

Cold winter ahead

Energy crisis hits hard at Nilehi

by Robert Feder

Niles East will be noticeably colder and darker this winter in response to the nationwide energy crisis and predicted fuel oil shortage.

ALL BUILDING thermostats have been turned down to conserve heating oil and a moratorium on the installation of new electrical equipment has gone into effect, according to John Nix, district superintendent of buildings and grounds.

Nix outlined an eight-point emergency conservation plan for the district that includes:

(1) Reduction of building temperatures to 72 degrees during school hours; to 65 after 4 p.m.; and to 60 when buildings are unoccupied.

(2) Involvement of staff and student body in a program of conservation education.

(3) Elimination of non-essential lighting in display cases, wall lights, and decorations.

(4) Reduction of night-time building usage to three nights a week.

(5) Discontinuation of coffee pots and hot plates in department offices and other areas.

(6) Reduction of air conditioning usage, raise in temperature, and school-hours usage only.

(7) Moratorium on new electrical equipment.

(8) Analysis of mechanical and electrical systems for efficiency.

Nix said all of these actions require "active cooperation" from staff and stu-

dents. "We have set specific goals for this district, and we must be held accountable to them," he said.

NILEHI SUPERINTENDENT Wesley Gibbs added, "This is not a time to be dictating to others, 'you sacrifice this and you sacrifice this.' We've got to work together on this thing."

Dr. Gibbs also called on staff and students to suggest other energy conservation measures which could be implemented throughout the district. He said that several long-range options to save fuel and electricity are now being considered.

Lengthening winter vacation and making up the lost time during summer when heating the schools is not a problem is one plan being considered.

OTHERS INCLUDE lengthening the school day, encouraging wide-spread use of public transportation and car-pools, and decreasing the amount of light in each classroom through more judicious

use of present fluorescent lighting system.

The issue of energy conservation also was discussed at last week's board of education meeting. Board members expressed concern for the efficiency of the district's fuel usage.

Some members even speculated as to the possibility of banning students' use of personal cars to get to school. A number of students were opposed to the idea, asking that any such efforts to curtail driving to school apply to all — staff and students alike.

EASTHI PRINCIPAL Arthur Colver said building administrators see the energy crisis as "a very real problem." He indicated that the district's conservation guidelines will be strictly followed at East.

Dr. Colver said that the day the conservation program was released, "I gave up using the new coffee pot in my office. And it was only a week old."

Hanus criticizes students

by Dennis Kaplan

At last week's Nilehi Board of Education meeting, member George Hanus criticized Easthi students who met with board members recently, and said that the students' attitude was one "engendering confrontation rather than dialogue."

REFERRING TO a visit by the Board's Student Liaison Committee on November 1, Hanus expressed disappointment at "the students' negative attitude" and the aura of hostility for which he said "we board members are not to blame."

The four board members (Hanus, Shirley Garland, Evelyn Rosenzweig, and Ben Lipin) also met with special education classes at East earlier the same day. Hanus indicated that he was very pleased with the situation they encountered there, as opposed to the reception they got from other students later that day.

Spirit Committee returns

Following a private discussion with Easthi senior Gary Elkins, Hanus attempted to "resurrect" the board's tabled discussion of Niles East's School Spirit Committee. Elkins has been seeking board approval to establish an account for the committee.

Elkins claimed that he had changed certain sections of the committee's constitution that supposedly conflicted with the constitution of East's Student Senate. However, when asked by board

president Garland to make a formal presentation Elkins indicated he had not made sufficient copies of his revised constitution for the board.

THE BOARD then placed the subject of the Spirit Committee on the next meeting's agenda.

Alternative School

Robert Fizzel and Joan Macala, the two teachers responsible for planning the alternative school system in conjunction with the three Niles schools, joined the meeting in order to answer any questions the board members may have had. After a period of questioning, the board decided that it could not vote on adoption of the system due to lack of information.

Most of the questions that went unanswered dealt with how the program could satisfy graduation requirements in its present form. Fizzel and Macala assured the board that the requirements had been taken into consideration, but apparently could not justify their plans to the board's satisfaction.

A FURTHER conflict developed concerning the purpose of the alternative School Committee. A student member of the committee said she felt that the purpose of the group was to examine many alternative systems, not to formulate a single system. Superintendent Wesley Gibbs suggested that the present committee be split into two since

two distinct factions were apparently developing.

A concerned parent

Alvin Kay, father of an overdose victim at North Division, addressed the board concerning the drug problem at the three Nilehi schools. He said that the basic questions that should be asked after an incident of overdose are often not asked, such as where and from whom the drugs were obtained.

KAY ALSO said that he felt the problem of drug abuse could be solved only when the students would work in cooperation with staff and parents to apprehend the suppliers of the illicit drugs.

The board will meet again this Monday at 8 p.m. at 7700 Gross Point Road.

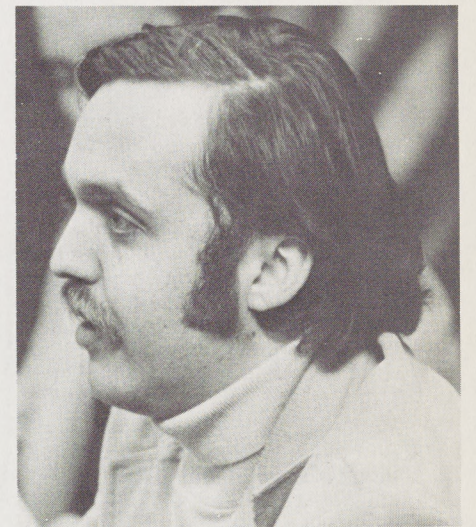
Editors voice concerns

Teacher supervision was the primary concern of reporters from the West Word, North Star, and editors Scott Jacobson and Ron Miller and reporter Ed Jacobs of the Nilehilite as they attended a press conference with School Board president Shirley Garland and Superintendent Wesley Gibbs.

MRS. GARLAND AGREED with the contention that there may be "inequities" in the implementation of supervision, but stated flatly that the philosophy of teacher supervision is unaffected by such problems. She said the Board was definitely in agreement that hall supervision is an obligation of a teacher, and though they do not want to see hall assignments interfere with a teacher's classroom responsibilities, they dismiss the charges that this is often the case.

