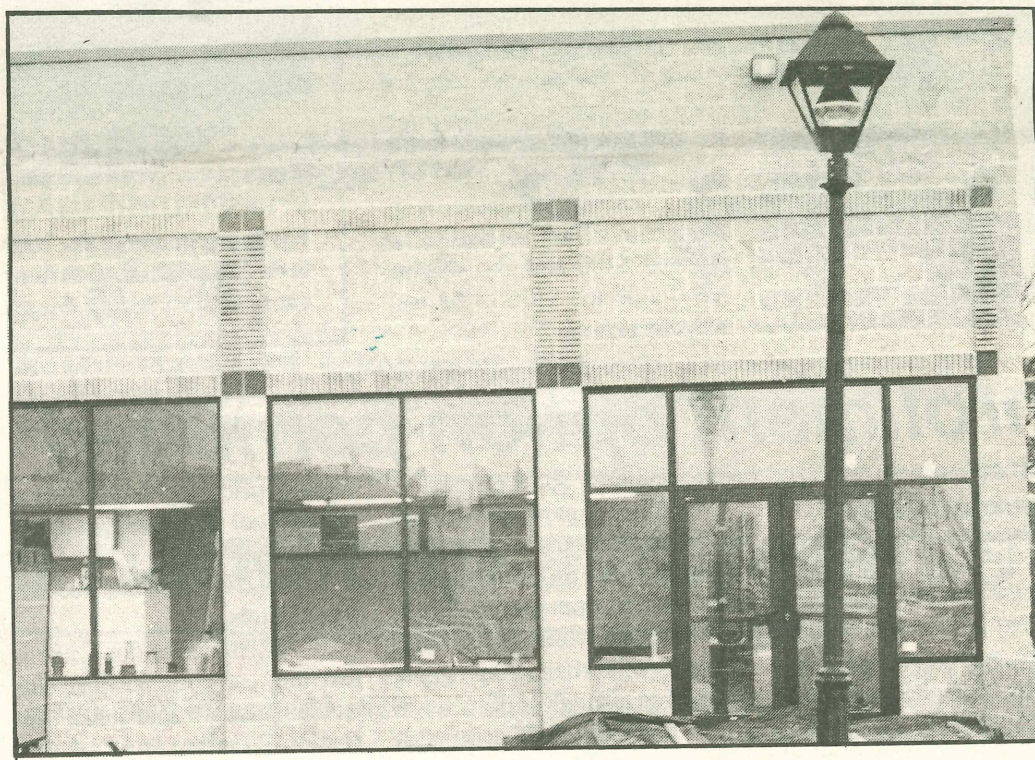
According to Swaggart, the St. Cloud Civic Center is a classy place, has plenty of room, and was the best choice.

"All is going well and yet needs lots of work," said junior class officer Kim Ibs. "It will be the same D.J. as last year. All us class officers are really pumped to do a great job."

Others agree.

"The most exciting thing about Prom will be seeing how it's going to turn out in the end, and to see how all the hard work will pay off," said junior Heidi Winter.

Juniors wishing to add their ideas about planning for prom should contact a class officer.



WHEN THE LIGHTS DIM TONIGHT, the new Buffalo Cinema will unbar its doors, unavailing the theater that has been under construction all winter. The first show is scheduled to start at 4:30 p.m. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

District growth demands change

By Jeff Mauk

Assistant News Editor

An expected increase of 252 high school students in the next five years has District 877 seeking a way to accommodate them.

Architects have been hired and are currently working on ways to accommodate the increased number of students.

Many options are available to the architects, including building a new school entirely.

"The options are unlimited," said Principal Nick Miller.

The district owns a 40 acre site in the Upper Davis Addition

in which a new high school could possibly be built, but there is question as to whether 40 acres is enough land for a high school.

Outcome Based Education (OBE) is another factor for architects to consider when drawing up plans.

"We need to get more flexible type of classrooms," said Miller. "OBE is better defined when you have a little more flexibility."

The building exists for students, so student input plays a major role when deciding which is the best option.

Another option being con-

sidered is building on to the current school.

"The best way to accommodate all these students is to build on," said senior Jennifer Reibel. "We've got plenty of space around the school."

Any new additions or building may cost \$30 million. Depending on how the community feels about the expense, the plans may be influenced.

Each year, along with the student population, the number of students in band and choir increases.

"In the next five years, I could see us adding another band,

depending on class scheduling," said band director Rolf Mohwinkle.

The academic computer lab is also feeling the affects of the increasing number of students, it is booked solid for as much as three weeks in advance.

Currently, the school is spending \$30-40 thousand per year in technology, \$3-4 thousand of that toward computer software alone.

"You can't predict now what will be needed by then," said

Inside

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Students face the April 15th deadline.

6 Features

Kids behind bars, minors or adults?

Buffalo joins national evaluation program

By Jill Scott

Staff Writer

Selected for the program, BHS will join high schools from over 19 states in the NCA (North Central Association for Accreditation.)

NCA is a self-help program which stresses finding problems within schools and fixing them.

"It is to help us do what we are doing better," said Band di-

rector Rolf Mohwinkel.

BHS applied for accreditation last year, however, the program will not go into effect until the 1991-92 school year. According to Mohwinkel, "A high percentage of the staff thought it was significant."

Before and during the duration of the program, visitors from other schools in Minnesota will come and evaluate certain areas of the BHS curriculum.

Mohwinkel said, "They come in to see if we are doing what we say we are doing. It's called peer-evaluation."

The evaluators will talk to department heads and find out what they would like to change in the school. These suggestions will then be taken into consideration.

When the program goes into effect, BHS will not undergo a major transformation. NCA

would only bring about "fine-tuning changes," according to Harlan.

Facts show that NCA really does improve the situation in schools. "Nearly 80% of the violations cited in a year are corrected by the next school year," states a pamphlet on the program.

Student opinion will not be forgotten. Many of the evaluators will be here during the school day. They may stop students at random and find out what they

think of the school and what they would like to see changed.

"It (NCA) has to help the students," said Mohwinkel.

The program is not easy to get into. There is a lot of paperwork involved, and the school applying must meet certain criteria set by the board.

"I think our existing situation would match well with the criteria," said English teacher Jack Harlan.

Community effort magnifies recycling

By Shanon Kramer

Staff Writer

Changes are taking place in the recycling program.

On January 1, 1993 the state of Minnesota will enact a law that states: Every school in the state of Minnesota must recycle three items. BHS plans to be recycling aluminum, cardboard, glass, paper and cans from the kitchen by then, according to Dave Fielder, a member of the teachers' Environmental Task Force.

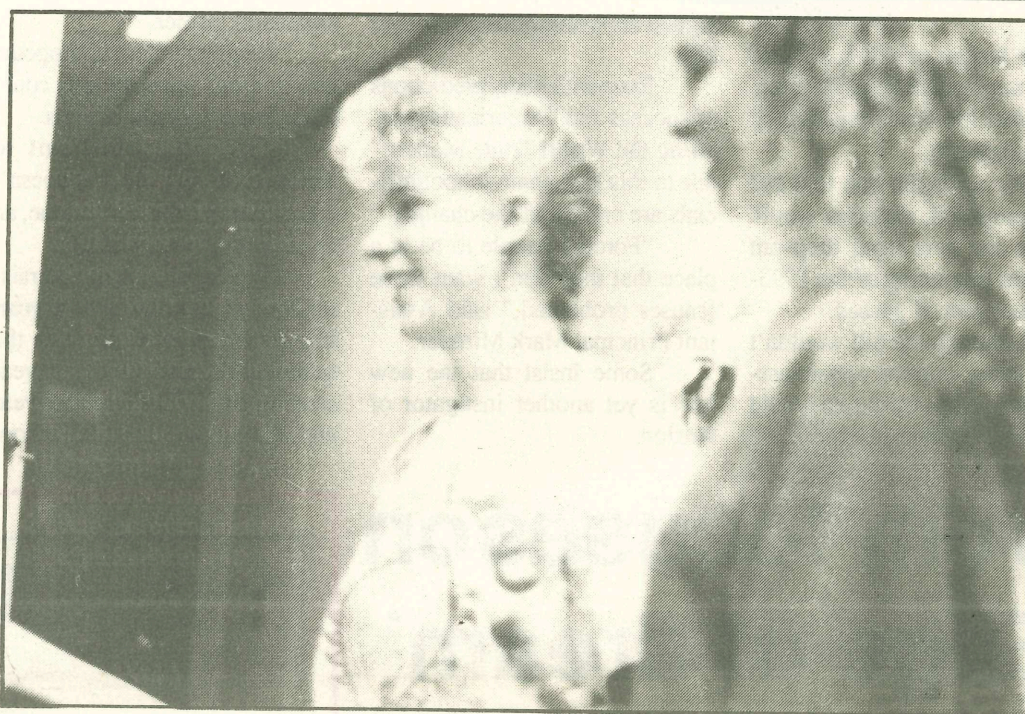
The items that are recycled include cans, paper, and glass but the recycling program only receives money for the cans, according to Fielder. These products are brought to Polka-Dot recycling at least once a week.

Concerned persons have already acted to broaden the recycling program within BHS. Each classroom now contains a bin for empty aluminum cans, and a box for recyclable paper. The teachers are responsible for emptying the bins.

It is hoped that the new bins will create awareness of environmental concerns and allow for easy disposal to recycle.

