

NILEHILITE

Volume 41, Number 4

NILES EAST HIGH SCHOOL, SKOKIE, ILL.

Friday, December 22, 1978



Happy
Holidays

As the season progresses into winter, Skokians will once again be celebrating the holidays of Christmas or Chanukah.

In Skokie, merchants prepare for the season by displaying holiday decorations and enough various gifts to suit everyone's tastes.

The Old Orchard shopping center is in tune with the holiday spirit; its holiday displays depict a theme of Christmas and Chanukah around the world.

Downtown Skokie traditionally celebrates by draping "boughs of holly" on the street posts, and scenes of glitter, garland, and silver bells garnish stores' windows.

If Christmas decorations strike one's fancy, then take time out for a casual drive through the Lincolnwood Towers area. Located just south of Skokie between Devon and Pratt, west of the Edens Expressway, the area residences

offer colorful decorative displays. Sightseers in cars are attracted to the area in droves, and occasionally some heavy traffic results, but most don't mind the wait.

Aside from the forthcoming two-week vacation, students should also stop and realize the meaning involved in this holiday season. Christmas honors the birth of Christ, and Chanukah commemorates the war between the Jews and the Assyrians. This year Chanukah and Christmas are on the same day, December 25.

Some East students will spend their vacation time by going skiing, by traveling to warmer climates, while still others will be content staying home.

The Nilehilite wishes students, staff, and administration a very happy holiday, and the best of luck throughout the New Year.

Skills mandate change

Recently, due to the general decline of (SAT/ACT) scores and basic academic competency of high school graduates, there has been a nationwide movement toward minimum competency requirements for graduation.

Currently, there have been a number of programs proposed and implemented regarding the insurance of minimum competency upon graduation. These include the implementation of a state-level high school graduation test as in New York State, an evaluation of the students competency in basic skills areas by the individual local districts, or the establishment of competency standards for grade-to-grade promotion by each individual school.

Of all the previously mentioned alternatives, the one that has received the most media attention is the state-level high school graduation test. This "test for graduation" has many flaws and definitely shouldn't be implemented in the district. Particularly, this system has two faults. First, if "tests for graduation" are implemented, they will result in District schools narrowing their curriculums to the

minimal requirements of the tests. Second, if "tests for graduation" are used, they may cause serious life crisis for students who have planned to graduate and are then refused a diploma.

THE SOLUTION TO THE problem of lack of minimum competency may be found in the rough draft of a proposal regarding minimum competency made by the District Curriculum Council entitled, **Minimum Competency Testing A National Movement**. This report's plan stresses guidelines for minimum competency made by the teachers of the individual courses taken by the specific student. The list of teacher and Board advised standards of the various required and elective courses taken in order to acquire the 34 credits needed for graduation will be the measure of minimum competency at the various stages of the high school students' career.

Finally, the Board should move ahead and accept the proposal of the Curriculum Council to insure that all District graduates can function and be active members in our complex society.



commentary

Focus

david eingorn

In my opinion, all in-school assemblies should remain mandatory with some provisions added.

First, during an assembly students should be allowed to sit wherever they choose. The behavior of students at the past few assemblies has shown that they could handle sitting with their own friends without a major disturbance occurring.

As for attendance at an "open seating" assembly to insure that the assembly remains mandatory, a "paper slip" system could be used. On the day of the assembly during homeroom, students would sign their names on slips of paper. At the beginning of the assembly, students of each homeroom would meet at a predesignated place and personally give their homeroom teachers their signed slips of paper. In this way attendance would be taken. After each student personally gives his piece of "attendance" paper to his teacher, he would then be able to sit

wherever he pleased.

SECOND, THE QUALITY of the assemblies should be improved. Students shouldn't be forced to miss class time to see some sort of "dress rehearsal" for a later performance. Also, there shouldn't be a great proliferation of assemblies — just major ones like Homecoming, Fall and Winter Sports, and Reflections.

Finally, the advantages of having mandatory assemblies definitely outweigh the disadvantages.