Dr. Gibbs compared Easthi's current nine period day with the seven period day of several years ago, and asserted that even with supervision, teachers have a more flexible schedule now than they did in the past. He questioned the validity of charges that taking forty minutes from a teacher's day would seriously affect his ability to instruct. Dr. Gibbs said that, "It's not a monumental task for anyone," and added that the number of supervisory assignments at Easthi were recently reduced from 78 to 54 — or six per period.

MRS. GARLAND and Dr. Gibbs discussed the possibility of instituting modular scheduling at East, stating there was little reason to unify the scheduling systems of the three schools unless there was a definite need to do so.



Nilehi Board of Education member George Hanus was concerned at what he termed "the negative attitude of students" during his visit to Niles East.

ISSC awards scholarships

The Illinois State Scholarship Commission has awarded Certificates of Merit to 108 students from Niles East High School. Those who received the awards in the 1974-75 State Scholarship Program are:

Jill Aronovitz, Keith Baker, Julie Berg, Robin Bezark, Robert Bisk, Ellen Blatt, Jay Borker, Bruce Brantman, Janet Breidenbach, Steven Brook, John Cascino, Teri Chapnick, James Cohn, Rita Conroy, Harold Cooper, Glenn Davidson, Jose Diaz, Roberta Drell, Gary Elkins, Ken Facter, Robert Feder, Stewart Figa, Debra Filinson, Edwin Forsberg, Wendy Gartenberg, Robyn Gill, Noah Gilson, Lawrence Ginsburg, Susan Glass, Seth Gold, Jill Goldberg, Jill Goldstein, Martin Golub, Robin Graff, Philip Green, Renay Greene, Timothy Griffin, Judith Gutman, Brian Hamer, Richard Harris, Victoria Hasegawa, Marcia Helfgott, Omar Hernandez, Jill Horwitz, Andrea Jacobson, Scott Jacobson, Lawrence Kampf, Leo Kelly, Linda Koenig, Bruce Koestner, Norberto Kogan, Ruth Landsman, Sharon Lapofski, Terrence Lee, Bradley Lerman, Corey Levens, Avril Levin, Lisa Lieberman, Avram Lothian, Cheryl Luck, Susan Marcus, Helen Markich, Gerhard Massat, Sharon Matsumoto, Rebecca McCracken, Gary Meyers, Daryl Michaels, Leslie Miller, Ronald Miller, Joanne Mueller, Stephen Ohlhausen, Karen Oppenheim, Irene Paghianis, Barbara Peterson, Howard Pfeifer, Gary Pineless, Lisa Polley, Patricia Powers, Mendy Pozin, Jeffery Pucher, Steven Putziger, Eia Radosavljevic, Julie Rand, Daniel Rappoport, Julia Rath, Michael Rosenbaum, Cathye Rosengarden, Claude Sadovsky, Jacquelin Sagen, Allen Samelson, Ronald Seplow, Reid Sigman, Scott Skaletsky, Joan Sklar, Michelle Small, Dawn Solberg, Scott Statland, Marc Stookal, Roland Torres, Vincent Trauth, Michele Vale, Andrea Waxman, Robin Weisman, Jay Weller, Donna Whisler, Pamela Winans, Robert Wolf, and Kathy Zimble.



Carpeting was recently installed in the student lounge at Niles East. Students raised some questions as to the necessity of the carpeting there, and whether the money spent could not have been put to better use in another area of the building. (Photo by Scott Wexler)

Feedback

Drug overdose story: Appropriate or unnecessary?

Were we fair?

Dear Editor,

I want to compliment you on your thorough and well-written story about the recent drug overdose at Niles East. You stated the facts fairly and clearly, answering many of the questions that students had about the incident.

Please continue the fine job you are doing this year of telling us honestly and accurately what we need to know.

Steve Dobryman '75

Dear Editor,

Regarding your story on the drug overdose incident at Niles East, I feel that it was totally unnecessary to publicize it as much as you did. While I do feel this was news appropriate for your newspaper, it was unfair to the student and family and could have been written in a smaller article and put it in a less noticeable space not on the front page.

Except for this one disappointment in your paper, the Nilehilite has done a fairly adequate job this year.

Sally Goldstein '75

Dear Editor,

As I was reading your newspaper I couldn't help missing your front page article about a student overdosing at school.

In my opinion, it was a very mean and degrading thing to do to the student, her family and friends.

I was extremely shocked when I saw the article. You as students should have more consideration to your fellow classmates. I feel it was wrong on your part to make a front page story of a personal situation. I also think the student deserves an apology.

Name withheld on request

Needless carpeting

Dear Editor,

On behalf of myself and apparently many of my fellow students, I would like to express my utter amazement at the way that funds set aside for improvements to our school building have been used as of late. Niles East needs many improvements, however since we don't exactly have an overabundance of money, I believe we should take care of the more vital refinements first.

In my opinion, laying wall-to-wall carpeting in the student lounge does not fall into this category. Not only was it unnecessary to do this, but it was highly impractical. Since beverages and candy items are sold in the lounge, I would venture to say that within two or three months, the carpet will be spotted and stained and look worse than the old tile floor ever did.

As one who frequents the lounge area, I believe I can say that the atmosphere was just as pleasant before the carpeting, as it is now. So I would like to say to those people who make the decisions as to where the money from the building fund will be used that I am sure that there are more necessary items to be taken care of around this school than carpeting the lounge.

It is my earnest expectation that in the future they will "shape up" and use the money from our building fund for more practical and necessary improvements.

Barry Arkush '74

Board is human

Dear Editor,

To paraphrase an editorial in the Nilehilite of Nov. 9 —

The impression left by the fifty or so students who visited with the four School Board members in October, was unfortunately less than favorable.

The fifty students appeared at times to be hostile and defensive. The four Board Members showed self-control, answered questions fairly and with courtesy.

The four felt that they could not be on top of all of the activities of all the schools but would attempt to gain information on all the queries directed to them at this meeting. In reality all fifty students are very good people and show a keen awareness of school and administrative problems — but their public images were undeniably hurt by their discourteous actions.

I was there, and was quite disappointed that none of the students mentioned even one positive thing. The School Board Members are human and, I am sure, just once would have appreciated something positive about their efforts.

Mrs. Judy Gilmore

Senate rapped

Dear Editor,

Having read your contemptable article on the School Spirit committee, I realized what a power-hungry buffoon we have for Senate president.

