

# Band Presents Annual Spring Concert



Vol. 33, No. 6 Niles East High School, Skokie, Illinois Fri., Feb. 12, 1971

## King Arthur Reigns Again!

The story of KING Arthur and his court will once again be brought to life, when the students of Niles East present Lerner and Lowe's "Camelot." According to legend King Ar-

thur who will be played by Jeff Ortmann, '72, and his wife, the lovely Guinevere, who will be played by Sue Ann Gershenzon, '71, ruled the Britons in 500 A.D. in a small kingdom known as Camelot.

**MEMBERS OF THE** cast include Scott Pollack, '71, who plays Sir Lancelot, Stephen Berenson, '71, as Pellinoire, Randy Paradise, '72, as Mordred, King Arthur's nephew, Cheryl Frazes, '72, as Morgen Le Fey, Steve Sussman, '73, as Tom of Warwick, Dan Malfar, '73, playing Sir Dinadan, Mike Short, '71, who plays Sir Lionel, Bruce Koestner, '74, as Sir Sagramore, Squire Dap is played

by Bob Klein, '73, Lady Anne will be played by Karen Esken, '73, Randi Simon, '71, will play Nimue, and Merlin, the court magician will be played by Sue Klein, '71. The cast is supported by a 31 members chorus, 15 dancers, and the orchestra.

**MEMBERS OF** the faculty who are helping with this year's production include Mrs. Helfand who will be directing the acting, Mr. Robert Anderson, directing the vocal aspect of the play, Mr. Jerry Proffit, director, Mrs. Kathy Lesley, dancing director, Mr. Stanley Carey, costume designer, and Mr. Leo Provost, orchestra director and tickets and publicity manager.

## East Bids Adieu To Early Grads

On January 7, 1971, Niles East bid a fond farewell to 43 mid-year graduates. These students, having fulfilled graduation requirements, took a step toward the future one semester early. Graduates include Richard Albrecht, Gary Bain, Shirley Berk, Elliott Bonem, Andrea Brauer, Sharyn Cohen, Margaret Conley, Susan Dale, Jon Darmstadter, Allen Dalezman, Mary DiBenedetto, Barbara Dunn, Marcia Ellis, Robert Feldman, Joan Goldberg, Cynthia Hawkins, Jolanta Juszkiwicz, Audrey Kaiser, Maureen Kaplan, Cheryl Kaufman, Susan Latala, Mark Lempert, David Lerner, Sheila Levy, Linda Lipman, Arthur Miller, Laurie Myliore, Dennis Nikitow, Josephine Pape, Kathy Perkins, Miriam Racine, Shayne Rand, Ellen Render, Pamela Robeydek, Larry Roth, Barbara Schechtman, Merle Siegel, Craig Simon, Sandra Sklamberg, Debra Strom, Debra Ullberg, Debra Wirth, and Michelle Wolke.

**IN COMPARISON** TO former years, this was an extremely large number of January graduates. Many of these students have already begun college, others have found jobs, and there are those who are merely relaxing after a hectic three-and-a-half years of high school.

## NMSQT Given Tomorrow

The National Merit Qualifying Examination will be given to several hundred juniors tomorrow in the cafeteria beginning at 8:15 a.m. Taking this test is a prerequisite for secondary students to be considered for the Merit, Special, and Achievement Scholarships administered by the NMSC. Students who score high on the NMSQT and fulfill their requirements will continue in the competition for scholarships at the accredited college of their choice.

## Drug Raps at East

Dr. Bruce Stein, bio-chemist and guest speaker at the drug assembly, discussed the current drug problem at Niles East.

**"MOST DRUG USERS** that continually use drugs are searching for an escape from tension or unsolved problems," explained the speaker. The main question a drug user must ask himself is, "Why am I so uptight?" It is essential to understand that not any one person takes drugs for any specific reason.

Students were able to consult with Dr. Stein during their non-class time, from 9 to 3:25 on Wednesday, February 3. Parents, students, and faculty were invited to the school auditorium for a general presentation. Dr. Stein's discussion was mainly intended for the many parents who refuse to believe the realization of drug problems existing in Skokie. "Parents and stu-

dents must come to this realization and discuss the problem," he stated.

**ANOTHER POINT** that he discussed was that quite often the drug user doesn't know the exact contents of what he is buying. Dr. Stein proved this by exhibiting charts from the Wisconsin State crime lab, which showed that half of the drugs purchased do not contain what they are said to. As a result, approximately five drug overdoses result in death in Wisconsin each year.

Dr. Stein, who is a former graduate of Niles East and presently a bio-chemist and law student at the University of Wisconsin, clarified a distinction between the drug user and the drug abuser. The user practices with drugs occasionally and has control over the effects; the abuser becomes a victim to the drugs he takes and is controlled by them.

## Boys Enlarge Room as Project

Mr. Keen's fourth period Advanced Woods Class volunteered to enlarge the weight lifting room as a class project.

**STUDENTS HAVE** constructed three walls and expanded the room about twenty feet. "Measuring the distance between beams and shooting nails into plates sounds difficult but was a lot of fun," explained senior Dave Matusik.

Mr. Keen said, "The boys are getting experience in structuring a home." In framing a house, 2 by 4's are what you would find in the walls, set a specific

distance apart. The boys are amateur carpenters, measuring, cutting, and structuring the wood together."