Having mandatory assemblies promotes activities and "school spirit" which are needed by a school in order for it to survive. Also, having mandatory assemblies encourages enthusiasm among the individual participants in the activity being honored through peer recognition. Mandatory assemblies do teach students the very important skill of how to be a good and appreciative audience.

queen

Album Reviews

steve shayman

Keeping with the methods that made their past releases all very successful, the royal jesters of the rock genre, Queen, pull no punches with their new release, "Jazz". The album is injected with Queen's traditional great sense of fun and offbeat versatility.

The album shows its colorfulness right from the beginning. "Mustapha," is the world's first rock song sung completely in Arabic (the native language of lead singer Freddie Mercury who was born in Zanzibar), leads off the first side and is an excellent parody of the 'exotic' Middle-Eastern musical style.

THE GROTESQUE musical plague, disco also falls prey to Queen's parody. "Fun It" is an effective satire of this country's latest dance craze.

As usual, Brian May's guitar is the major interest in Queen. May's sweet-sounding (homemade) guitar gives that fluid cohesiveness which is so necessary for Queen's style of constant musical turns and tempo changes from song to song. Their latest singles, "Bicycle Race" and "Fat Bottomed Girls", are in the vein of outrageousness, with May Mercury and drummer Roger Taylor trading off vocals in a heavy-metal rock pretentious sort of 'rhapsody'.

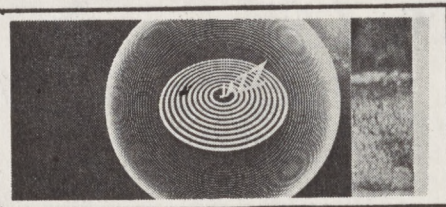
Editor's Note: The Nilehilitite would like to apologize for several mistakes that appeared in the November, 1978 issue. In the Ruth Saltzman story, we regret the misspelling of Ruth's last name. The letter which appeared at the bottom of page 2 was written by former East teacher Everett Colton. All albums that appear in the album reviews this year are supplied by Dog Ear Records 8836 N. Harlem, Morton Grove.

In this issue, the photo on the front page of Old Orchard Shopping Center was taken by Mike Silver.

DA ROSA TRAVEL

Spring vacation trips to Paris, France, Madrid, Spain, and Marllorca will be offered by Da Rosa Travel. For information, write or call Da Rosa Travel, 4648 Oakton St., Box 587, Skokie, Ill. 60076. 677-2550.

JUDGING FROM THEIR recent Stadium performance December 7, there's no doubt in my mind that Queen will attain multi-million selling status with "Jazz", so prepare your ears for a "Jazz" radio airplay onslaught over the next few months.



Feedback

East's condition warrants its success

Dear Editor:

Some Niles North parents seem to think that a great injustice would be done to the world should North close. They go around causing more trouble than necessary and making the already unpleasant task of closing a high school harder.

Student praises club

Dear Editor:

I am a member of the Niles East DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America). This is my first year in DECA, but I find it rewarding. The purpose of DECA is to find careers that interest the members. One works in his chosen field along with his fellow classmates, teacher, and employees.

DECA has many fund raising

These parents have tried to prevent the possible closing of Northi by making East seem run-down and outdated. They have complained about everything from the possible poor condition of the building structure to the idea that East's teaching facilities are poor.

projects planned such as carwashes, candy-o-grams, collecting canned food for the needy, and collecting toys for the children in the hospital.

Mr. Coulson is the teacher of DECA. He is a great teacher. He always seems to be on the same level as all of the kids in the class, and he is always pushing for DECA to be #1.

Julie Knee '79

DECA deserves praise

It should be clearly acknowledged by all that DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) deserves praise on its outstanding progress with building leaders in the marketing and the distribution industries. DECA teaches students about all the different facets of retail business while finding jobs for students.

Bill Coulson, DECA Coordinator at East, has done a fine job working with his East students and should be commended on preparing them for the duties of nationwide office. Also, Coulson should be recognized for making the East DECA state chapter

of the year for the last three years.

Students in DECA spend most of the day in school with the remainder spent at their predesignated DECA jobs, according to Scott Turner, DECA Parliamentarian.

DECA isn't only a club but a class as well, "You receive one credit per semester for DECA class and one credit per semester for working on the DECA job," concluded Turner.