At first the reasons for his contravention were rather abstruse, but they are terribly self-evident and emetic now. It seems that he dissuaded the board from accepting the committee, because its constitution was not unlike that of the Senate. According to him, this engenders a conflict between the respective organizations. Correct me if I am wrong, but it was my understanding that the purpose of the various organizations were to provide improved relations between students and faculty, or at least a way to. Yet, this poses a remote threat to him in his diffident and egocentric mind. This can be corroborated by the fact that he and his assiduous companions have come upon the perfect tool for their use.

One needs to be present at but a few Senate meetings to realize how docile and ductile the larger part of the Senate is. While hiding behind a diaphanous (to some) mask of erudite duplicity, his euphonious and cogent statements are duping the all but awake Senate.

It is a shame that apathy presides over some of the student body and lack of motivation and indecision the rest.

Roland Torres '74

Innocent . . .

Dear Editor,

The firing of special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox came as no sudden shock to me when I heard it on the five o'clock news.

Not only do I think that a staunch Democrat shouldn't prosecute a Republican administration because of hatred and biased opinions, but "he failed to implicate President Nixon in any wrong doings." Congressman Sam Young added that President Truman's firing of General MacArthur was of much greater magnitude.

Regarding impeachment, H. F. Buehres said, "If I could bring myself to stand in favor of a 200 to 300 point drop in the Dow Jones industrial averages in the week or ten days following impeachment proceedings, with an industrial shut down bringing unemployment to five million and many more in 30 days following a market collapse, I would be for it too."

Talk of impeachment at this stage is premature, noted Congressman Young. "To impeach a President requires that the House of Representatives charge the President with specific acts that constitute high crimes or misdemeanors." Congressman Young also said (and I agree with him) "while I disapprove of the President's handling of the tapes, it does not presently appear that there is a legal basis for impeachment."

Impeachment would not only be bad nationally, but internationally as well. It would lead to the paralyzation of the country, and the appointment of House Speaker Carl Albert as President. Under the circumstances, I don't think the House would go through with such an act!

Mark Hirshman '75

. . . or guilty?

Dear Editor,

ITT, cost over-runs, low income taxes for himself, absurd Supreme court nominees, secret loans, Watergate, ad nauseum.

This man, Richard Nixon, has insulted the American people for too long. Now he has shown his contempt for law. To allow Richardson to go and to fire Cox only compounds his reprehensible actions in avoiding Judge Sirica's order.

This man is unfit to be President. There is no question in our minds that in order to preserve the integrity of the United States, to uphold the rule of law (not men), and to prevent our slowly becoming a dictatorship — Nixon must be impeached, convicted, and removed from office.

James Gottreich
Ann Gottreich

(The preceding letter from Nilehi board of education member James Gottreich and his wife originally appeared in the Skokie Life and is reprinted here with the authors' permission. — Editor.)

We fumbled

Dear Editor,

In your article on the football team found in the November 9 issue of the Nilehilite, you reported that Mark Zinman caught a pass but was ruled out of bounds. Actually it was number 82, junior Mike Lis, who has been the leading varsity receiver all year.

Coach Steven Poznansky

New band-aid

Dear Editor,

I am a member of the concert band and I've waited for the time when Leo Provost would resign in hope of gaining a better music department. When I found out about his resignation, I was quite overjoyed but hesitant about his replacement. I hadn't any idea who he was or what his previous musical experience had been.

I knew that after people heard this

news, they'd begin to have doubts about someone new who would start the job from scratch.

After a while, the students began to realize the importance of being involved in the music department. This attitude was passed from the new teacher himself.

I feel we are obtaining group pride which was once lost just a couple of years ago. The atmosphere is more relaxed and being in band is now a pleasure rather than a duty.

Band is not all fun, we do devote time seriously to music but, we are being treated like humans instead of superhumans, something which no individual can become.

My opinion is that our band is doing very well considering we had to start from scratch in a certain sense. No two teachers will ever conduct a department the same way so, therefore, the students must adjust to this change. I believe it's working.

Dotty Rutkowski '74

Cafe international

Dear Editor,

With the struggles of the world taking on increasing importance each day, the schools are faced with the Herculean task of preparing students to meet these problems. History classes come close to instilling the student with an appreciation of the need for detente between nations. But as one teacher so eloquently put it, many classes contain certain sleep inducing qualities that do far less for a student than prepare him for his role as a world citizen.

Yet in one corner of our school there exists an oft-overlooked educational alternative. We refer, of course, to that microcosm of international affairs — the lunch room. Within its gaily colored walls one can find all the elements of world conflict. Wrapped up in one teaming, squirming spaghetti line one can see those magnified faults of national character that have made nations lift up sword in battle: greed, avarice, selfishness and ambition.

Who can say that he's never seen a rising young cafeterian push, shove and crush a path to the front of a line? Here is clearly illustrated the personal embodiment of the overpowering turmoil of our modern day existence. Thusly, we suggest that any history teacher attempting to motivate a sluggish student to a deeper understanding of man's nature, needn't overburden him with homework and lectures. He should merely send him to the lunchroom for a carton of milk.

Noah Gilson '74
Karen Oppenheim '74

**The Nilehilite extends
its best wishes to all
staff and students for a
Happy Thanksgiving!
Next issue: December 7**

Nilehilite

The Voice of the Niles East Students

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Crisis on Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving 1973 comes at a time when we have just begun to realize how precious and vulnerable our vital energy resources are.

For whatever inconveniences the energy crises causes us, it will serve as a good lesson on how we must appreciate now more than ever all those things we have for so long taken for granted and be thankful for all that we do have.

WE NOW HAVE a unique opportunity to demonstrate our ability and willingness to sacrifice a little luxury, and to show our dedication and commitment to following both national and local guidelines designed to cope with the energy crisis all Americans will face this winter.

Nilehi administrators stress the need for cooperation among all staff and students to cope with the problems of preserving fuel and electricity. We agree with them. And what is needed if efforts here toward conservation are to be successful is an attitude of mutual consent—not one of imposition; unified direction—not unilateral directives.

IF THE ENERGY crisis is handled with maturity and understanding by students and staff, we all may come out of this thing a little wiser and a lot better.

And maybe this winter won't be so cold and dark after all.

Our job: News judgment

Journalists' decisions concerning "news judgment" are as real and often as problematic for the Nilehilite as they are for the New York Times or the Chicago Tribune. At virtually every news gathering operation, certain individuals must be responsible for what gets "covered" and how prominently a story is played. Regardless of who makes the final verdict on these things, such decisions ultimately must be made.