The class also plans to screen the front wall in the weight lifting room and remodel the football scoreboard.

Members of the Advanced Woods Class participating in these projects include Don Gockenbach, Joel Cohen, Shepard Abrahms, Ralph Fusco, William Oberding, Bill Osness, Tim Thiry, Glen Stern, Joe Mastrotaro, George Schiro, and Dean Kowalkowski.

The Niles East Concert Band and music department faculty cordially invite all to attend a special concert on Sunday, February 14, at 3:30 p.m. in the Niles East auditorium.

**THIS CONCERT IS** geared toward improving communications between the Niles East and Junior High School music programs. The band, under the direction of Mr. Leo Provost, will be featured along with music directors Mr. Clem Fleming of Lincoln, Mr. Verne Hoogheem of Fairview, and Mr. Donald Stahlberg of Oakview as guest conductors and soloists.

A variety of music will be on hand to please everyone attending, including the "Light Caval-

ry Overture," conducted by Donald Stahlberg, and "Bugler's Holiday," played by nine trumpet virtuosos from the Concert Band.

**OTHER SELECTIONS** being presented are "Fiddle Fiddle", featuring Scott Marinello as Xylophone soloist, "Crown Imperial March", and the Percussion Ensemble will play "Encore in Jazz."

Following the concert, a reception will be held in the student lounge, providing an opportunity for guests to meet and talk to the band members and conductors.

**ADMISSION IS \$1** for adults, 50¢ for high school students, and grade school students admitted free.

## News Hilites

### Orchesis Dancers Interpret Electronic Music

Niles East Orchesis Club will liven up the auditorium on Sunday, February 21, at 2 p.m., under the direction of Mrs. Kathy Lesley, sponsor.

**MEMBERS OF THE CLUB** have been practicing in their groups since December, directed by one of the nine choreographers, who have selected their own music and have put together their version of a modern dance.

Vivid costumes and electronic, jazz, and rock music will highlight the show in a variety of dance forms and group relations.

**SOME OF THE NUMBERS** included in the show are "Volume II" choreographed by Sue Buckman, "Normalities" by Pam Wallis, "Game Plays" by Katie Klehr, and "Ultimate Blue" by Barbara Coleman and Cathy Abelson. Other choreographers are Roz Berick, Linda Boyer, Gail Borovik, and Toby Nitzkin.

Twelve members of the Junior Orchesis group will perform a number entitled "Interpretations."

### AFS Needs Home for Exchange Student

The Niles East chapter of the AFS is in need of a family to host a foreign exchange student next year. If there are any students who will be juniors or seniors next year and would like to house the foreign exchange student, please contact either Miss Rochotte in Room 247 or Carol Tarantur in Homeroom 145.

**AFS members** sponsored a weekend get-together at the home of Mr. Al Armstein AFS adult chapter member, with 17 foreign exchange students from Joliet, Aurora, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, and Niles East spending Saturday afternoon at the Museum of Science and Industry. In the evening the students splashed in on the fun and games at the athletic and free swim at East. A party followed at the home of Roz Berick with a brunch at Carol Tarantur's on Sunday. The weekend ended Sunday afternoon with a friendship circle and sharing of customs from each person's native country.

### East Student Chosen as Future Homemaker

Laurie Ann Myliroie, '71, was chosen 1971 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow representing Niles East. She was selected for her achievement in a written knowledge and aptitude examination administered to senior girls on December 1, 1970.

**A SPECIALLY DESIGNED** award from General Mills, sponsor of the annual education program, will be given to Laurie in addition to her eligibility for state and national honors. The national first place winner will receive a \$5,000 educational grant as one of 102 college scholarships given.

### Girls Continually Active in P.E. Department

Pam Wallis, '71, has been awarded the Senior Life Saving certificate after completion of the course, which is offered by the Girl's Physical Education Department.

**CASS DIAMOND, '71,** was elected secretary of GAA at the board meeting recently. She joins President Jamie Scott, Vice-President Chris Malcher, and Treasurer Kathy Malcher as an officer of the Girls Athletic Association at Niles East.



# Each Must Decide His Own Fate

The aim of life is happiness. The evils of life consist of all that limits or destroys happiness. Unhappiness arises when there is a conflict between conscience and human nature. If the word happiness can be defined it would mean a feeling of contentment with life and oneself or a sense of balance existing in oneself. These conditions can only exist when one is free.

For one to achieve happiness, its roots must form in childhood. A child must be given freedom and that is not easy. We must refuse to teach him religion, class struggle, or politics. A child cannot have real freedom if he doesn't learn his opinions by himself for it is impossible to keep children from adopting parental attitudes toward life.

Freedom means doing what you like, as long as you don't interfere with the freedom of others. The result is self-discipline. Forcing someone to cease smoking cigarettes in the washroom and forcing someone to learn algebra are two different things. Smoking in the washroom involves the rights of others and the administration holds the right to restrain the offenders, but they do not have the right to compel someone to learn algebra—for learning is a matter for the individual and infringes on no one.

If love and approval govern one's home, then the happiness and well being of a child will prevail. Being on the side of the child is giving the most important kind of love. Not a sentimental or possessive love, but the kind the child needs most in life. We must allow the child to be selfish and not to have to give up his interests through his childhood. Even when clashes arise, the individual's interests should not take a secondary role. A child should be allowed to live out his natural interests.