All students who are interested in joining DECA should first see Mr. Coulson, and then their respective counselors so they could sign up.

However, the condition of the East building structure was recently found to be totally sound when a building committee toured the school and reported that it was and is in fine condition. As for the teaching facilities, all three Niles Township High Schools follow the same instructional programs, using basically the same teaching equipment.

AFTER ALL THE complaints and differences have been reviewed, the fact remains that one school must close in 1980 and a decision of which school must be made soon. This decision should be made wisely and without the pressures of court orders and parent protests. Also, this decision should be made with the good of all students, in all three high schools in mind.

Kathleen Barry, '82

NILEHILITE

The voice of the Niles East Students
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East's annual student directed musical "Reflections '78" was presented December 7, 8, 9.

DECA has active year

East DECA (Distributive Educational Clubs of America), under the direction of Bill Coulson, has participated in and has sponsored many activities so far this year.

DECA students have sponsored a holiday auction outside the Dean's office for students on December 11-15. According to Debbie Kagan '79, "All the items are brand new merchandise donated by stores from Skokie, Glenview, Morton Grove, Niles, and Evanston. Coulson who was the auctioneer explained, "Four hundred to five hundred different items were sold including wigs, toupees, furniture, jewelry, and pianos. The auction gave students opportunities to get good bargains at good prices."

A TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE was held November 27-December 20 in conjunction with Student Senate and G.I.T. (Getting It Together). All homerooms were asked to bring in new and old toys in good condition. These were given to the Marine Corps who will distribute them during the holidays.

A formal candlelight ceremony for the new chapter officers took place on November 16 in the student lounge. Parents, special guests, and students witnessed the initiation and installation of Marc Shuman, president; Debbie Kagan, vice president; Jeff Hester, secretary; Frank Davis, reporter; and Scott Turner, parliamentarian.

On November 3-5, several students participated in a Central Region's

Groups sponsor charity

DECA, Student Senate and GIT sponsored a Toys For Tots Drive in conjunction with the Marine Corps, November 27-December 20.

Students were asked to donate both new and used toys in good condition. The toys then are distributed by the Marine Corps to needy children during the Christmas season.

During the week of December 11, the groups launched their publicity campaign over the P.A. system. Students were encouraged to bring toys to the student lounge during homeroom on Thursday, December 14," commented Rita Stewart, Building Manager.

All students that brought in toys were given a small prize by the drive's sponsors. The homeroom donating the most toys received a \$5.00 gift certificate to Record City for each student in the homeroom.

"DECA participates in the drive every year. We normally collect 300-400 toys. By involving the other clubs we hoped to gain the support of all the students and fill the student lounge with toys," noted Bill Coulson, DECA coordinator.

THIS YEAR'S "TOYS FOR Tots" chairpersons were Jay Wilensky, Marc Shuman, and Cathy Resnick. Wilensky also appeared in the student lounge as Santa Claus.

Leadership Conference at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn in Dearborn, Michigan. Approximately 1700 high school students from all over the Midwest attended, "to go through a series of motivational and leadership development workshops," according to Coulson. Debbie Kagan noted, "We had a guest speaker involved with business, and students participate in different activities to motivate you to reach a higher goal."

East students were elected to state offices for the fifth consecutive year at a DECI (Distributive Education Clubs of Illinois) convention October 20-21 held at the Ramada O'Hare Inn. Marc Shuman '79, who was parliamentarian last year, was selected vice president of the state organization by the judges. Debbie Kagan was chosen secretary. Jeff Hester, Frank Davis, and Cindy Trilling completed training to qualify as Public Relations Ambassador for DECA of Illinois, according to Coulson.

Library receives gift

The East library's record collection has recently been expanded by the addition of the Class of 1978's graduation gift, a 52 album record collection.

The new records will be available for overnight use, when school resumes January 8, 1979, and students will be able to use the Lighting and Viewing Area in the library, to listen to the records. The albums will be available for renewal when there is no waiting list for them, according to Fran Williams, East librarian.

The albums consist of show tunes such as "The Wiz" and "Pippin", as well as several jazz artists. The collection also contains some classical albums and popular artists such as Barbra Streisand, Joni Mitchell, the Rolling Stones and Led Zepplin.