"Recycling is a great way to conserve the environment and have a good place for our children to live," said junior Denise Zacharias.

Although the bins cost approximately \$300, the Lions Club donated \$100 and the students have collected \$126.13 through recycling cans.



STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF DONATING, seniors Kristi Persian and Sarah Kjellberg promote the NHS Blood Drive. Students must be 17 years old, and weigh at least 110 pounds, in order to donate blood on Friday, March 22. Donors are reminded to eat breakfast before donating blood. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

Enrollment option permitted

By Aaron Hackenmueller

Staff Writer

In the past ten years, Open Enrollment has been a complex issue for many students who would like to switch schools for variety reasons.

"I believe that open enrollment is good because if there's a class you want to take you can take it somewhere else more suitable," said freshman Lee Johnson.

Buffalo, Monticello, and Litchfield have permitted Open

Enrollment for about 6 years.

Bloomington, one of most populated schools in the Twin Cities, enrolls an average of 57 new students from various regions of Minnesota, while Apple Valley, which excels in its sports program, enrolls an average of 30.

Currently, BHS accepts an average of 11 new students through the Open Enrollment Program in a single year.

Some students question the necessity of Open Enrollment.

"I don't really care for it because kids take advantage of it-like if they have friends in a dif-

ferent district they'll move where their school is located," said junior Roland Walti.

Others prefer the freedom that it offers.

"If [students] don't like it here they can go somewhere else to their liking," said junior Jon Hamm.

Some schools in the Twin Cities Metro Area and neighboring communities have a limited number of student enrollments in one school year.

Before enrolling in another school, it is recommended to talk to friends and a school counselors.



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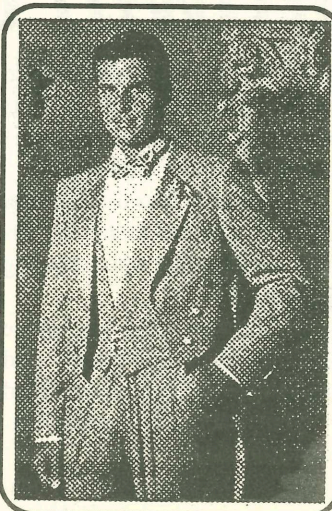
Formal Wear

Johnson's

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News Briefs

All night grad party preparations initiated

The annual all night graduation party will be held on commencement evening, May 7, 1991.

The cost is \$30.00 per person, and those attending are encouraged to pay the fee as soon as possible, although it may be paid up to the day of the party.

No guests are allowed, those attending must be a member of the 1991 graduating class.

Notices were sent out in the mail, and if a person did not receive one, or lost theirs, a copy can be received from Marge Zrust, in the school's office.

Third Quarter closes, conferences planned

Third Quarter will be ending on Wednesday, April 3, 1991. Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, April 18 from 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.

District School Board meeting to take place

The next District #877 School Board will be meeting on Monday, April 1. The meeting will be held at Hanover Elementary School, at 7:00 P.M., and is open to the public.

Vacation scheduled

All District #877 students will be dismissed for Spring Break March 25 - 29, and school will resume on Monday, April 1.

Minors file income taxes

By Denise Zacharias

Staff Writer

Tax forms pile up as the April 15th deadline nears. Even minors must file, and many BHS students must file this year.

Tax professionals suggest many tips when the crunch of tax season nears.

Withdrawing properly and knowing the deductions one is allowed, is a good tip for teens and adults, when filing their taxes according to Donna Priem, an H

& R Block tax preparer.

Some students seek professional help for taxes.

"100-150 students come each year. I wish more students would come in so we can explain the tax process to them earlier in their lives," said Priem.

Others complete the forms by themselves.

"I feel more like my parents have less control of what I do with the money and that makes me feel grown up," said junior Patty Harworth.

But the majority of the students let their parents, friends, or even grandparents file for them.

Many students say that they approve the practice of a small amount removed from each paycheck throughout the year.

For some teens, taxes are just a sign of getting money back. But for others, taxes can turn out to be an unpleasant bill to the government.

The amount one receives or pays the government varies from person to person, and job to job.



SIGNING POSTCARDS, students show their support for American troops over in the Persian Gulf. This was one of many activities that took place on Tuesday, February 26, "Support Our Troops Day." (Photo by Kristin Krenzel)

YARC emphasizes handicap awareness

By Aimee Enneking

Staff Writer

Since 1987, many BHS students have learned how to relate to handicapped students through the Youth Association for Retarded Citizens (YARC).

"[Dealing with the handicapped] makes us realize that they are more like us than different and we are exposed to more kinds of people," said Carla Finke, Director of YARC.

Currently, 30 students in YARC work with the handicapped, planning fun activities and getting to know them personally.

Several activities are

"[YARC is aimed at] transferring ideas and beliefs so prejudice isn't handed down from generation to generation."

Carla Finke, Director of YARC

planned for the coming months.

Handicap awareness week will be held during April 21-27. Throughout this week, speakers will be talking about various handicaps.

Other special events planned include a rolling Timberwolves basketball game, an awards banquet, a band concert were Special Education stu-

dents will participate, the Special Olympics, and a track and field day.

Students recognize the many benefits of being in YARC.

"I have lots of fun with the kids and it gives me a better understanding of the handicapped," said senior Mary Kaurtbauer. "I enjoy the new friendships I've acquired. Most of all, it gives me

personal satisfaction."

Others agree.

"It made me realize that the way we relate to Special Ed. students is to treat them like anyone else because that's what they are," said senior Jennifer Reibeling.

"[YARC is aimed at] transferring ideas and beliefs so prejudice isn't handed down from generation to generation," said

Finke.

YARC has experienced continued growth and more students are receptive to the new and different.

"I am a Special Ed. assistant and I enjoy working with them in class, so I thought it would be fun to play games and activities after school, too," said senior Leslie Jahnke.

Even school is different for the handicapped students. They attend elementary school until the age of thirteen, then transfer directly to the senior high, where they stay until the age of twenty-one years old.

Season ends, Mock Trial recalls trying challenges

By Kathy Reynolds

Staff Writer

Completing a difficult season, the Mock Trial, the BHS Mock Trial team looks ahead to next year.

One hope for next year is

that alumni members return. Another hope is that the case they try is a criminal case, rather than a civil case.

The case that they were arguing this season dealt with a very difficult constitutional issue, Random Drug Testing. The cases

were held in actual courtrooms and a real judge sets the scene.

A highlight of the season was "the ability of the students to adopt to a new attorney coach and their own determination to do well," said Advisor Laurie Raymond.

This season, the team received the help of two local attorneys: Alan Albrecht and Tom Richards. Dealing with a new attorney was often trying, since the coach has both a mental and a physical effect on the team.

Some of the expectations

for next year is, while to continuing to improve, to go to region and to state.

This season the team competed against schools such as: Wayzata, Kennedy and Bloomington.

Management of time questioned at BHS

Time management.

BHS stresses attendance and punctuality--both admirable qualities--on the part of the student, and encourages students to use class time to its fullest potential (another helpful tip).

Even the hallways are now blessed with time pieces.

Even the student handbook contains various time management hints, and "easy to use" calendars.

Good intentions, but...

Let's remove the log before pointing at specks.

The Bison, as the voice of the student body, believes that it is its duty to reveal a few inconsistencies within the system.

Once upon a time, in a school very nearby, a little white pass is sent through school "mail". The receiver, leaving his quiz sheet on the desk, heads towards the office to speak with a principal. Twenty-minutes

later, the student is still sitting quietly in a little room waiting for the "Next!" His offense: "inadvertently" marked absent in class.

Due to the ten second error in attendance, twenty minutes were lost on a Chemistry quiz.

Inefficiency.

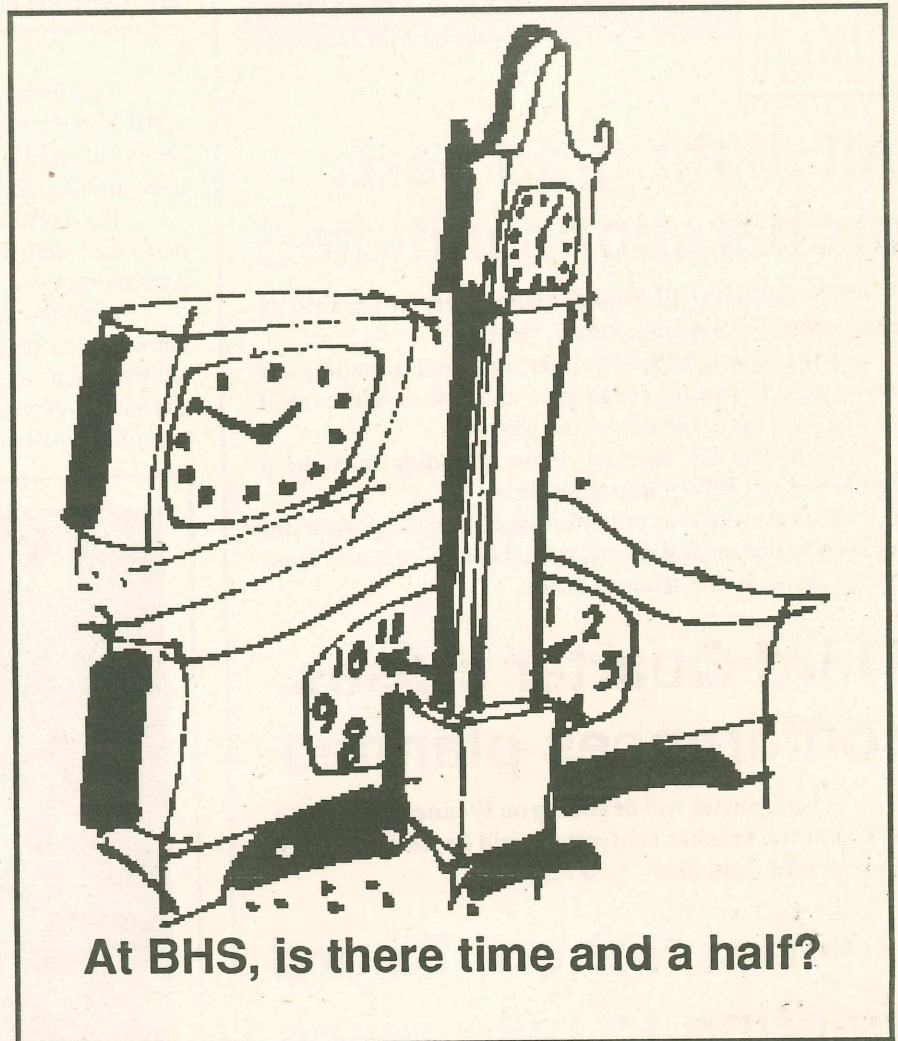
It was not "immediate". It was not punctual. It was not using class time to its fullest potential.