It is insane for parents, teachers, and society to create a paved road with separate levels that if followed will bring happiness to its pursuer. For happiness is not a measurable quality; for some a college degree in law defending the innocent will bring contentment, or plowing a field of corn will bring satisfaction to the farmer, or becoming a wife and mother will be some girl's fulfillment. It is far better to be free and con-

tented and not know what the radius of a circle is, than to pass school tests and have your mind half cluttered with thoughts about the test and half cluttered with thoughts of failure or success.

All people must be allowed to live their own lives. If this were done, each person would live his life as he sees fit making the final decisions himself. If each person controlled his life, one life would be enough for each person and then many conflicts would never arise. Parents would not impose their beliefs and dreams on their children for if their life has consisted of those beliefs and dreams then it's the child's turn to determine his own beliefs and dreams. Why don't people understand that each person is an individual and what is right for one person is not right for all people? When people aren't allowed to pursue their own ideas, conflicts arise with opposing view points. Then the child is forced to make a decision—should he put aside his needs and desires for his parents' views or should he follow his thoughts realizing just what painful consequences may lie ahead? Suppose a youth is considering the usage of drugs and his parents condone people who use drugs and often tell the youth "we're positive you're smart enough to know that escaping reality with an illegal means is something you'd never do." The youth may choose to use drugs for their enjoyment and not as a means of escaping problems, and he now is faced with two choices. He can either tell his parents he uses drugs or use them without their knowledge of the situation. He then uses the drugs and is happy and his parents do not know that he uses the drugs and they are happy. People may think this is a dishonest approach to the problem, but why should the youth's desires take a secondary role to his parents' beliefs when they conflict? Is twenty-one the magic age when we become "adults" and our beliefs need not be suppressed any longer?

How can happiness triumph in our lives? The answer lies in letting the child be his own master, not teaching him what you think he should know, not forcing him to do anything, and abolishing authority which will result in mutual respect for all views and people of all ages.

# Chaos Infiltrates East Prisoners of War Helped by Viva

Second semester for Niles East students began on February 2, and it was on that date that utter chaos began. Instead of a learning institution, Niles East resembled Brookfield Zoo. After receiving schedules in homeroom, crowds of students began forming in counselors' offices, the Registrar's Office, and Room 108 for program changes. Lines composed of frustrated students filled hallways during all periods of the school day.

The Nilehilite does not understand why all this confusion was necessary. Concerning my own schedule I signed up for Political Science during the month of December and made arrangements to drop two English courses. Upon receiving my schedule Political Science was not included and both English courses remained. The English courses involved a simple procedure of just dropping them, but because the Political Science addition was not processed in December when the classes were not filled, it is not one of my classes now. In dropping the English courses earlier another student could have replaced my name in the class if so desired. Unless a student's

name was written down (which I highly doubt occurs) how could a counselor know that John Doe wishes to enroll in a course if anyone drops it?

If second semester schedules had been distributed prior to February 2 much of the confusion may never had taken place. Corrections could have been made before the new semester began resulting in fewer problems. With last minute droppings and additions many students enter a course several days after it begins. This situation results only with confusion for the student and teacher upon missing the first days of explanations essential to the success in a course.

In the month of January students were given the opportunity to meet their prospective teachers and gain some insight about courses chosen by themselves. This program was not a success, but the basic idea is great — the timing was off. Students should view the courses prior to final registrations and early enough in schedule planning so that changes can be made to different alternatives. If possible a student should be allowed to sit in a class he plans to take the following semester to see it in its actual process. If this were done many of the last minute decisions would not occur. Students enrolled in an English course would have had a taste of its procedures and teacher and would have some idea of what to expect.

The Registrar and guidance counselors should coordinate their activities which is not being done presently. A counselor sends a student to Room 110 (the Registrar's office) and the registrar sends him back to his counselor. No continuity exists between the two structures.

The Nilehilite suggests a re-examination of procedures used concerning guidance and scheduling. The present system is far too inaccurate and inefficient.

More than 1,500 American males are either prisoners of war or missing in action in Southeast Asia. Our government is doing very little about finding out the status of these men from Hanoi.

The Americans receive inhumane treatment and their fates remain undetermined. Most of the families of these men do not know if they are alive or dead. Hanoi will not reveal such information.

There is however something students can do to peacefully demonstrate their protests against the holding of American prisoners in Hanoi. Voices in Vital America (VIVA) is a non-profit, non-political national student organization dedicated to the fact that progress and freedom can only be achieved and maintained by rational and responsible action. For sending a minimum contribution, VIVA sends the donor a bracelet made from nickel or copper. The bracelet honors the man whose name is inscribed and includes the date he was lost. The bracelet should not be removed until the Red Cross is allowed into Hanoi and can assure his family of his status and that he receives the humane treatment due all men. Donations enable VIVA to produce more bracelets, print and distribute literature, bumper stickers, and other related POW material throughout the country. Upon request one may obtain more information about the man whose name appears on their bracelet.

For information about VIVA either write to VIVA, 1211 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles, California, 90024, or contact Denise Dorn.