"Most of the records previously belonging to our collection consisted of classical and teaching records. These new albums cover a wide variety of musical interest," added Williams.

"The Senior Cabinet wanted to give the school something that students could continue to use when and if East closed, so they submitted a list of

The East student directed variety show, Reflections '78, was performed December 7-9 in the East auditorium.

"The show improved with each performance," commented Jerry Proffit, East Theater Director, "There were several good numbers. The students involved in the show put in over 200 hours worth of work."

Proffit admitted however, that he didn't believe all the time and effort put into a major student-directed production was worthwhile. "The directors spend so much time trying to get the attention of the cast that valuable rehearsal time is lost. If a teacher directed the show this would not be the case. Students are far more cooperative under the guidance of a teacher. The students' grades slip and there is a lot of extra anxiety that would be alleviated under the direction of a teacher."

Norman Fox '81, cast member, disagreed, "I think the problems are caused by the size of the cast, not because students are in charge. It's a very good experience because students can learn about the problems of directing a show." Laurel Bleadon '80 added, "The show gives students a chance to use their imagination, to make a show that their fellow students can relate to."

Alan Schoen '79, Reflections' technical director agreed, "Personally, I think a student directed production is a

good experience. I, for one, learned a lot about people and about producing a show. I thought it was really glamorous to be in charge of the show, but I discovered there is a great deal of pressure involved. Because it was my first time directing I wasn't sure that I was doing everything right. It's also very difficult to have to discipline your friends." Schoen added, "I can really appreciate and understand what Mr. Mayfield and Mr. Proffit go through when they produce a show."

Phil Rappoport '79, one of the show's stage directors commented, "A student-directed show is definitely good because students can develop the ability to learn qualities of control and leadership. I think it is important to have at least one student-directed show each year because a teacher has many chances to direct the shows. This gives the students at least one chance to gain experience." Although all the theater productions have student directors, Rappoport noted that Reflections is different from the others because the teacher steps aside unless he is asked to help out by the students. In the other productions, it is the students who assist the teacher. The roles are completely reversed.

"The show was excellent. The cast, crew, and orchestra all combined excellent talents and qualities. But the audience reacted positively and this is what makes the show good," commented Rappoport.

Schoen agreed saying, "Everyone concentrated and the show went well. The audience was responsive and polite. We drew good-sized crowds, particularly Friday and Saturday nights. We were just sorry that the in-school performance didn't turn out well."

"The students who didn't attend because they were put off by the in-school performance missed an entertaining evening," concluded Proffit.

Students graduate early

Six of the fifty-three mid year graduates have been granted early dismissal.

Early dismissal is granted if the student can demonstrate that the college or university he plans to attend will begin before East's semester ends. The earliest date students are allowed to leave is the first day of winter vacation, according to Galen Hosler, East principal.

Mid year graduation was adopted by the school board in July, 1973. "The number of mid year graduates has been decreasing slightly," commented Hosler.

"Mid year graduation wasn't de-

signed to be a success or failure. As a general rule, it is wise for a youngster to spend four years in high school; however, there are exceptions. For instance, a student may leave high school early because he has to go to work to help support his family. Most mid year graduates go on to college, although a small percentage go to work," stated Hosler.

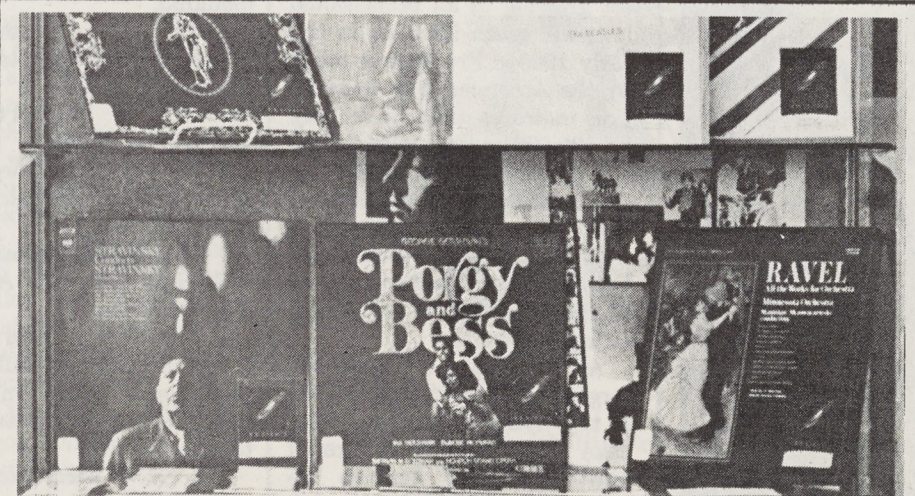
Students who are granted early release are graded on what they have done up to the time they leave. Class ranks of mid year graduates are still included second semester, according to Hosler.