THE ISSUE OF news judgment has become a particularly critical one for us this year. Writing about controversial topics like the teachers' strike or emotional subjects, like the Easthi graduate still lost in the Adirondack Mountains, is not easy. Indeed, it is an effort to remain fair and impartial without losing the human aspect each story holds. But above all, we must report on what we believe to be of news value without fear or favor, lest we be untrue to the goals we have set for ourselves.

Most recently, we have come under considerable fire by students who objected to our coverage of last month's drug overdose here. Not only did we receive criticism for the large front-page placement we gave it, but some persons even questioned our very right to have mentioned the incident at all.

WE ARE SORRY if some readers found our coverage of that particular incident offensive, but we stand behind what was written and its manner of presentation. We will continue to report news and analysis of life at Nilehi as objectively as we can.

If we fail our readers there, then we do not deserve to be called a newspaper.

Hotline

Q. Will we ever have a radio station at Nilehi?

A. The chances of having our own radio station for the Nilehi schools is looking better and better every day. But at best, it's still a long way off.

Students at all three high schools in the district have long expressed support for a radio station here to be operated for and by students themselves. This year the Federal Communications Commission evaluates the licenses of all the radio stations in the country. So if the power allotted to three other stations in the area (Moody Bible Institute, Northwestern University, and Chicago Public Schools) can be reduced, chances are good there'd be enough power left over to form a new station for us.

Niles East's Student Senate has gone on record supporting a station here, and has sent its feelings on to the proper authorities at the F.C.C.

Q. Who founded Skokie?

A. The first settlers in this area were primarily descendants of immigrants to this country from Luxembourg. When they first came here in the 1800's, this village was named Niles Center. But in the 1940's, the name was changed to Skokie. And incidentally, Lincolnwood was originally called Tessville.

Q. Is it legal for a teacher to look into a girl's purse for drugs, as long as they are just sitting there and the girl is not doing anything with them?

A. No. The Constitution protects all citizens, including minors, from unreasonable search and seizure. A search like this violates that right, as well as the girl's right of privacy, according to the Cook County Legal Assistance Foundation. They suggest that if your rights are violated in this regard, you see an attorney and sue.

Guest Editorial

Ranking policies worse

by Julia Rath

The following are two more in a series of guest editorials by interested persons in the school community.—Editor.

In the October 26 issue of the Nilehilite, a reference was made to a May 4, 1973, letter which dealt with the inequities of the present class ranking system in our school. Though I still maintain the principles which I had expounded in that letter, I have come to the conclusion that the class rank situation is even worse this year and that the entire process must be either changed or abolished.

NOW WITH THE pass/fail option at the end of the semester, many more students will probably change their lowest grades to pass instead of bearing the responsibility of lower marks. The students who will be using this system and in effect "throwing out what they don't like" will be at an advantage in comparison to their classmates who will take the responsibility for their actions and keep all their grades. Those who "cop out" will have their grade point averages and class ranks "improve" as the quality of education necessary to keep up a certain grade point average would in essence deteriorate. In the records, it would appear that either the teachers are doing a better job or the students are more intelligent when neither would really be the case.

You may ask why shouldn't everyone drop their lowest grades to "pass" and that way everyone will be equal; well they won't be. College-bound students who need all of their grades for transcripts will be hurt, especially if they are applying to large universities who base most decisions on class rank. And this new system covers up a student's weaknesses more than the old system, in particular, when one considers that a student with three A's and a D will be on equal footing with a student with three A's and a B.

Probably the worst disadvantage of this unfair system is that colleges, business schools, technical schools, etc. will have a false impression of each applicant. His potential and abilities will be either under- or over-estimated.

IT WOULD NO longer be a crushing blow for the majority of students if their high schools had no ranking, and as to the minority of schools which still require rank, I am sure they too will have to change their policies in light of the times.

Our high school must now take action, whatever it will be. It is ridiculous when grading and ranking policies are changed every year; a stable policy must be our goal.

Julia Rath is a senior.—Editor.

Guest Editorial

Frosh happy at Easthi

by Bonnie Tunic

Though many students may have been happy to miss school during the teachers' strike in September, it was a great disappointment to many freshmen who were actually looking forward to starting their first year in high school.

I, anxious and willing to begin already, was also a little frightened and confused about what I was getting into. Various comments about Niles East were being made in many directions.

I HAD HEARD that the school was like a jail; the rooms were cells and the teachers were wardens. As an extremely opposite opinion, I was told that I would be beginning the best time of my life on entering high school, and that I was in for some very exciting and rewarding experiences.

As a student at Niles East, I cannot disagree with any of the comments I had heard, but I can now surmise, with a little more experience than I had had before, that as the saying goes, "life is what you make of it."

NILES EAST offers numerous activities to suit almost every interest a student may have. School spirit, as proved on homecoming weekend, is overflowing and everywhere to be found. And how much can be said about the nicest and friendliest bunch of kids a school can have?

I, as a freshman, am proud to be a member of the Niles East team.

Bonnie Tunic is president of Freshman Cabinet and French Club.—Editor.

Q. What are the newspapers and yearbooks at Westhi and Northi called?

A. Good question. At Westhi, the yearbook is called "Spectrum" and the newspaper "The West Word." At Northi, the yearbook is "Saga" and our friends on the newspaper staff there call it "The North Star."

Q. Can a student run for the board of education?

A. The Cook County Legal Assistance Foundation tells us that state law says that, to run for a school board, a candidate must "be of voting age, 21." When the voting age was changed to 18, two courses of action were open to the state; to keep the minimum age for candidates at 21, or to lower it. No new legislation was passed; the Illinois Attorney General simply cleared up the confusion by announcing that the age minimum would remain at 21. Obviously, his ruling is subject to challenge. It could easily be argued in court

that the intent of the legislature was to make the school-board age coincide with the voting age. Whether such a challenge would succeed is anyone's guess.

In addition, no school board may allow any ineligible person to be a voting member; eligibility is determined by the Illinois School Code. This effectively eliminates any possibility of students sitting as voting members. Of course, the eligibility requirements could be attacked in court as being unfairly discriminatory. But realistically, the laws would probably hold up. The only provision that students have even a ghost of a chance of knocking out is the age provision — a good case could be made for 18.

We answer everything! Send your questions about anything to Nilehilite Hotline, room 124. Sorry, personal replies are impossible. Your name will not be used unless requested.