## From Our Readers

# Reaction

I would like to comment and give some of my own views on the article Arona Arbus had written in the last issue of the Nilehilite concerning Gateway. I also have been there, but for a somewhat different reason. Some people that I was friends with at the time started going there. They weren't living there and had no drug problem, but were involved with the place just the same. At first, these people went there irregularly on weekends. Then they went every Saturday night and Sunday. Then they started going in the middle of the week, also. This kept progressing until these people would go to Gateway six days a week. They had very little activity outside of school that was not centered around Gateway. These people were changing for the worse, until they deteriorated to only a shadow of the good people that they were. I had to find out if Gateway had anything to do with this. This is why I went. This is what I found, and what I think of it.

When Arona Arbus says that when people come into the program with nothing, she's not saying enough. They come in with less than that. When a person comes into the program, what he is, in effect, is saying that he doesn't know how a person should live, and that he wants someone to show him how to live. This, I feel, right here, is wrong. Telling someone how to live is doing him more harm than good. Helping a person, on the other hand, discover for himself how he should live is what is needed. When you tell a person how to live, you are assuming that what is right for you is right for that other person. This is very rarely true, if ever. Also, by telling a person how to live, you are letting that person cop-out on himself. Each person has his own way to live. This is one of the most difficult things to do (especially with pressure from every side), but must be done simply because each person on earth is like no other.

When I was there, almost as soon as I walked in the door, the "family" started debating with me. This is what I wanted. I wanted them to prove their philosophy and program to me. Proving something to yourself is one thing; because I don't take any rationalizations, or other gimmicks that people use to convince themselves of things. For the next hour and a half, I was debating with no less than three of these people (usually five) to one of me. The only reason our discussion ended when it did is because I had shaken up one or two of my "opponents" so badly that he asked in a very nervous voice if we could please change the subject. In other words, I was debating with, altogether about eight people who were living under a philosophy that they could not defend. At least one of the people I was talking to was an administrator of the House. What the people in the Gateway program are living under, it seems to me, is a set program into which everyone is channeled into as soon as they come. They are treating everyone in the same way. What this whole program is supposed to do is to literally, brainwash (and I thought about that statement before I put it in this letter) the people there into a life style. It seems to me that this life style is not right

for them all. Some of the other things that they have at Gateway are groups where everyone sits around and cuts each other up. This is supposed to make you handle people on the outside that don't like you, or something like this. Unfortunately, this knowledge is second-hand. To sit in on these "clusters" if you are not living at the House is something reserved for very few outsiders. This step, it seems to me is a good way to turn people into masochists. This is the picture I have gotten (from more than one person): you are taken from warm "family" (which is what the members try to act as toward one another) into a room where your "brothers" and "sisters" slice you to ribbons. I congratulate these people on finding such a good way to nurture mistrust.

In closing I would like to say that, from my letter, you could get the impression that I think Gateway does a lot of things wrong. This is true. But it also does some things right. Just because Gateway works doesn't mean that there isn't anything that could work better.

Art Solomon '72

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the administration and staff I would like to commend our students for their patience and understanding during schedule changing time at the beginning of the second semester.

Unusual difficulties with data processing mechanical services and our program changer procedures created problems for some students and their programs. This situation will be corrected.

Students exhibited mature judgment while programs were being corrected and this kind of cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Arthur C. Colver  
Principal

Dear Editor,

While reading the book *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupery I came across a line I felt was worth sharing with the rest of the school.

"And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

Sandy Heiman '72

## Regions

by Philip Beck

Where the bell tolled interminable,  
There I lived beneath its spell,  
As it tolled our many lives by,  
In those regions known so well.  
There my life spent in frustration,  
Thwarted dreams and futile hopes,  
Precious years all stolen from me,  
From us all—thus were we lost.  
Then, by ones, our spirits left us,  
Journeyed from that wicked place,  
And with each successive passing,  
Came the cursed bell's death pace.  
Bell of Darkness, Bell of Sorrow!  
Now, at long last, still your roar,  
I have finally joined the others,  
... We will hear your curse no more.



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# Chicago Happenings

by Debbie Deitch

Everyone seems to say at one time or another what a drag Skokie is. Very often this is true, and so we bring you a listing of events outside of Skokie, which could prove an end to those boring weekends and weeknights without homework. No money you say? Do not stop here; keep reading and you'll find that many of the events are free or else require only a small admission fee.

### THEATER

**"THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS."** Irene Dailey stars in Paul Zindel's prize-winner at the Ivanhoe. \$3.50-\$5.

**"Picasso's Moustache."** New revue at Second City, 1616 N. Wells. Tuesday through Sunday 9 p.m.; 8:30 and 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$2.95-\$3.95  
**ADAPTATION OF VOLTAIRE'S "CANDIDE."** 8:30 p.m. Friday through Saturday plus Wednesday and Thursday, through February 27. Extra show at 10:30 p.m. Saturday. Organic Theater at Body Politic Theater, 2257 N. Lincoln. \$2.50 - \$3 Saturday, students \$1.50 Wednesday and Thursday.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**"Aesop's Fables,"** a new Russo rock cantata, 8 p.m. Saturday; thereafter at 7:30 p.m. and

9 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. Free Theater, 3257 N. Sheffield. FREE.

**"DAVID,"** a rock theater piece. 7 p.m. and 10 Saturday, 8:30 p.m. Sunday. Free Theater (See address above.)

**"Achilles,"** rock opera, 7 and 9 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Monday. Through February. Free Theater of Columbia College, 3257 N. Sheffield.