Following the law, and in order to function, the BHS administration must check attendance. *The Bison* believes this is a good practice.

But *The Bison* also believes that minutes should be put where the mouth is.

Not everything runs on schedule. This is a fact of life. But making a more logical, flexible schedule could be a solution. This is planning ahead, using good time management skills.

And that, after all, is one quality high school tries to teach, right?



At BHS, is there time and a half?

Jobs hold temptation, noble intentions, but can hurt more than help

Two years ago, a bill was introduced to the Minnesota Senate stating that students under 18 would not be allowed to work past 11 pm. Recently, that bill has passed through the first house, but was defeated.

Jobs are a good thing. They teach responsibility, time management, the value of money, and give you hands on skills you can use for a lifetime. But, along with these good things come bad things.

Here's a scenario: Before entering the work force, a student had a B plus average, was on the hockey and football teams, a member of NHS, and had good relationships with his friends and parents. Then, during the summer he got a job, to keep himself busy.

This student keeps his job during the school year. Rather early in the school year, he decides not to join football because he would have to quit his job. Management is scheduling him for more hours, until sometimes he works till two am.

His grades begin to drop, and he hardly spends time with his friends because he is working so

much. Since he falls asleep in school all of the time, he doesn't learn anything, so he fails his college entrance exams, and then he decides to become a manager at the place he works.

The fact is that maybe, for students, going to school for eight hours, and then having to go to work for four to eight more hours is too much.

One should also look into why the student actually has the job. One reason is the old car trick. They need a job so they can buy a car, then they need the job to keep gas and insurance on the car. Or, it's the thrill of having money to spend. Sure, you may have about 50 CD's and have a cool stereo, but, what will you have after you get out of high school? --A cool stereo and 60 CD's, that's what.

The Bison isn't saying that having jobs is bad, but when it comes to balancing the hours, responsibility is the key to success in school and on the job. In other words, if you can manage them both, all the better, otherwise, set your priorities straight.



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Forgotten patriotism, fair weather pride

By Amy J. Oberdeck

Editor-in-Chief

Everyone was on-edge, fearing the future and recalling the past. Old Glory was flashed on television screens across America. People, with chins held high, displayed "Proud to be American" bumper stickers, Desert Storm t shirts, and told anti-Saddam jokes.

But that was a month ago.

The war is over, and our servicepeople are coming home to a self-satisfied America.

But even as the military airplanes arrive with great welcome,

something is again being shoved back on the shelves of life, only to be dusted--once in a great while--until called upon again.

Pride. American pride. American patriotism.

Day by day, house by house, block by block, the once proudly tied yellow ribbons are being cut down, the once solemnly raised flags are being gleefully lowered, and the once sought-after maps of the Middle East are being thrown away.

How soon we forget.

How easily we slide back into

the comfortable bliss of ignorance.

American patriotism. Is it just like a sports team? Are we all "fair-weather fans"? When the "season" is over, do we look on to the next season's Great American Past-time?

We shelf football when the Super Bowl is over, and we start discussing hockey and spring training. Are we doing this to patriotism?

Only during the war have I heard so many people claim that the United States is the greatest country of the world.

Only during the war have so many aired their political admiration for the military.

Only during the war have so many stood behind the President.

Only during the war.

But now the war is over.

Don't let patriotism die. It has carried us through the tough times, it deserves the honor of a place in every American's heart.

Patriotism belongs in our hearts. Canned peaches and green beans belong on the shelf.

Think about it.

Prom date requirements made extra easy

By Heather Bakke

Spotlight Editor

If you want to go to prom with me you'll have to earn it.

In the past I have begged for a prom date in this column. I tried everything: flyers, extra credit in my fathers Modern Problems or Minorities classes, the electronic billboard in the mall, painted it on the rock, KRWC community billboard, a guest spot on Oprah, even skywriting.

No more.

Here is the criteria you need to live up to, to be my prom date.

Do you breathe?

Kan you spell?

Heather Knows Best

Are taller than 4'5"?

(I can't be shallow about this so here are some harder ones.)

Did you vote for Wellstone?

Do you believe in Herbert Hoover?

Do watch David Letterman?

Do you drink diet Mountain Dew?

If you answered yes to all these questions, good for you, you can go to prom with me. Of course you'll have to pass the Gerry Bakke date test -- it's not that hard since he's never had to give it. I hope the shock of me getting a date doesn't give him a heart attack but of course

the thought of him gaining a son would be enough to bring him back to life.

I know I'm not the only one out there who needs a date there must be two or three people out there who don't have a mile of prospects lined up behind them. People like us have to stick together. When May 11 arrives you'll have that special someone to swing around the dance floor with.

No Kidding.

I wish I had options like last year, I mean after being turned down by the whole school-- personally by twenty, looked to my older, smarter,

kinder, sweeter brother Eric. But not this year, "No dice, sis I already got a date." Just wait until Christmas bro I'll get you back.

So if you meet my standards and are free May 11 give me a call. You'll get me, a younger, not as smart, friendly, funnier version of Eric. Hey, I pierced my ears maybe I'll even shave my head. Then you could say you went to prom with half the Bakke family.

Of course if I don't get a date who knows what I'll do. Probably join a convent. A Lutheran convent.

But that's another story.

No kiddinng.

Great works of literature beckon vacation readers

By Susan A. Hundt

Editorials Editor

As I look forward to the up and coming Spring vacation, I am quite worried on how my fellow classmates will spend their time. I should hope that you won't veg on the couch in front of the TV and catch up on Days of Our Lives and stuff your face with bon bons.

Okay, back on that horse.

Anybody ever read over vacation?

For the benefit of literacy in America, I have compiled a reading list for spring reading.

The following is a list of books which have effected my life so much that I have changed some things about myself because of questions posed in them.

1. *A Prayer for Owen Meany*

By John Irving

This book is excellent.

Anyone who is fortunate

enough to take Mr. Robinson's Contemporary Lit class will welcome this book with open arms.

Owen Meany is a really small guy with a high scratchy voice. John is his best friend who is also the narrator of the story. Owen kills John's mother in a funny way, and these two are always pulling crap in their small New England town of Gravesend.

(Come to think of it, any novel by John Irving is an excellent way to spend time. Irving has written three novels besides *Owen*; *The Hotel New Hampshire*, *The World According to Garp*, and *The Cider House Rules*. If the first to listed sound familiar, they should, because they were also made into movies, starring people such as: Rob Lowe, Jodie Foster, Glenn Close, and Robin Williams. I even recommend the movies. So if you insist on being a couch potato,

I suggest you check these out.)

2. *The Catcher in the Rye*

By J.D. Salinger

This is another from the archives of Contemporary Lit.

Holden Caulfield is a guy, about 17 years old, who is kicked out of Prep School and spends a day or two on his own in New York City, smoking cigarettes and meeting interesting people. Holden is the type of person you can sit down and talk to, and the best way you can do this is reading this book.

3. *The Great Gatsby*

By F. Scott Fitzgerald

If you are into materialism and have the party till you puke attitude, I think you will like this one.

Written by St. Paul's own Fitzgerald, narrator Nick Carraway reflects on a summer spent with his neighbor, Jay Gatsby, his ex-flame, Daisy, her husband, Tom, and his

mistress, Myrtle.

Fitzgerald writes how a generation of people lived high and self destructed in the end.

Even though Fitzgerald was a womanizer and an alcoholic, his novels are wonderfully written, and you can almost see the difficulties it took to put his own words down.

4. Any book about the New Kids on the Block. (Just kidding, but, these will show you what bad literature and bad subject material is!)

5. Anything written by ME! There goes my arrogance again, eh? People say I'm modest, but don't listen to them!

Now, I am sure everyone will mob the library to find these great works, but, beware, too much reading on an empty brain can cause serious side effects. Like the desire to watch *The Love Boat*.

Enjoy in moderation.

Trust me.