History fan hits jackpot

by Norberto Kogan

Brian Hamer, senior at Easthi, is a United States history aficionado. His avid desire to see sites of historical significance has repeatedly led him to the east coast. He has visited landmarks in Boston, Gettysburg, and Williamsburg, Va. He has searched out obscure towns such as Hodgkinsville, Kentucky — the cite of Abraham Lincoln's birth; Fort Branch, Iowa — Herbert Hoover's birth place; and even the town in New Hampshire in which Daniel Webster was born.

THEREFORE, IT IS no wonder that Brian has visited Washington, D.C. But his visit to the nation's capital was very different from one an ordinary tourist might make. Not many high school students from Illinois get exclusive interviews with Presidential candidates.

Late last spring Brian wrote a letter to Senator George S. McGovern of South Dakota, asking for a meeting with this 1972 Democratic Presidential Candidate. He ended it by stating, "I just

want to shake your hand for helping to save America." A short time later a reply came with a time and date set for Hamer to speak to Senator McGovern.

BRIAN HAMER WAS escorted into McGovern's huge office at 10:00 am on June 14, 1973 (as Hamer was told later, McGovern had a committee meeting scheduled for 10:00). "After I sat down, I still couldn't believe I was there."

What impressed Hamer more than anything else about the meeting was that Senator McGovern took time out from a hectic schedule to meet with a non-voting age high school student who wasn't even from his home state. It was evident that McGovern had taken time to read the letter personally.

AT THE MEETING, the range of topics discussed spanned from the Watergate incident (at that time just coming to the forefront in the news) to pressing political issues. Naturally, the defeat of 1972 came up. The highly acclaimed South Dakotan reiterated to

Brian that even though the Democratic Party suffered a big loss, the country as a whole was better for the campaign. McGovern emphasized that an open convention became a reality, the bussing issue was closely scrutinized, and that many major political questions were brought into the open. Hamer recalled, "As I walked out of his office, I was more assured than ever of the honesty and integrity of this man."



Brian Hamer
(Photo by Michael Fryer)

Spotlight

'Moon' troupe performs in festival

by Jill Aronovitz

On November 9 and 10, several Niles East theatre jocks participated in a theatre festival at Riverside-Brookfield High School. Every high school in Illinois was invited to attend the festival, which was the first to be held on the high school level in the history of the state. Niles East was one of four schools

invited to perform there; which was quite a compliment. We packed up the cast, crews, costumes, set and stage of **Ring Round the Moon** (performed at East on November 1, 2, and 3) and were on our way.

THE WEEKEND was a great success. The people who put the plays together had worked hard and it showed.

Many seminars were offered, including Mime, Theatre Games, University Theatre (led by a drama professor at Northwestern), and Professional Theatre in Chicago, given by the main director and producer at the Ivanhoe.

ALL FOUR productions went very well, but I was definitely biased. Maine South did **Butterflies Are Free**, Riverside-Brookfield, **A Glass Menagerie** and Homewood Flossmoor did **Inherit the Wind**.

As I watched the final performance of **Ring Round the Moon**, I felt very proud and a little sad. The seven long weeks of rehearsal seemed very short in retrospect. The hard work and dedication of all connected with the show, particularly the directors, Jerry Proffitt and Frank Mayfield, had paid off well. We were well received by an audience of theatre people and the praise we got from people who really know their stuff (university professors and directors) was worth 100 curtain calls.

Jill Aronovitz was student director of 'Ring Round the Moon,' and is an active Easthi theatre jock.

Who's monkeying around?

by Donna Whisler

Who are the mysterious banana freaks plaguing Richard Miya and his Economics classes? The pranksters remain unknown, but will certainly make a slip-up sooner or later to reveal their true identities.

IT STARTED at the beginning of this school year, when Miya began using bananas to illustrate a basic economic principle. As a result, some student or students decided to send him a banana via his mailbox. This greeting began the deluge of surprises that he was to re-

ceive throughout the following weeks.

What began with a single banana soon developed into an avalanche. Soon Miya found gift-wrapped bananas, dehydrated bananas, freeze-dried banana chips, banana flakes, and a little monkey doll with a sign reading, "I'm bananas over you." Notes relating bananas to economics were also found in the now famous mailbox. Although the initial furor has idled down somewhat, an occasional banana surprise is still to be found.

MIYA HAS taught Economics, APP

European History, and Western and Non-Western Civilization at East for nine years. He said that this situation reminded him of an incident a few years ago when one of his classes completely evacuated the room during a test, while he had stepped out for a moment. Upon returning to find the room empty, he got the last laugh when he then locked the students' coats and books in the room. He did admit, though, that this incident wasn't as devious or well-planned as the present one.

Miya could be called a banana freak in his own right. His favorite ones are those found in New Orleans. These are special because they are untouched by sulphur dioxide, which is used on the bananas around here. He prefers firm, slightly green bananas, and in a quote that somehow slipped out, he said, "Bananas have a great future. Many of us don't fully realize what a critical function they have in the world today."

One can change the world

by Ron Miller

There is one earthly power greater than that of society or government or big business. It is the power of the individual. As much as we hear about war and Watergate and the destruction of the environment, we must never lose our faith in the individual.

RECENTLY, MANY BOOKS and essays have preached this message to us. Probably the most well-known is **The Greening of America**, by a Yale professor named Charles Reich. My purpose is not to present a thorough review of the book, but it influenced me significantly. It made me seriously reconsider my thinking and change many of my views.

After a lengthy and impassioned diagnosis of American society's ills, attributing them to the "Corporate State" — man's inability to control technology, Reich prescribes a new "consciousness" to cure them. By this he means that every individual must seek values important to him and strive for them regardless of pressure by society to make him conform. This philosophy was espoused 125 years ago by Thoreau and Emerson; Reich is showing how it applies today. (He also adds to it, proposing a new culture, based on pot and communes and blue jeans, which I see as being more anti-individual than the present one, although he obviously doesn't.) It is the individualism that is certainly lacking today which will give new meaning to our lives.

WHEN PEOPLE choose their careers because that is what they want to do with their lives, not because they are trying to make money, there will be less greed in our society, and less corruption among our leaders.