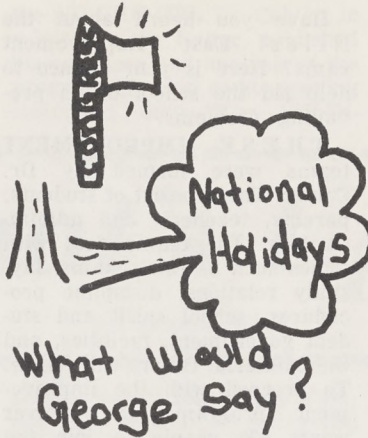
**"GAME THEATER"** at the Body Politic presents an evening of audience participation in Villa Spolin's theater games. 9 p.m. Saturday. 2259 N. Lincoln. \$2.

The Chicago Extension (formerly the 43rd Ward) performs improvisational theater at 9 p.m. Wednesday. Alice's Revisited, 950 W. Wrightwood.

**"VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW,"** (video) 8:30, 10, and 10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 8:30 and 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, at the BBC, 2827 N. Broadway. Also, at 9 p.m., 10:30, midnight, and 1:15 a.m. Friday and Saturday; 9 p.m. and 10:30 Sunday through Thursday, at the Rush Up, 907 N. Rush. \$3 Friday and Saturday, \$2.50 Sunday through Thursday.

### FILMS

Revivals: "The Anniversary," with Bette Davis, and "Four



Clowns," with Buster Keaton and Charlie Chase. Biograph, 2433 N. Lincoln.

### SOUNDS

**WILDERNESS ROAD,** the Second City touring company, from 9 p.m. Mondays. Second City, 1616 N. Wells, \$2.

### POTPOURRI

Classes in macrame, the art of knot-tying, are held free of charge each Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m. at Alice's Revisited.

**LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR,** either acoustic or electric. Free instruction each Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., from Lou Zale and Marty O'Neill, at Alice's Revisited. All you need is a guitar.

Free tennis instruction will be held at 15 parks of the Chicago Park District. Participants must have a racquet, ball, gym shoes, and proper tennis attire. For more information phone the Park District, HA 7-5252.

**MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART,** 237 E. Ontario is now presenting four muralists painting murals for the people.

# Birthdays on Monday

What would Honest Abe say? just imagine the reaction of George if he were to hear about this one! How would you feel if this were to happen to you. Try to imagine your reaction if you were told, "instead of your usual birthday we will now celebrate it one week and two days earlier because, in this way it will help the gross national something or other." Well, this is exactly what happened to two past presidents. Abe Lincoln's birthday is still listed on the calendar as February 12, which is correct. But just recently, on February 1, we "celebrated," Presidents' Day. This gave us a three-day weekend because that's how it was planned. So now there is no need to remember Lincoln on his birthday because we already remembered him two weeks ago.

endar. On February 15, it is stated as being "Washington's Birthday." Then on the 22, there is the listing of "Traditional Washington's Birthday." But we no longer celebrate the "Traditional," so remember him on the "new" birthday because it has been figured out that this Monday would be a "better" date for George to have been born on. The only trouble is that next year it will be a different date, and the year after, and so on. It's a good thing that the father of our country isn't still around because he might get quite confused.

These two presidents aren't the only ones who got switched around; it seems that we were remembering Columbus and the Veterans on the wrong day. And now Memorial Day has also been changed. What's next?

**GEORGE WASHINGTON** is a different story though. He rates to listings on one's cal-

IT'S REALLY going to be strange when the calendar reads...December 25...traditional Christmas.

# Student Film Festival!

Niles East's Film classes held their first semiannual Academy Awards. No too surprisingly, all the filmmakers, stars, crews, and producers attended. There were so many films however, and a number of shy artists who exhibited their creations to only their own classes, that it was impossible to obtain an absolutely certain vote on the various categories. But as best as can be determined, once the showroom lights were switched back on, Gary Brown's **Work-**

ing **Class Hero**, carried off honors for Best Film and Best Directing.

**CHERI TEEMAN'S** United Artists' **No Time**, received honorable mention as Best Film. The Best Actor honor seemed to come to rest gracefully on the broad shoulders of Matt Gillio. Debbie Seiden was cited as Best Actress, for her very moving and original touch of doing all of her acting with her back to the camera.

The award for special effects, was carried off by Barry Wilens, for his Animation. As far as other votes for other awards go, there seems to be a definite need for an improvement in voting for the coming semester.

**DUE TO PEOPLE** having to attend their next class, or get to their job, or see the Dean, no party was held. The awards did appear to have been party enough in themselves and Niles East looks forward to its next gala affair.

.....Hollywood, here we come....

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# "Hearty" Past

by Rick Nathan

Valentine's Day is a traditional festival of romance and affection. People send greeting cards and the message whether romantic or humorous always seems to be . . . Be my Valentine.

**VALENTINE'S DAY** comes on the feast day of two different Christian martyrs named Valentine. But the customs connected with the day have nothing to do with the lives of the saints. They probably come from an ancient Roman festival called Lupercalia which took place every February 15. The festival honored Juno, the Roman goddess of women and marriage, and Pan, the god of nature.

Years ago, people held many beliefs in connection with Valentine's Day. One of the oldest beliefs said that birds choose their mates on February 14. An old English superstition warned that it was bad luck to bring snowdrops into the house before Valentine's Day if unmarried girls in the home hoped to be married by the year's end.