The Final Word

Threats, attacks provoke teachers

By Tess Sumption

Staff Writer

Students threaten teachers at school, and off school grounds. Teachers are puzzled because they do not know if they are real threats or not.

When students have threatened teachers they have gone to the extent of phone harassment. One teacher, who wishes to remain anonymous, now has an unlisted number because of obscene phone calls, usually late at night. There have not been many attacks, most of them being verbal threats.

"If a teacher is getting harassing phone calls, I just tell them to hang up," said Chief of Police, Dan Scott.

When a student threatens a teacher the most common reasons are attitude problems or low grades. "Students get mad at teachers because they are the second person to get angry at besides their parents,"

said English teacher, Karen Swenson.

"When students have threatened me, I have either pulled them aside and talked to them or have acted in a humorous way," said Swenson. Not all threats are reported, some teachers may try to handle it themselves. "I try to stay aware of the surroundings around

"Students get mad at teachers because they are the second person to get angry at besides their parents."

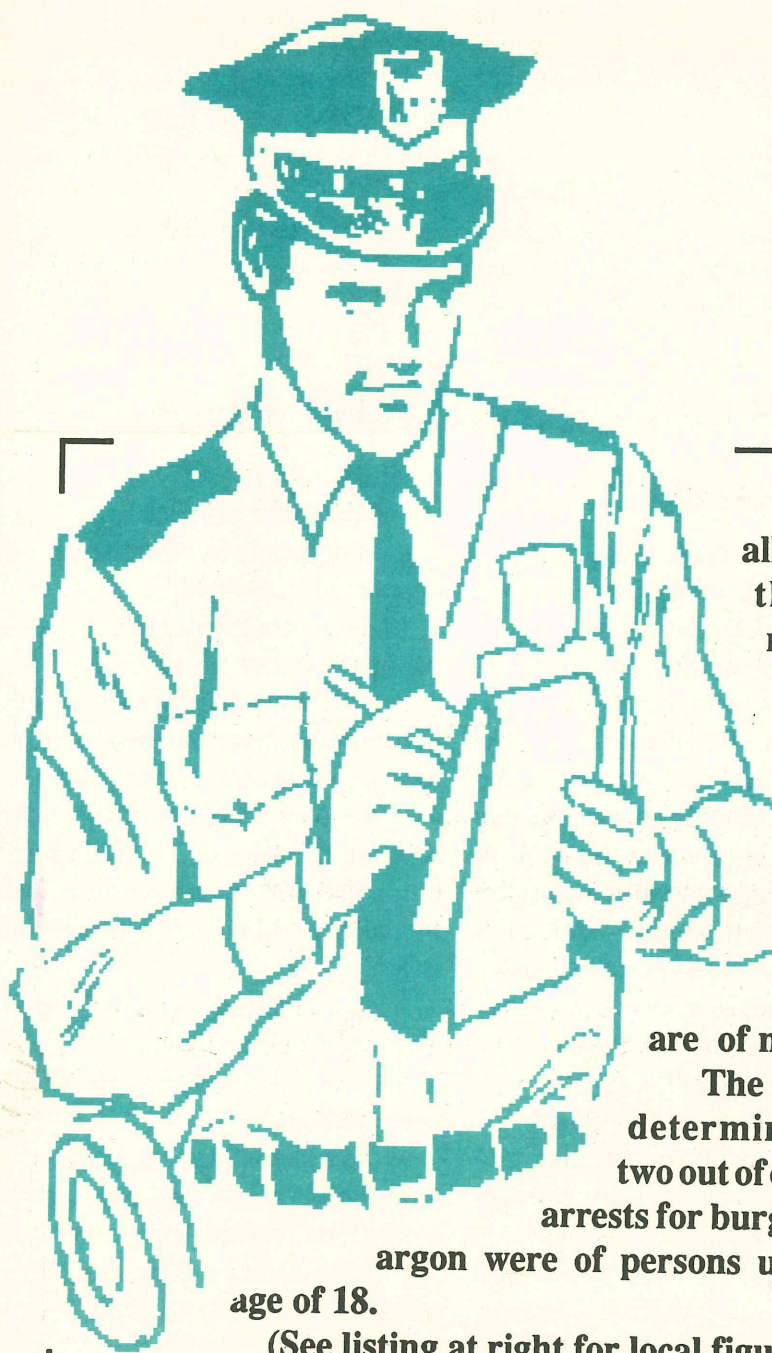
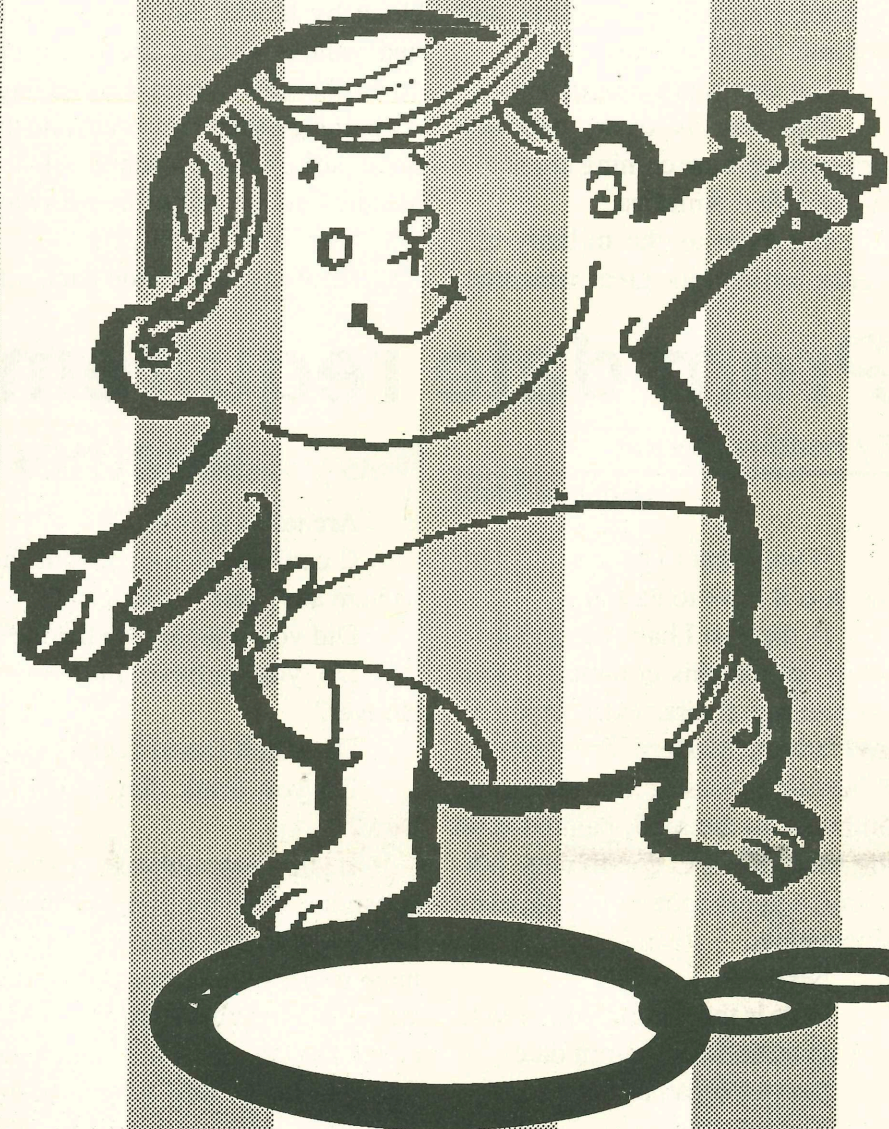
English teacher Karen Swenson

me, and I try not to put myself in that type of situation," said English teacher Jean Pehl. "The administration tells teachers to keep track of the incidents," said Swenson.

If a student would attack a teacher the punishment can be anywhere from a maximum of a \$700 fine, up to 90 days in jail, or both. The punishment would be more severe if the attack involved a weapon.

"The teacher/student relationship has a lot to do with it. If the teacher and the student do not get along, then that isn't always good," Scott said.

KIDS AND KR



Nationally, 59% of those arrested for major crimes are 24 or younger. (29% of national arrests are of minors.)

The FBI has determined that two out of every five arrests for burglary and arson were of persons under the age of 18.

(See listing at right for local figures.)