When people see each other as fellow humans — as individuals — without

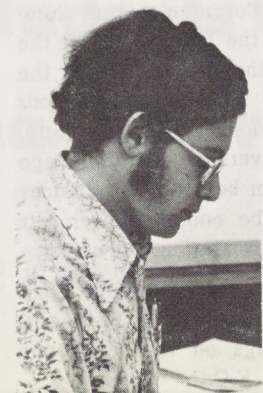
classifying them according to their social status or appearance, there will be less hatred, and less cause for war.

WHEN PEOPLE LEARN that a conflict with Nature can only lead to destruction, while living in harmony with Nature can lead to fuller, richer lives, we will not be plagued by energy shortages and pollution.

When people seek a humanistic education and learn to think, to question, and to explore, we will witness a decline in such problems as alcoholism and drug abuse and crime, which often occur because people grow despondent over their inability to control, or even understand events in the world around them.

THESE ARE all instances where decisions made by individuals can affect all mankind. It is up to each of us to make our own small part of the world a contribution to mankind's progress — not a hindrance.

A man may complain endlessly about the ugliness in his neighborhood, but what is he achieving if he doesn't maintain the appearance of his own yard?



Ron Miller, co-editor of the Nilehilite, is involved in many other school activities. His essay is the first in a series by Easthi's National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists. (Photo by Scott Wexler)

Richard Miya pauses while enjoying a between class snack to point out the "critical function of bananas in the world today." (Photo by Scott Wexler)



Club Notes

Chess club's revenge sweet

by Norberto Kogan

The Nilehilite invites all clubs and activities to send us either short notes or stories for this column.

"Revenge is ever so sweet." So said Easthi's Chess Club vice-president Gary Pineless, after winning the deciding game of the Friday, November 2 chess meet against a valiant Deerfield squad. Last year East lost a heart-breaker by a few points to the same team.

FROM THE OUTSET of the meet it appeared that East was ready, as Norberto Kogan won his game before ten minutes had elapsed (meet games usually take 1½-2 hours). That was followed by another Trojan victory, as Rich Edelson, getting his first taste at the top board, played exceptionally well. East now had a commanding lead, possessing 2 of the 5 possible points in the meet, with 2 of the 3 remaining battles even.

However, Deerfield continued to fight, and turned all 3 games in their favor. After Jay Weller fell to J. Lacy of Deerfield, it appeared that the meet would be decided by the outcome of Pineless' game, since Scott Statland, playing 3rd board, was virtually lost.

THE ALEKHINE OPENING which Pineless employed led to a complicated position. Fortunately a trade of a rook and a bishop for a queen presented itself. After the trade Pineless discovered a brilliant combination which gave him a forced win in approximately 7 moves. The victory evened Easthi's record this year at 1-1.

The loss by East was against the chess power of the nation, Evanston, which has won the national championship 3 of the last 4 years. The prospects for a fruitful season are excellent for East. The Trojans sport an experienced squad with 3-4 seniors available for most meets. The development of the North Shore Chess Federation's best sophomore player, Rich Edelson, will also aid the team. The players are hopeful of winning the State B Division Championship this year, as they did in 1971.

Movie review

What makes 'Billy Jack' a continued success?

by Leslie Miller

The first comments I ever heard about **Billy Jack** were when it originally came out a few years ago and a young rabbi who had spent time living on an Indian reservation acclaimed the film highly — as a matter of fact, he sang its praises from morning to night. At one point in

the picture Billy Jack said, "Being an Indian isn't a matter of blood, it's a way of life." Accordingly, the rabbi considered himself an Indian, and upheld the simple Indian "way of life", even after he left the reservation.

THE STORY ITSELF centers around the students and directress (Delores

Taylor) of a progressive school in present day Arizona. The people of the small, prejudiced town nearby display an intense fear and hatred of the school and its students, as well as the Indians who lived on a reservation just outside of town. Billy Jack (Tom Laughlin), half-white, half-Indian, had just returned from the war and was the self-appointed guardian of Freedom School and the pacifistic Indians. Billy Jack himself wasn't particularly fond of violence either, as he would explain to his victims each time he nearly killed one of them, in an unbelievably effective display of what I later learned were merely basics of the Oriental art of self-defense.

I enjoyed the movie tremendously. Rarely do I sit through a film twice, as I did **Billy Jack**. At first, I thought the reason I liked it so much was that many of the scenes made me remember incidents that the previously mentioned rabbi had described to me first-hand.

(For example, the ceremony in which Billy Jack became a Brother to the Snake. The rabbi had explained a similar ordeal in which he had become a Brother to the Cat. He also carried an Indian medicine bag like Billy Jack's, sported an identical hat and had taken on many of Billy Jack's mannerisms. I think it's safe to assume that the movie made a great impression on him.)

BUT THE FILM impressed others, who hadn't such associations, just as greatly. It touched on such topics as the unjust treatment of Indians in America, pacifism, and what is so glibly passed off as "the generation gap." I've heard too many people call it "beautiful; touching; and realistic;" and heard of too many people who saw **Billy Jack** two, three and even four times, for me to persist in believing that it is only for me that the movie holds a special significance. It will remain outstanding in my mind.

Girls begin second season

by Dave Mayer

The girl's gymnastics team started its second season of competition recently against one of its toughest opponents, Niles West. The girls have an outstanding turnout of approximately fifty members, sixteen of whom work varsity. Among the outstanding leaders are Sue Kozub, Mary Unruh, Carol Greenspahn, Shawn Moses, Shirley Rifkind, and Arlene Elkins.

Kozub has been the most promising of the girls. Only a sophomore, she performs two of the four events, floor exercise and vaulting. Rifkind, born into a gymnastic-oriented family, is a natural on the balance beam and dominates that event. Greenspahn rules the uneven bars while Moses and Elkins are strong contenders for all the events. Moses and Elkins are in the first year on the team but are very promising, according to assistant coach Denise Totemeier.

BOTH TOTE-MEIER and head Coach Marcia Burke expressed optimism. "We

are excited about the new talent that we had last year," Coach Totemeier said. Uneven bars and floor exercise are the team's strong points, Coach Totemeier went on to say that they have a "young team and the spirit seems to be good."

In the first five meets the girls are required to perform compulsory routines. All other meets will feature optional performances. The season will be highlighted by the Niles Township triangular meet against West and North and the Central Suburban League meet on February 1.

College notes

North Park College—Chicago Tues., Nov. 27.....9:00

Macalester College—St. Paul, Minn... Thurs., Nov. 29....1:00

Knox College—Galesburg, Ill. Tues., Dec. 11....11:00

Representatives will speak to interested students in the guidance resource center, room 108. Those planning to attend should sign up at least one day in advance.