**MOST VALENTINE'S** Day customs were concerned with romance or the choice of a mate. Single girls had many ways of learning the identity of their future husbands. Sometimes a girl wrote her boy friends names on bits of paper and rolled each name in a little piece of clay. She then dropped the clay into water. The first scrap of paper to rise to the top was supposed to contain the name of her true valentine. Some unmarried girls pinned five bay leaves to their pillows on the eve of Valentine's Day. They pinned one in the center of their pillow and one to each of the corners, and believed they would see their future husbands in their dreams if the charm worked.

The Romans celebrated their feast of Lupercalia as a lover's festival for young people. Young men and women chose partners for the festival by drawing names by chance from a box. Then the partners exchanged gifts as a sign of affection. They usually continued to enjoy one another's company long after the festival. Many such courtships ended in marriage.

**HISTORIANS DISAGREE** about the identity of St. Valentine. One St. Valentine was a priest who lived in Rome during the 200's under Emperor Claudius II. The Romans jailed him for aiding persecuted Christians. People believed that he cured his jail keeper's daughter of blindness. About 270 A.D., the Romans beheaded him on Palatine Hill at the site of an ancient altar to Juno. Many years later, Christians named a gate in Rome, Porto Valentine, after St. Valentine. The name was later changed to Porto del Popolo. St. Valentine's remains are buried in the church of St. Praxedes in Rome.

In the United States, Valentine's Day became popular in the 1800's, at the time of the Civil War. A writer in a magazine of 1863 wrote, "Indeed, with the exception of Christmas, there is no festival throughout the world which is invested with half the interest belonging to this cherished anniversary." Many Valentines of that period were hand painted. They usually showed a fat cupid whose arrows pierced a heart. Some valentines had satin, ribbon, and other keepsakes. Many old valentines, usually valued for their decorative qualities, have become collectors items.

**TODAY, VALENTINE'S** day has become a more commercialized holiday, one that is fun and looked forward to by all.

lace trimmings. Young women proudly displayed their valentines and put them away with



Have you heard about the Niles East Improvement teams? Here is your chance to help rid the school of its prevailing problems.

**THESE IMPROVEMENT** teams were formed by Dr. Colver. They consist of students, parents, teachers, and administrators. The teams deal with topics such as final exams, lay-study relations, discipline procedures, school spirit and student government, facilities, and the cafeteria. Others will follow. To proceed with the improvement program, Dr. Colver wants 500 people to join the teams. Already there are 300 volunteers. The teams will begin meeting in two weeks. This is the first program in the Niles high schools introduced for improving the schools.

The program began with ten problem solving committees at each Niles high school, each

consisting of fifteen persons, which included parents, teachers, students, and administrators chosen by popular vote. Their job was to determine the problems at the Niles high

## Improving East Scene

by Michelle Kulwin  
and  
Debbie Alfredo

schools. Representatives of each group met, pooled their problems, and presented their list to the administration and finally to the board. The schools shared common problems.

Together, the schools formed the District Coordinating Committee. The members from Niles East include Nancy Weisman, '71; Mr. Madison, a teacher; Mr. Spillar, PTA president; and Dr. Colver.

**THESE MEMBERS** studied the problem sensing reports of each group to see what district goals should be set.

After analyzing these problems, the Coordinating Committee stated that the schools were doing well academically, but not in terms of meeting "human needs." They concluded that the reassessment of priority of goals was in order, and that some traditional approaches must be abandoned and new creative approaches introduced.

They found two main types of problems, both of social nature. They were problems in person-to-person relations and problems in system-to-person relations.

**THEY CONTEMPLATED** changes for next year which teachers and students had recommended, such as three new art courses, other courses, such

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)



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IT SEEMS SORT OF obvious that Niles East with Open Campus isn't much different from without Open Campus. That is because although nowadays one can leave the school building legally during free time, in the Pre-Open Campus era, one could also make his way out of the school during that non-class time. Anyone who had watched Charlie Chan movies and was resourceful enough to walk past a study hall teacher who was sleeping, or stroll by a security guard that was having a siesta, could leave the school building at his desire. Of course, if you weren't quite so criminal minded as to attempt to sneak out of the school, a forged note of

some sort could usually do the trick. In either case, though, the campus wasn't really that closed.

But despite these facts, some

the NILEHILITE, Dr. Colver, in a letter to the Editor, published his reactions and analysis of the program. He said as his opening statement that "The Self-Di-

was that "Student grades for the first marking period have gone up slightly" when compared to the same time period last year. This truly shocked

ANOTHER ONE of Dr. Colver's articulate observations was that student attendance is up 3 per cent in homeroom compared to last year at the same time. I figured this out mathematically, and means that every day about five-eighths of a student more shows up at homeroom than at the same time period last year. Here, one would almost have to concede that there is a marked improvement. Just think — last year at this time, five-eighths of a student more was roaming the halls, or maybe smoking five-eighths of a cigarette in the washroom. Well, leave it to the Open Campus plan to get a student, (or at least part of a student) where he should be.

Dr. Colver also noticed that "There has been a slight decrease in the number of students using the library," compared to last year during the same period. This again, verifies the validity of the program — it really helps empty out the library. Now, instead of librarians taking care of students, they can take care of each other. Imagine how excited the librarians must be about that.