Juvenile Crimes in 1990 Wright County

Assaults	10
(suspected and arrested)	
Burglary	2
(house/dwelling)	
Drugs	3
Alcohol	40
(consumption and possession)	
DUI	4
Vandalism	6
Criminal Sexual Contact	5
Robbery	2
Theft	51
(shoplifting)	

D.A.R.E. program stress management measure; local efforts, elementary

By Sarah Miller

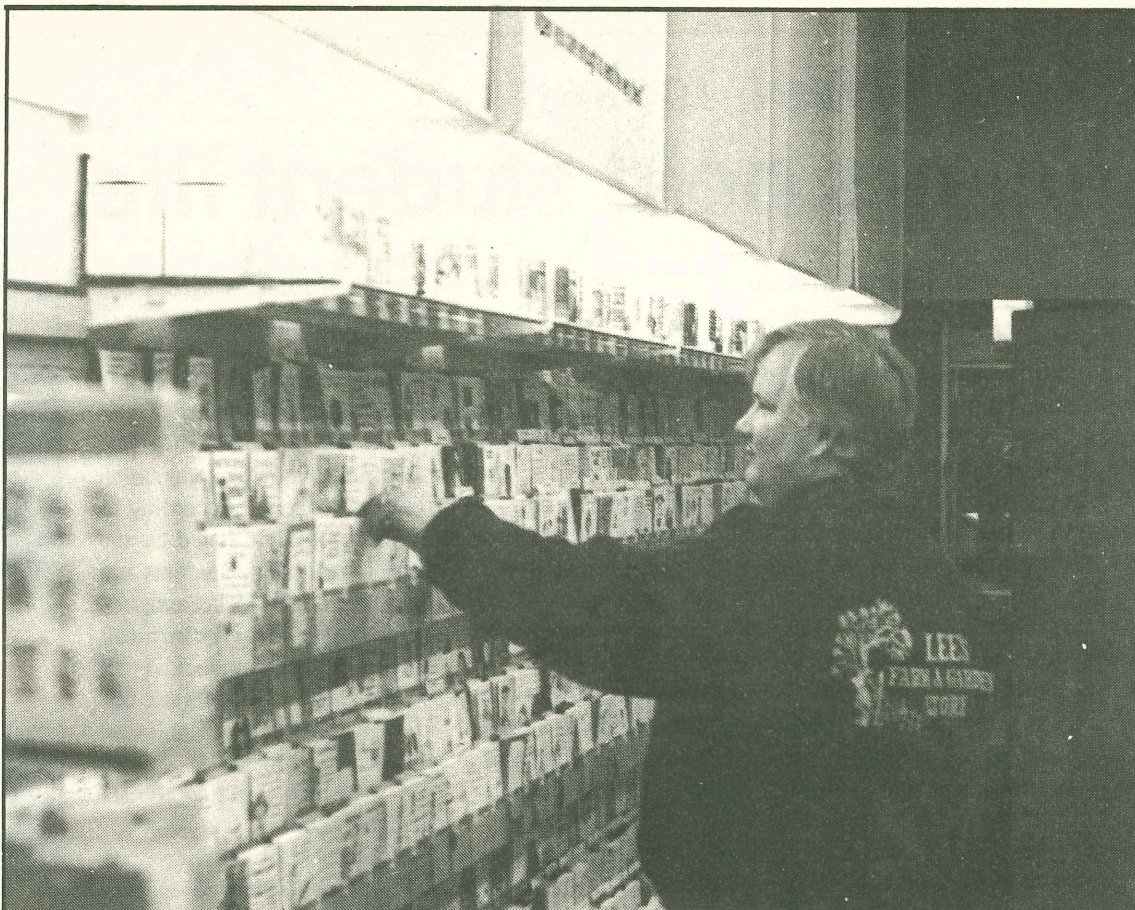
Staff Writer

On October 2, 1990, Buffalo School District began a new, innovative program to help reduce drug usage among students.

The DARE program, Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, started in Los Angeles as a joint effort between the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District in 1983.

Developed by educators, it was intended to take a new look at the drug problem. Instead of just focusing on the drug dealers, this program is aimed at eliminating the "need" for drugs. By teaching 5th

IME



"SHOPLIFTERS WILL BE PROSECUTED" reads signs around the business district of Buffalo. Shoplifting, one of the most common juvenile crimes, becomes addictive to some teenagers. Here, a man browses through greeting cards at a local drug store. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

Minor offenses sentenced by 'statis crime' categories

S. Miller

Staff Writer

Last year over 1,000 kids committed crimes in Wright County. Anything from running away to driving while intoxicated.

Minors fit into a special category in the legal system. Not yet adults, their treatment is different. They are not held in the

same areas and cannot be jailed in Wright County.

"A juvenile or minor has not had life experience. They are somewhat expected to make mistakes," said Chief of Police, Dan Scott.

Minors, generally are not jailed at all. They are more often placed in foster homes, or, in extreme cases, in juvenile centers. For a minor to be treated as an adult, they must be certified. This is done by a closed hearing with a judge. A minor is only certified for individual

crimes, including crimes that are repeated.

There are also offenses which can only be committed by minors including: minor consumption (of alcohol), breaking curfew, smoking, and running away. These are termed statis offenses, and make up a large portion of minor crimes.

"You don't think of it as being in your best interest. You think of it as being a restriction," said Scott.

Program teaches self-esteem, judgement as drug reduction cal support rewards police mentary school 'graduates'

and 6th grade students such lessons as assertiveness training, self-esteem, stress management and decision making processes, it provides students with life skills and the ability and to know-how to say no.

The men and women who teach these lessons are all uniformed police officers. Each must go through an 80 hour, two week training period in one of the 5 national training centers.

"It's a very intense program," said Robert Harri, Buffalo Patrol Officer and Department DARE Officer.

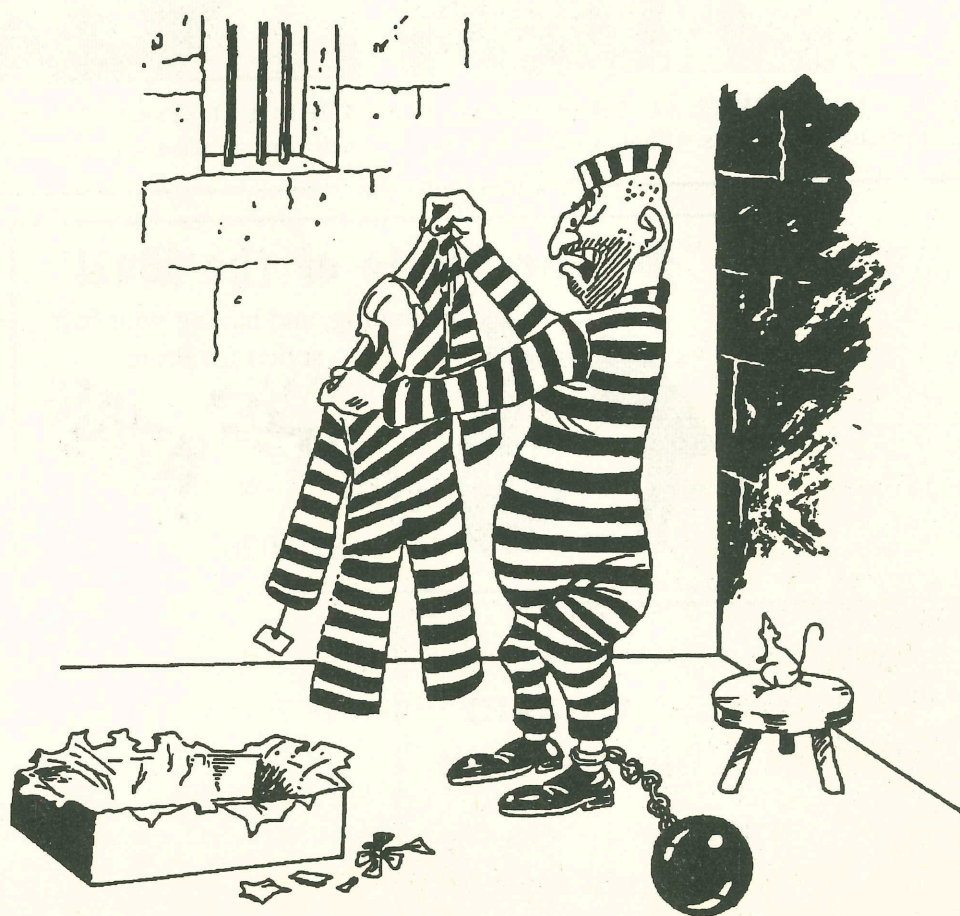
The program began in Buffalo as a community effort. The Chief of Police approached the school district and soon funding was

found from the Lions and the Rotary Club. There was a definite interest in the program.

The program debuted at Buffalo Intermediate and St. Francis Xavier last fall. Each week, for 17 weeks the students were taught the same lessons as nearly 1,500,000 other students nationwide.

The local graduation ceremony on February 4 accredited 245 students. Over 600 guests were on hand to witness the first such graduation.

"[The support] is better than I had anticipated. The support from parents, students and school staff is great. The most important thing is that the students have been receptive," said Harri.



'Locker sweet locker'

Lockers hold student life

By Kerry Lynn Koch
Proof Editor

A home away from home. They hold more than frustrating pre-calc assignments, torn apart folders, a copy of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, chemistry books, or empty pop cans. They hold student life.

Lockers are a necessity for every student. They hold anything from track shoes to brown bag lunches.

"Lockers are probably the same condition as your room, they indicate your personality," said senior Stacey Mangni.

Lockers may be just a storage space to some, but to others, they may mean more than that.

"It's a reflection of a

persons real self," said junior Ned Akin.

Lockers are ornamented in all sorts of ways.

"It is a place where you can express yourself," said sophomore Tara Trigg.

The most popular way of decorating a locker is to have clippings of musical groups, movie heart-throbs, or even Mickey Mouse. Displaying photos of friends is also common.

"I like the way my locker is decorated. I hate hanging out by it though, it creates a big traffic block in the hall," said sophomore Katie Parpovich.

The majority of students return to their lockers after every class.

"It's a place to hang-out. Everyone meets there and talks," said senior Nicole Schlemmer.