"Volleyball Jones" victors

by Dave "Tyrone Shoelaces" Garlick

"Volleyball Jones" won the GAA-sponsored Volleyball Tournament last Friday, November 9, by sweeping to a perfect 5-0 record.

THE NAME OF the team, "Volleyball Jones," came from the record "Basketball Jones," which is now a hit on the "pop" charts; team captain Kurt Kiesel was "responsible" for the name. The other members of the team included Dave Garlick, Jeff Kray, Corey Levens, Jay Borker, Rich Short, Steve Leadroot, Rich Berkowitz, and Larry Yale.

A running clock of ten minutes was the time of each game for this double-elimination tournament. Each participant paid a 75¢ entrance fee. The first and second place teams received a plastic cup and a ribbon for their winning efforts.

The Champs came close to losing only one time. They won their first game 16-4, then beat a girls' team, the "Keyettes" 18-1. Next came the match the players felt was the most important, a 10-8 win over pre-tournament favorites, the "Squeenies." The V.J.'s then had a 45-minute wait while the winner of the loser bracket was determined. The Squeenies won the losers bracket, but the V.J.'s had no trouble disposing of them again, this time 17-5. The Championship game was a decisive 16-8 win over "The Bang Zoomers."

MISS WOJDULA, the director of the evening, felt the V.J.'s may have been the best team in the history of the Tournament. "Not only that," she added, "they were very polite. They didn't swear once, all they said all night was, 'set is up, set it up.'"

After the Championship game was over, Kiesel challenged some teachers to try and get up a team to play the V.J.'s. Miss Wojdula felt it was an excellent idea, and permission is now being sought for an all-school assembly featuring a volleyball game between the "Volleyball Jones" team and a faculty team.

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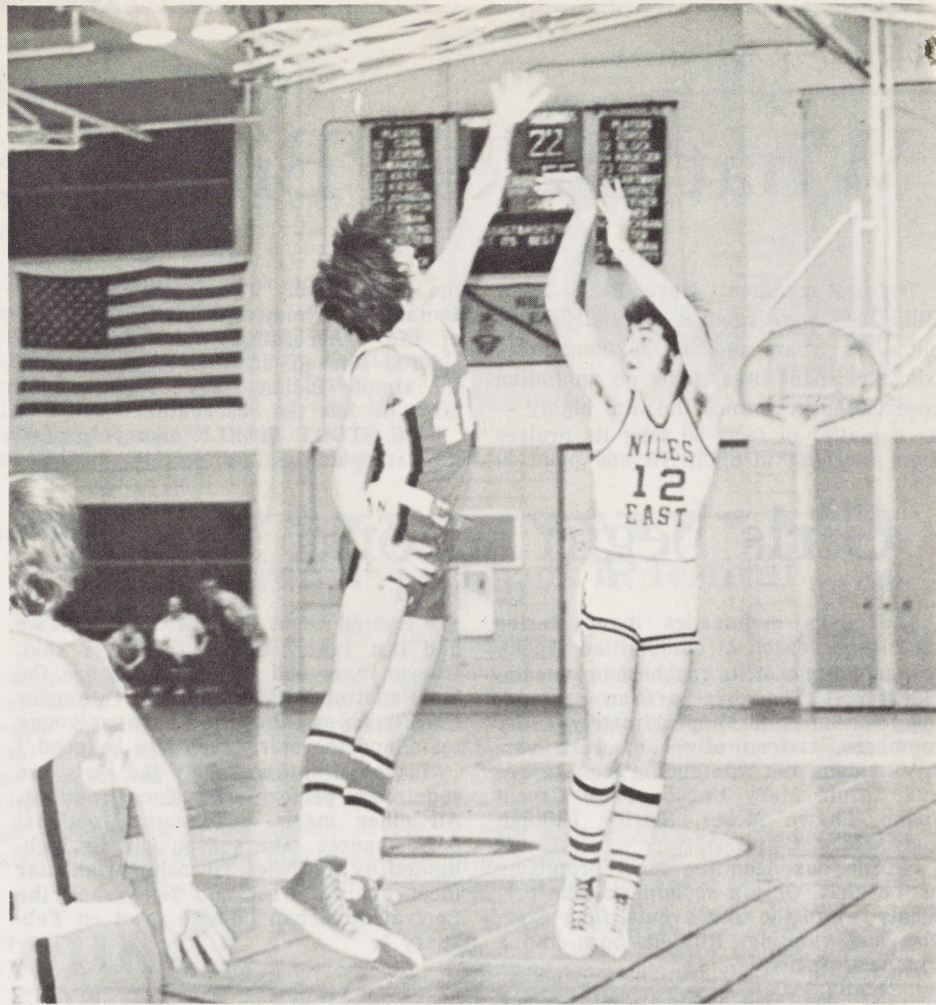
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Trojans warm up for winter sports

Gymnastics

by Dave Mayer

Winter athletics usually finds the gymnastic team trouncing rival teams. This year, its fifteenth season of competition, the team is a virtual powerhouse, and features no weak events.

FLOOR EXERCISE is the most rounded out of the six events with seven performers. Barry Scher, Brian Abrams, Scott Harrison, Paul Milstein, Neal Sher, Gary Siegal and this reporter are all capable of working varsity.

Pommeled horse has two men fighting it out for the number one spot. Bill Bro and Mike "the Irishman" Burke are both outstanding performers and either one could be top dog. Closely behind Bro and Burke is Barry Liametz, a returning letterman; Scher, and Mike Stein.

Trampoline also has two men in contention for the first man position. Lorry Lichtenstein is back again this year to challenge the heights of the trampoline. Steve Pollice, the junior phenom who placed fifteenth in the state last year, is a definite contender for a state title and is one of the team's top scorers.

RINGS WON'T BE as exciting in the challenge for that all-important first man position. Steve Kozub has not even been threatened as far as his reign is concerned. Kozub is being flooded with letters from college coaches. Among them are two who are ranked in the top five in the United States; two others have offered 75 per cent in scholarship aid.

Horizontal bar is also swamped with talent this year. Sher looks very good on high bar and concedes that it is one of his better events. Siegal is also vying for top position on this apparatus along with junior Steve Irsay.