The Doctor went on to say that "a noticeable improvement in the attitudes of students using the library is apparent." Or, in other words, he has observed that students in the library seem to be in generally happier dispositions lately. This is another demonstration of the success of Open Campus — students seem happier to Dr. Colver. It is just as the old saying goes: "If you give students a truly wonderful program, they will have a better disposition in the library."

AND THOSE ARE Dr. Colver's observations which he had printed in the Nilehilit of January 15. But take them as you will, as they are just Dr. Colver's way of showing us students what a fine thing Open Campus really is. But it really isn't.

**East Scene**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

as Environmental Problems in the science department, and discontinuing two courses. Introductory Physical Science and Contemporary Mass Media. Other proposed changes include expansion of the pass-fail option to some departments, a new Humanities program, a revised Family Living course, and a Hebrew course.

IN A LETTER TO parents, students, and teachers, Dr. Colver proposed other activities. They include a new program planning system; a program called YOU — run, planned, and carried out by students; Town Hall Meetings to which everyone is invited; a Parent Visitation Week, and a rap sessions concerning the drug problem.

# So, What's Up Doc?

by Howard Reich

people still believe that Open Campus is a great success and achievement — and Dr. Colver is one of them.

You see, in the last issue of

rective School Day (Open Campus) has been highly successful at this point in time."

THEN DR. COLVER THREW in some statements about how contented many people in Skokie seem to be with Open Campus — these people include merchants, the Skokie Police, teachers, and security guards.

And finally, in the middle of his letter, he came up with the specific facts and statistics that demonstrate what a success Open Campus really is. These facts that he presented are so entertaining, that they bear repeating. I doubt, though, that they will convince you of very many great achievements and benefits of Open Campus.

The first of these statistics

me. Imagine, a limited Open Campus program had simply begun, and grades were already on their way up. Since Dr. Colver related this statistic to the Open Campus program, it seems that only one conclusion can be drawn — the more you say that you're letting kids out of school, the higher their grades go. Ascending scholastic grades at school will certainly give Niles East a better reputation, (and think of how good our administrators will look.) It seems that from this first statistic one not only can conclude that Open Campus is a good thing for students, but that it is also helpful for administrators. Thus, you can see how wonderful Open Campus really is.

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# Cagers Show Spirit

Perhaps in one of their finest performances in many a year, the Trojans fell short Saturday in a dramatic overtime contest as the Huskies of Oak Park sledged to a 61-58 victory in the closing minutes.

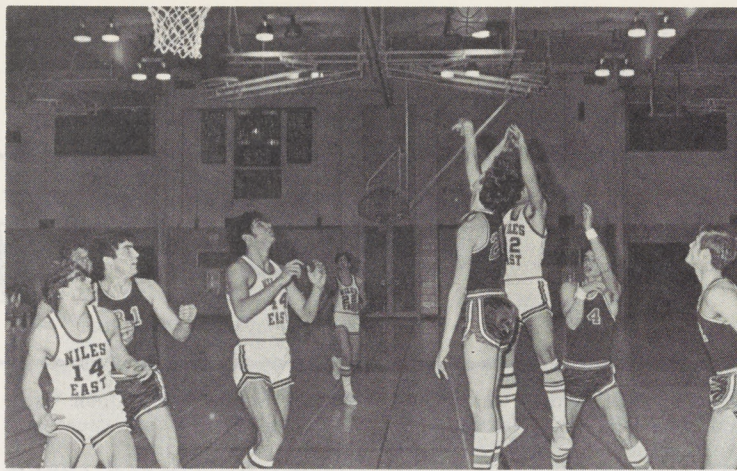
**LED BY** Louis Angelopoulos and Joe Capezio, the Trojan attack was ignited suddenly in the second quarter and at half-time it was 29-25 Oak Park. Good basketball continued in the third stanza and at one point the men of Troy led 34-30 before foul difficulties reduced the margin. The play of Mike Korta and Warren Elliot was certainly impressive. On several occasions their shooting was quite admirable. Following a 38-38 deadlock, midway through the third quarter a tug and war battle developed — certainly an interesting sight. With 5:21 remaining, Niles East leading 48-46 a spirit of pride and accomplishment was surely evident in the stands — shout-

ing, cheering and stamping were all in the picture. However, after a 53-53 standstill the Trojans let victory slip away from them in the waning moments.

**THOUGH THE GAME** did not mean a great deal in terms of standing in the Suburban League, these teams displayed as much drive and desire as any contest involving higher stakes. It certainly was a spirited affair.

Remaining games this season: Tonight, February 12—at New Trier East  
Friday, February 19—at Morton East  
Saturday, February 20—home against Evanston  
Friday, February 26—home against Waukegan

**TROJAN POWER:** Last Saturday a dynasty might have been born. During halftime the East Prairie Panthers, coached by Mr. Burton Weinberg treated the crowd to an exhibition of offense and defense. The leading scorer for one team was George Angelopoulos who made some pretty fine shots. Must take after his brother.



(Photo credit—THE NEWS—by B. J. Neimer)

Louis Angelopoulos (12) shoots over an Oak Park opponent while Joe Capezio (44) and Mike Korta (14) wait for a possible rebound.