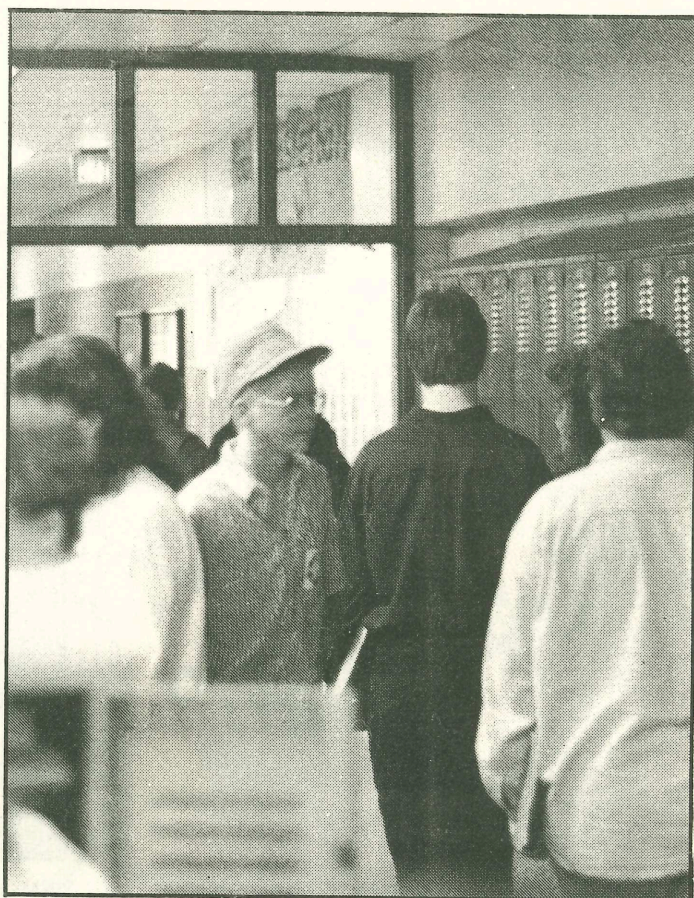
Most students agreed that they had disorganized lockers.

"It starts out clean but by the end of the day it is messy again," said Schlemmer.

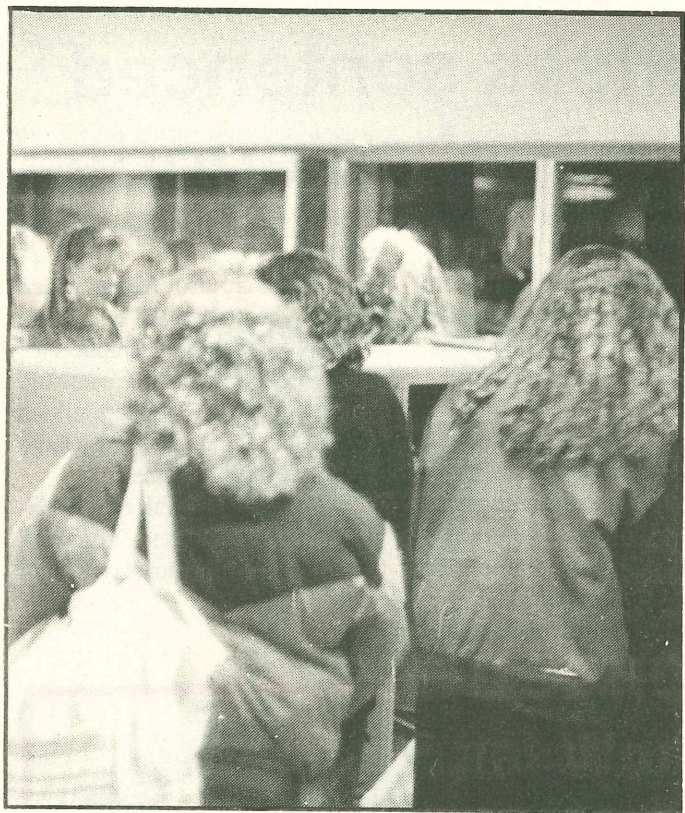
Some students have had the misfortune of having items stolen from the lockers. According to the locker policy stated in the student handbook, students are required to use the locker assigned to them and to keep it locked at all times. Keeping them locked will prevent theft. Students are advised not to keep valuables or money in their lockers.

"I usually just keep books inside my locker," said Akin.

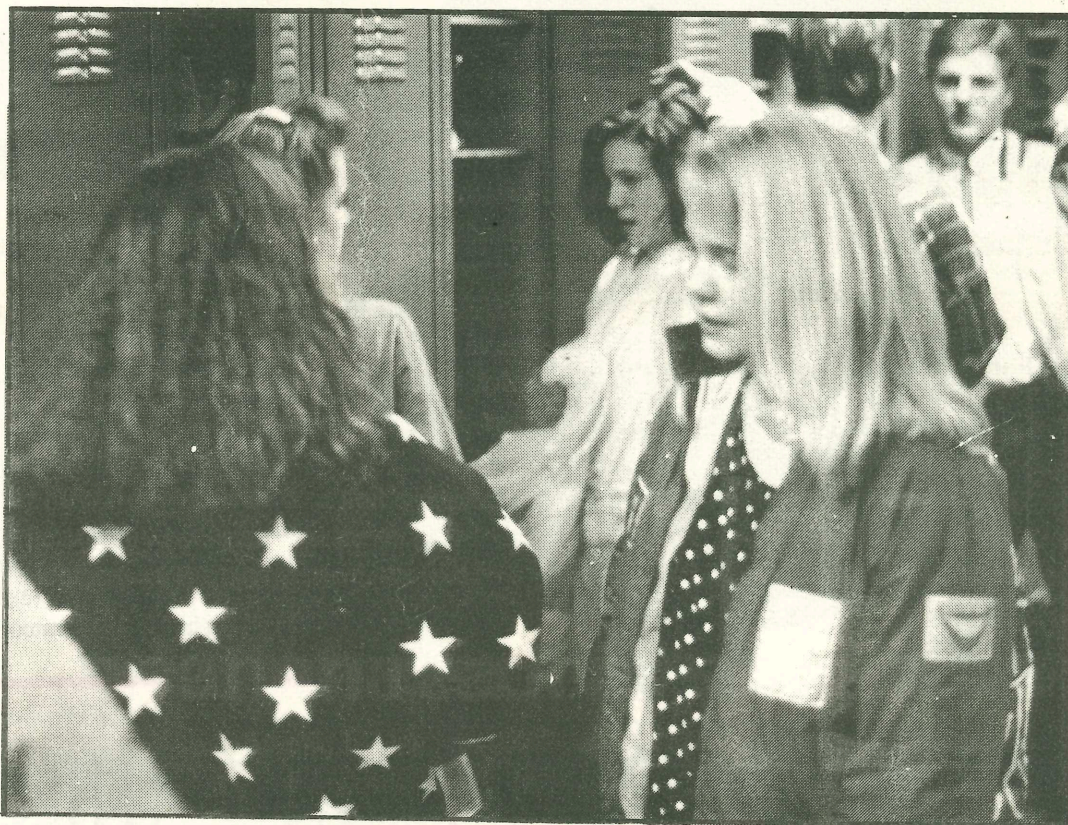
The school does have the right to search through a student's locker if the administration judges such action necessary to protect the safety and welfare of students and staff.



CHECKING IN AT HOME BASE, many students return to their lockers between classes. (Photo by Rob Kruck)



"MEET ME AT MY LOCKER AFTER SCHOOL" is a frequently used phrase by students. (Photo by Rob Kruck)



THE LOCAL STUDENT HANG-OUT, locker space is limited and at the end of the day, crowded hallways are alive with rushed social activity. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

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Disappointment ends wrestling season

By Susan A. Hundt

Editorials Editor

After a successful season, the Bison wrestlers came home from state with the title of fourth place in the state, Jason Birr with his second state championship title, and coach Gerry Bakke with Class AA Coach of the year.

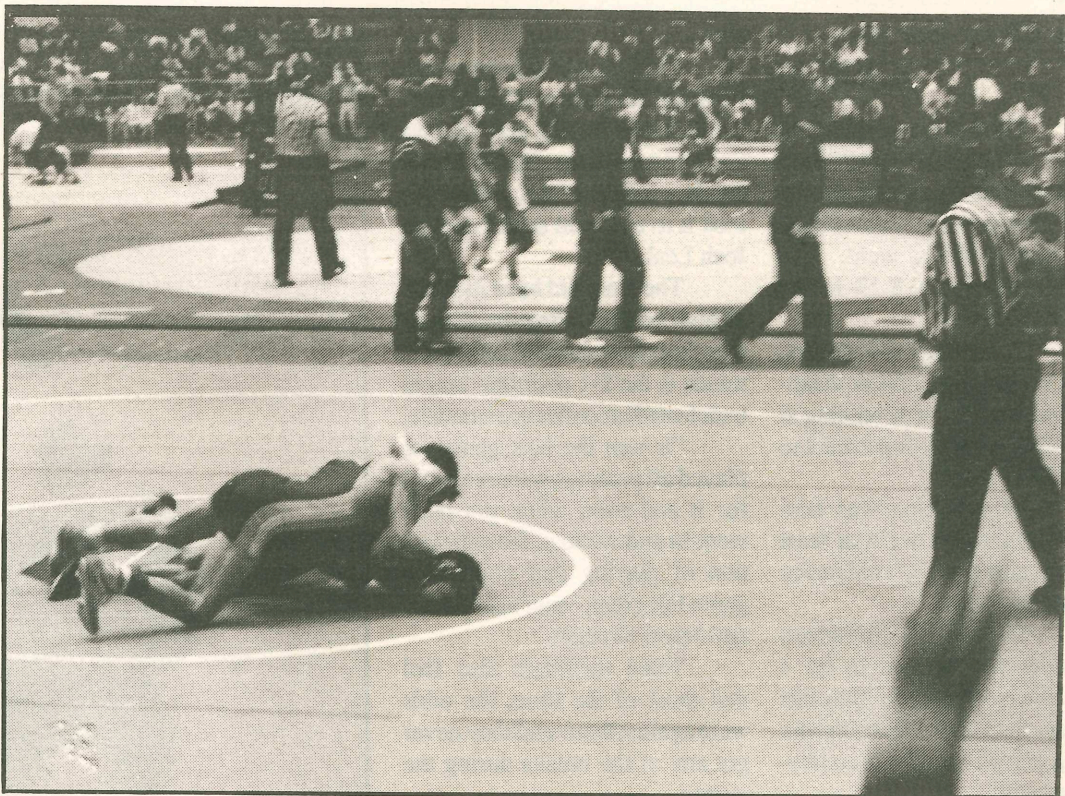
"It was a thrill for me, but I think it's more of a program of the year," said Bakke. This is Bakke's second time winning coach of the year. He won Coach of the Year of Iowa in 1978.