PARRALLEL BARS has six possible candidates for numreeo uno, second only to free exercise. Those gymnasts are Sher, Siegal, Nat Lawrence, Scher, Phil Adelman, and Brian Abrams.

The five-event all around has two excellent competitors in Sher and Siegal.

THE TEAM WILL hold its first meet on Friday, November 30 against Maine West.

Basketball

by Dave Garlick

"Our goal is to win the Central Suburban League, and 'do well' in state competition." For the first time in many years, Head coach Gary Cook has reason for optimism concerning Niles East varsity Basketball.

The Trojans opened the season last weekend with a 75-55 victory over St. Gregory, and a 59-54 win over Maine East. The starting lineup for the opening weekend was Jim Cohn, Kurt Kiesel, Corey Levens, Don Diamond, and Len Weinstein.

COACH COOK HOPES to use a running offense this year along with a pressure defense, thus the three small men and only two big in the line-up. This doesn't mean, however, that there is a shortage of big men in the Easthi line-up. Sophomores Art Issacs and Neil Schreiber will see plenty of action up front, as will junior John Harles.

Cook has gone so far as to install a new offense with the aim to utilize the speed and quickness he feels he has. Cook feels his team will see a lot of man-to-man defenses, and that the other teams will key on the Trojans all conference player Don Diamond. Cook feels Don is good enough to face the pressure he is sure to get, and grins a little when he thinks of the openings this will create for his other players. The new offense is designed to utilize these openings and also it should play to some of the strengths of his players. Cook also feels Diamond won't be the only East All-Conference player, but declines to say who the others might be, "because I don't want to give anyone a big head before he earns it."

THE TROJAN Head coach feels the chief competition in the CSL will come from Maine South, who last year made it to the sectionals in state play before Niles West knocked them off. Cook is quick to add that the league is very well balanced and there will be many close games throughout the league. The league champs will be the school that keeps its cool in close games, keeps fouls to a minimum, and gives that little extra effort... a little luck won't hurt, either.

On the lower levels, the JV team will be separate from the varsity for the first time at Niles East. Thirteen of the twenty men will dress for the varsity games, and the other seven will make up the JV. However, if a man dressed for the varsity does not play much, Cook will not hesitate to play him JV. Also, for the first time there will be a Junior Varsity holiday tournament.

Emil Capitani's sophomore team will smart from the loss of two of its players to varsity. But the team that did so well last year as freshmen will still ply exciting basketball, and win their share of games. Capitani has a way of getting the most out of his players, the sophomore may raise some eyebrows.

THE FRESHMEN TEAM is hurting for lack of experienced ball players, and a glaring lack of height. On the

whole, the frosh will have to work hard and hustle for everything they get, but if they let down for one second, new Easthi coaches Jim Schlinder and Roy Klein may be in for a long winter. Frosh games at East start at 9:30 Saturday mornings. Sophomore games come at 6:45 before the varsity games, and the varsity itself start all games at 8:30.

Fencing

by Ron Miller

Q. Which Trojan team has brought two state titles to Niles East in the last eight years?

A. The fencing team.

ROBERT KEEN, wood technology specialist in Easthi's industrial arts department, founded the Trojan fencing team eleven years ago, has directed it ever since, and has amassed an encouragingly successful record. Trojan fencers, who, like most high school foilers, must learn the art from scratch when they join the team, have generally become stars on their college teams after three or fours of instruction by Coach Keen.

This year's squad is small but skillful.

Leading the attack is captain Ron Rovner, a dedicated and experienced senior. He spent part of the summer in Israel competing and studying under international pros. At home he takes lessons from Allen January, a fencing expert at the Leaning Tower "Y". Many of the state's top fencers in recent years have been students of this man.

Larry Labow is a sophomore, but he already has varsity experience. He, too, studies under January, and has been helped by his brother Howard, who took second in the state last year for Niles West.

KURT LEIPOLD, a senior, has a unique advantage; his father is Westhi's fencing coach. Last year Leipold fenced well, and Coach Keen looks for still more improvement. Senior Dennis Abeles and Roland Huhn, and sophomores Jim Osness, Lane Schultz and Sam Rest, (also a student of January) are also eyeing positions on the varsity roster.

The team's new members are the hopes for a future Trojan powerhouse. Scott "Lefty" Wexler (a Nilehite photographer) was with the team for a short time as a freshman last year, but hopes to fence regularly this season. Bob Gold, another sophomore, is a novice; he was not on the team last season. The freshmen who attended the team's first week of practice are: Jeff Fogel, Steve Jans, Jordan Lohn, Howard Miller, Barry Schmetter and Allen Tish. Keen is de-

lighted with their progress so far. "We haven't had to teach them to walk first before they could fence," he said, indicating their ability to pick up the fundamentals rapidly.

For the fourth consecutive year, Sheldon Glassner is manager of the team. "I believe we can improve on last year's record," he commented. Last year the Trojans didn't quite break the .500 point, and finished poorly in the state meet. Again this season, the toughest competition for Troy's foilers will be the machine-like Dons of Notre Dame, New Trier West's Cowboys, and the Maine South Hawks. Since few schools in Illinois field fencing teams, the Trojans will be travelling to Marshall High in Chicago and Dixon, Ill. during the long season.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28 is the season's first meet, against arch-rival Niles West. The meet will begin at 4:00 in the indoor track, and almost nothing could propel the Trojans toward the championship more effectively than an upsurge of student interest in this tense, exciting sport.

Wrestling

by Ed Jacobs

What sport do you think of first in terms of a winning record? Well, whatever you might have thought before, this upcoming winter sports season will afford you the chance to view a wrestling team ready to show its winning ways to all the fans at East.

IN THE PREVIOUS season East's wrestling fortunes took a turn for the better as they made their presence felt in the tough Central Suburban League and are expected to join Glenbrook North, Maine South in the class of the league.

The Trojans are being led during the rigors of practice by the very successful Head Coach, Fred Richardi, with Coach Steve Poznansky leading the Sophs to a league championship last year.

TRI-CAPTAINS for this year's team are seniors Lenard Upin, Phil Cech and Daryl Michaels. They will lead a team loaded with talent and experience. In addition to the three, 98-pounder Jeff Rock, only a junior but already with three years of varsity experience, is being counted on to go a long way this year. Larry Yale, Mike Stone, Henry Rollick, Dennis Rock and super soph Todd Robins are all looked upon as team leaders this year.

This year's wrestling team is loaded with spirit and itching for victories.