## Trojan Sports Scene

by Jeff Langer

The virtues of perseverance and hope in athletics at Niles East have existed too long. The time has come for change in the Niles East sports program, and leaving the Suburban League could be the solution.

**THE BASKETBALL AND** wrestling programs in particular have fallen from their previous heights. The cagers have won one game in the past two years, which certainly is nothing to write home about. The grapplers have been completely shut out for the last few years.

The football team has never attained much success, and their 1-6-1 record this year was better than many other seasons. The swimmers have floundered at the bottom of the Suburban League for years.

**IT IS DIFFICULT** to believe that the Trojan baseball and swimming teams could not even finish in the first division of the Suburban League and yet could still place among the top ten teams in the state meet. However, as little as three or four years ago this actually happened. This clearly shows just how strong the Suburban League is.

Why has this happened at Niles East? Such schools as New Trier East and Evanston have enrollments of nearly 6,000 students. Niles East over the years has become the smallest school in terms of student population in the Suburban League.

**WHEN THE PROPOSAL** to leave the Suburban League had been announced previously, school administrators have either dismissed the idea or sent it to a committee which does not bother to discuss it. There is a great deal of prestige involved in being a member of the Suburban League.

It is one of the top rated high school conferences in the United States, but pride must be swallowed for the sake of saving the Niles East athletic programs. Capacity crowds which were so common at some events in previous years, have gradually decreased. People don't want to watch losers in action, and unless Niles East makes its move to leave the Suburban League now, in a few years the scenes at many sporting events will resemble those at White Sox Park in the past few years, which means the seats will be almost empty.

**DO YOU AGREE** with this viewpoint? The following poll gives you, the reader, a chance to express an opinion on this issue of concern.

Should Niles East leave the Suburban League?

- Yes
- No

What league (if any) should Niles East join?

- Central Suburban (North & West)
- North Suburban
- Other name
- None

Deposit votes in the Niles-hillite box in the main office.

## New Sport Adds Danger

by Norwin Merens

Roaring over the snow this winter, are some of the strangest contraptions ever conceived for winter fun. These way out machines are examples of things to come in snowmobiles and all land vehicles. Snowmobiling began almost twelve years ago when crude motorized sleds were constructed in garages and back yards in New England. Today the industry is a highly specialized, competitive multimillion dollar business.

**HOWEVER, AMERICANS** (and Canadians too, for that matter) are acting on the assumption that anything worth doing is worth overdoing. Approximately half a million snowmobiles will be sold this winter and more than one million are now on the scene. In snow country states: Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, it is all but impossible to escape the clatter of these vehicles. In some locations, wildlife is proceeding due north, out of range of the snow runabout, but also out of scope of natural and familiar dwellings. If the trend were carried to absurdity, game animals would congregate in a tight, shuddering pack atop the North Pole. But snowmobiles would not be far behind. They can reach this region, too, as the Plaisted Expedition of 1968 proved.

**CONSIDER:** The sports loving wife of Quebec's minister of highways led her three children on a snowmobile safari.

Under the wheels of a truck, she became Quebec's 32nd snowmobile death this wintery season.

A middle-aged man drowned when his snowmobile went through the ice on Lake Ripogenus in Maine. Rescuers discovered that the speeding machine had traveled 1,000 feet on quarter inch ice before breaking through.

**IN THE EARLY** primitive days of snowmobiling, such accidents were considered rare and freakish. Now they are almost commonplace. A large number of snowmobilers have died in collisions with cars and trucks that most states have banned the mechanisms from the public way, yet these adventurers manage to die anyway — crossing the road, like chickens, to get to the other side.

## Cods Win First

The Niles Codfish broke a long losing streak, after defeating Proviso East 48-44 for their first victory of the year. John Peterson and Don Gochenbach teamed up to take a first and second in both the 200 and 400. Maurie Levin took a first in the yard freestyle races. Junior Maurie Levin took a first in the 50 yard freestyle event and Senior Frank Schubert took a first in the 100 yard backstroke event and a second in the 200 yard Individual Medley.

## Wrestlers Improve, Look Ahead

The Wrestling team is moving to regain its previous high level of quality, according to Varsity coach Mr. Fred Richardi. Only two wrestlers will be lost through graduation, so the improvement should continue.

**THE WRESTLERS** won over 44 per cent of their 107 matches, with 121 pins among the victories. Craig Yale has six pins on the varsity level, while Steve Soler, Rick Angell, and Randy Blair all have six or more for the sophomores. Freshman Larry Yale, Phil Cech, and Fred Albrecht also have six or more pins.

The grapplers have won 13 meets and tied two this season, a marked increase from the three wins recorded last year. Leading point-getters on the various levels include Craig Yale, Larry Auerbach, Gary Castino, and Steve Rock for the varsity, Kip Weissman, still undefeated

this season, Steve Soler, Rick Angell, and Randy Blair on the sophomore level and Larry Yale, Fred Albrecht, and Phil Cech for the frosh.

## Gymnasts Win

The Niles East gymnastic teams have been enjoying one of their finest dual meet seasons in the past five years. The varsity gymnasts, after defeating Morton East, are sporting an 8-2 record. The sophomores only suffered one loss to Evanston but still remain tied for first place in the league since Waukegan beat Evanston's sophomores last week. The freshman team has not been defeated in this season retaining first place in the Suburban League.

**NILES EAST** will host the District meet on February 27 — the toughest District in the state.

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