Senior Jason Birr was out of the season for a while, due to a broken finger, but the former state champion came back fighting midway into the season, and won the state championship for the second year in a row. Birr is the only wrestler in Buffalo history to have achieved two state championships.

"It was a slow season till the guys got more healthy, but the two matches that were most fun were Totino Grace and Saint Francis. They were they closest matches, and we all came together and won," said senior Jason Scherber.

The Bison wrestlers made it to state, and beat Rocori High School in their first match. After this match, the Bison had to meet with their old nemesis, Apple Valley. In the Apple Valley match, senior Dusty Ordorff opponent knocked him out cold for about twenty seconds. After this injury, Ordorff was rushed to an emergency room. Due to the potential danger of the injury, Ordorff was unable to compete in any of his remaining individual matches.

"We were going well till Dusty got hurt. It was so close. We were tough, and we could have done it. If Dusty wouldn't have gotten hurt, maybe things would be different," said Bakke.



A DREAM RAN DOWN, senior Jason Birr pins his opponent in the state meet. Birr won state in the 135 pound class. This was Birr's second year winning state. The Bison, as a team, finished fourth at state. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

Setbacks affect ski team, individuals meet goals

By Michael Priem

Staff Writer

The ski team completed a successful season even though there were many problem's to conquer.

One of the biggest problems was the expense. "Expense is a big part of skiing but you don't have to have the top equipment to be good. It's a big help it's not always necessary," said

senior Tracie Ordorff.

To solve the expense problems, the team went to the school board and requested that the activity fee be reduced from \$100 to \$40. This request was granted although the members were still required to pay approximately \$180 for equipment and season competition.

Even though this setback was a problem for the skiers most achieved their personal goals.

"My goal was to place in every meet and I reached my goal except for at the Welch meet and at Buck Hill for sections," said freshman Erica Lundsten.

Another problem that the team faced was the lack of competition experience. The team this year was mostly new members, having only four returning skiers.

Some of the new members have skied for many years, but

have never skied on the team before.

"I've been skiing ever since I remember," said freshman Brian Pink.

Some of the students regret not joining the team earlier.

"If I could do anything over I would have of joined the Ski Team when I was a freshman instead of waiting until I was a junior," said Ordorff.

The season started with dry

land practice in November and ended with Junior Varsity meets and Senior High clinics in February. Throughout the season, the team practiced at Powder Ridge at least two nights a week.

The 40 member team, did well despite their problems, winning meets with an inexperienced team.

"...the team was fortunate and we didn't have many injuries," said freshman Angie Toso.

Boys' Basketball sights success, high scores

By David Raisanen

Staff Writer

The Bison Boys Basketball team has enjoyed their success this season. Under the direction of first year coach Neil Fletcher, the Bison have learned to play a more aggressive style of play to make up for their lack of height. With a record of 12-7 going into the final week of conference play the Bison must get ready for regional competition.

"We have accomplished many of the goals that we set at the beginning of the season, but now we must turn it up a notch and prepare for regional play," said coach Fletcher.

The Bison have had many bright moments during the season. Beating Little Falls To win the Little Falls Tournament, being ranked 15 in state by the FULL COURT PRESS High school prep newspaper, and starting with a 6-0 record are a few of their achievements.

"I think beating Little Falls on their home court in front of their fans to win the holiday tournament was the highlight of the regular season," said senior center Scott Boris.

Many of the players feel that the stiff competition of the North Suburban Conference will enable the team to have great success in the regions.

"Playing the many hard-nosed squads of the NSC this season has made us tough competitors," said senior guard Jason Topp. Every effort is being made to get the team ready for regional.

Region 2AA made the seedings for the tournament public on February 25, and the Bison were seeded 4th out of a field of 13. They hosted Prior Lake March 7 in the first round of regional play.

"We have set high goals for ourselves, and in region play we will show our antagonists no mercy," said senior guard Bob Hutchinson.



"ALL FOR TWO, AND TWO FOR ALL." As the crowd looks on, senior Casey Mattson goes up for the two point shot, while junior Bob Wermager and senior Dave Launderville wait for a rebound. Reaching region, boys' basketball finished the season with a 12-7 record. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

Hockey players complete rough season

By Chad Bormes

Staff Writer

The Bison Hockey team's 5-4 loss to Hutchinson in the final ten seconds of the sectional game, symbolized the way their season went. The Bison finished at 8-13-1 over all this season.

To many of the players, the season was a bitter disappointment and was nothing at all like how they expected it to finish.

"The season was horrible, I thought we'd at least finish above .500," said junior Jason Roback.

The North Suburban Conference proved to be a stronger conference than last years Suburban West, by the Bison's 5-11 record in conference play.

"This conference was much harder, the level of competition was raised higher than the Suburban West, so we had a harder time competing, but it was a good learning experience for us," said junior Grant Ingersoll.

Through the season the team had several low points. The team agreed that one in particular, stuck in their minds. It was losing twice to Centennial.

nial.

"We went into those games thinking that they [Centennial] weren't that strong and that we had two easy wins, but when our heads weren't in the game they took it to us," said senior captain Josh Leal.

The team did have its share of high points during the season. One that sticks out in most players minds is the 2-1 overtime loss to undefeated in conference Irondale.

"It was the best game we played all year, we were really up for it and even when the puck went in and we lost, the satisfaction of playing that good of a game felt great," said senior captain Jason Krueger.

Team members also feel that most of the time, the odds were against them and they never got any of the breaks during the season.

"It seemed like all the breaks went against us, nothing seemed to go our way. An example is when we lost to Irondale in overtime, the puck went in off of a skate," said Leal.

The Bison, despite ending on a low note, are looking forward to next season.

"Our goals are to place first or second in our conference, and go and win a game at the Met Center," said Ingersoll.



CHECKMATE, hockey players fight it out for the puck during a season game. The hockey team finished the season with a record of 8-13-1. A tougher, more competitive conference is cited as the reason for the losing season. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

Winter activities reach beyond school-sponsored

Jason Roback

Staff Writer

Winter sports are not limited to school activities. People who don't participate in school sports enjoy other winter activities.

Cross country skiing was enjoyed by many people this winter.

"I took advantage of every time it snowed. Fresh powder meant great cross country skiing and I did a lot of that this winter," said junior Cory Hauslander.

Cross country skiing is a great conditioning sport for the whole body. People of all ages can participate in it.

Snowmobiling was also a popular sport among students.

"Snowmobiling is great. It gives you a chance to get away and it makes you feel free," said freshman Chris Reid.

Snowmobiling wasn't the only way to achieve speed this winter. Other found excitement while downhill skiing.

Junior Ryan Reid said, "Skiing is a good way to get outdoors and a great way to meet new

people that have the same general interests as you. It's just you and your skis and to me, that's exciting."

Still, others opted for a less strenuous and physical sport such as, ice fishing.

"Sometimes I got so comfortable in my fish house, I just stoked up my stove and stayed out there all night," said senior Craig

Pettit.

People enjoyed fishing even though fish were sometimes hard to come by.

Junior Chris Varner explained, "Most of the time, we didn't catch a thing, but I thought it was fun just sitting out there talking with my friends, and when we did happen to catch something, it was all the more exciting."

Gymnasts surmount injuries, lack of support; individuals compete to off-set numbers

By Jodie Hahn

Staff Writer

Even though the team was reduced, there were some advantages. Only 18 girls are participating on this years team compared to 27.

"Having a smaller team made everyone work a little harder to accomplish team and individual goals," said senior Jody Johnson.

The gymnastics team has also had to deal with competing in a new conference. The team also was at a loss when it came to expectations.

"We thought it would be a

lot harder," said junior Jodi Goodin.

Gymnastics is different from sports such as baseball in the way that individual achievements are stressed. Whereas teamwork is strived for and used to win a baseball game. The individual success and effort of is awarded in gymnastics.

"Competing as an individual has its advantages," said Johnson. "You have a chance to show people what you yourself have accomplished."

The girls on the gymnastic team feel that their fan and school support could use some im-

provement.

"We hardly have any support at all. No one supports us except for the parents. We have to make our own signs for the mall, the cheerleaders do nothing for us," said Goodin.

Ending 5 and 6, the Bison wrapped up the season. "I feel the team did exceptionally well but there was a lot of injuries," said Orlowsky.

As for next year, the coaches, Martha Driscoll and Beth Orlowsky have already set one of their main goals. That goal is to have a successful season without any injuries.

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Girls' basketball team bounces forward

Conference forces team work, girls refine skills, talent

By Theresa Mung

Staff Writer

The varsity girls basketball team had many problems this season, but learned to work together to overcome them.

"I feel that our biggest accomplishment was how much we improved over the season. Everyone worked hard and we just seemed to put everything together this last month," said junior Becca Weese.

The team record was 3-13 going into the on regions Thursday, February 28 against Shakopee.

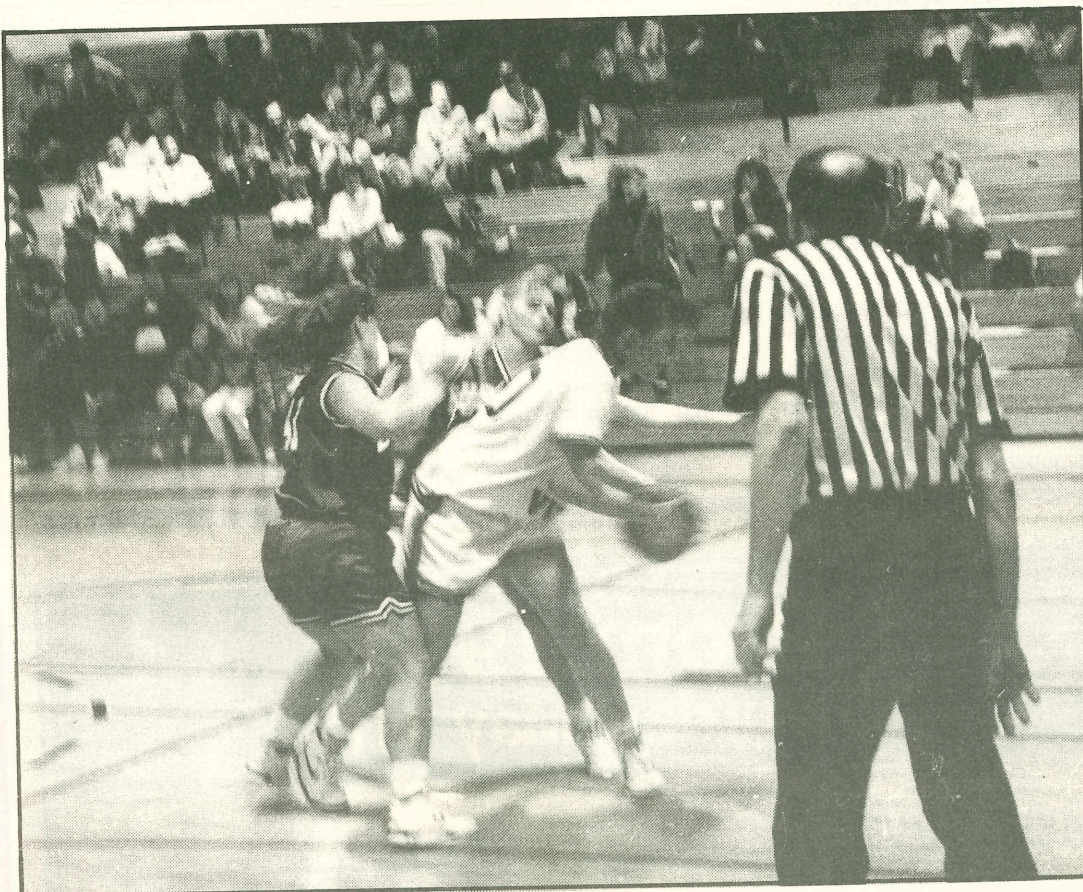
Learning to work as a team was a major accomplishment for the team this year.

"We have learned to work together as a team out on the court. No matter who is in the game," said senior Chris Johnston.

With the Bison in a new conference this year, athletes had comments to share about higher ranked teams.

"The new conference we are in seemed tougher to play in than last year. They were teams with a lot of experience," said junior Nancy Knop.

With this year's juniors becoming the leaders for next year basketball season, both Weese and Knop are looking forward to an even better season, stating that there will be a lot of good talent and experience coming back to lead an even more competitive team in the conference next year.



GUARDING THE ONE WITH THE BALL, junior Becca Weese and junior Jackie Weese guard the opponent in their fight for the ball. The girls basketball finished the season with a 3-13 record. (Photo by Rob Kruck)

Cheerleaders enjoy cheering teams on

By Nancy Knop

Staff Writer

Cheerleading. Now it's more than just spirit, it's becoming a sport.

Various changes have taken place in cheerleading this year.

For example, nylons are prohibited this year because they can get runs in them and they don't usually have the same shade.

The attitudes have become more serious. The squads are attending clinics and camps and have been learning new cheers and moves.

"[The] cheers are looking more professional and the stunts are harder to do than before," said junior Tonia Duerr.

Most cheerleaders cite competition at camps as the biggest challenge they have faced so far.

"Trying to keep the everything equal between the teams can be a real challenge," said junior Amy Kramer.

ior Amy Kramer.

Cheerleaders in the past may have been stereotyped as air heads, but times are changing.

"Six out of eight of our cheerleader members on the football squad are on the honor roll," said Simmons.

The highlights of the cheerleading season were going to state for wrestling and improvement of the teams all around.

"We can always use more [spirit]," said senior Molly Simmons.

The squads hope that the students and parents keep supporting the school teams and activities.

"[We want to] have more people get involved," said junior Krista Erickson.

Cheerleaders support the team members, but often receive little recognition themselves.

"Getting a thank you can make you feel really good," said Duerr.



IN AN "X" FORMATION, senior Missy Hulett demonstrates a cheer for younger cheerleading prospects. Building up future squads, cheerleaders prompt others to join the sport during a condensed cheerleading clinic in the mall. (Photo by Kristin Krenzel)

Preparing for new season, spring athletes start training early

By Cory Hausladen

Staff Writer

With the spring season just starting, many athletes got a head start by beginning training early.

Before practices began, athletes worked at building their strength and stamina. "The pre-practice training that I think would

help the most is the lifting weights and running a little," said head track and field coach Ed Saxton.

Although athletes may be fired up about the upcoming season, they shouldn't overwork themselves while doing their pre-practice work-outs, according to Saxton. "It's not good for you to go all out right away. In fact, it

can hurt you," Saxton said.

The coaches also have their own preparations for the upcoming season. Most are putting the finishing touches on schedules and meetings.

Although everyone wants to win, neither coaches or athletes are sure what to expect from this season. Saxton said, "Predictions

are a touchy subject."

There were as many new people that joined the teams as there were returning people.

Boys golf coach Pete Specht also said, "There are a lot of people who played last year who will be back with us this year."

Everyone has their own opinion on the upcoming season.

Jason Roback, a member of the baseball team said, "It may be pretty tough competition in our new conference, but I think we're going to do fine."

Not all baseball players may agree with Roback, but everyone in a spring sport agrees that no matter if they win or lose, they are mainly out to have a fun time.

Scholarships sought after, tips explained

By Angie Patterson

Staff Writer

One question many seniors face is how to pay for college. Some turn to parents, some pay for it themselves, and others rely on scholarships.

"Some of the best scholarship opportunities are local scholarships, they are the easiest to get and the least competitive," said counselor Mary Lynn Leff.

There are 42 scholarships available from local business establishments, with a total worth of approximately \$27,000, offered

"Most people say that money is out there if you look for it. This isn't always true. Sometimes I think you need to have lost an arm, a leg, and have orange eyes to get a scholarship or financial aid."

Counselor Gloria Rose

through the school. The American Legion, VFW, MN Counselors Association, and Mayflower Bus Company are just a few which provide scholarship monies.

Although National Scholarships are usually the first considered, they aren't necessarily the best, according to Leff.

"National scholarships are too competitive, and create a big

let down, so I try to discourage kids from applying for them," said Leff.

Some popular scholarships that aren't as competitive are Presidential and individual school scholarships.

Introductory information can be obtained from a school counselor.

Principal Nick Miller con-

tends that being prepared, planning early, and making forms look professional are keys to qualifying for a scholarship. According to him, students should not be afraid to brag on applications.

"When students ask me for help, I can't stress enough to take the time to prepare," said Miller.

Underclassmen can do things to prepare themselves for

seeking future scholarships.

"Keep a high GPA, take on leadership roles in the school and community, and get to know staff for letters of recommendation," said Leff.

When awarding scholarships, leadership ability is considered as a quality in deserving a scholarship, according to Miller.

"Most people say that money is out there if you look for it," said Gloria Rose. "This isn't always true. Sometimes I think you need to have lost an arm, a leg, and have orange eyes to get a scholarship or financial aid."

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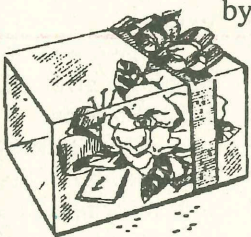
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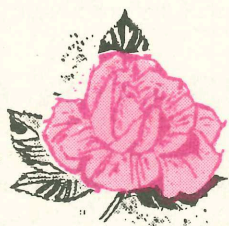


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