The six mid year graduates who have been granted early dismissal are Todd Gunther, Sheila Barsky, Zehava Goldstein, Shari Favish, Rhonda Vowell, December 22; Donna Kenig, Sue Lewandowski, Collete Purcell, Marla Zimble and Jodi Bolotin, January 12.

The graduation ceremony in which the regular mid year graduates will graduate will take place February 15. The informal ceremony will graduate about 12 students.

The other mid term graduates will graduate with the rest of their class in the regular commencement exercises to be held June 10.

"Students who decide not to graduate early are more than welcome to stay. About five students change their minds each year," commented Hosler.



These records are part of the graduating gift given by the Class of '78. The records will begin circulation when school resumes in January.

Frosh English classes study communication unit

by Lee Kantz and Kathleen Barry

This year, freshman English classes are learning more than verb tenses and prepositional phrases — they are learning to communicate with others by giving demonstration speeches and studying short subject films as part of a mass media unit.

"With all of the television and movies that have been brought before us, we should be aware of the techniques that go into this media," commented Miss Virginia Stemp, East English teacher.

STEMP'S STUDENTS are studying films in order to learn more about filming styles, the film maker's purpose and other techniques that go into a film's production. "I think that we should begin to appreciate movies as a form of entertainment and communication," said Stemp.

In other English classes,

students are demonstrating their hobbies and talents by giving short speeches.

IN JERRY PROFFIT'S English class, students have been demonstrating everything from wrapping presents to making "hero" sandwiches or saving a choking victim.

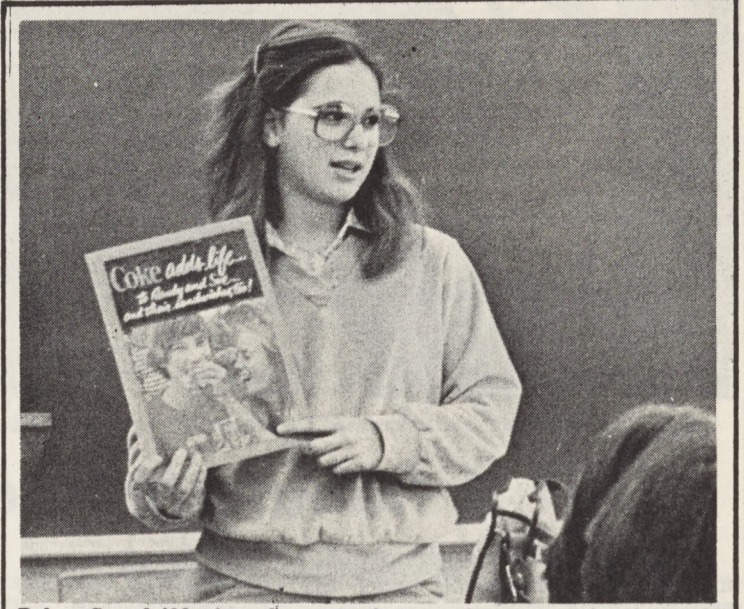
Proffit feels that the biggest area of difficulty encountered by his students in preparing their speeches was in picking a topic that was appropriate, easy to demonstrate, and interesting to others.

"Most of the speeches were potentially interesting," stated Proffit. "However, the best speeches not only had good topics, but were demonstrated by the speaker actually going through the process, step by step."

ACCORDING TO PROFFIT there have been a few mishaps during the speeches.

One student who was going to demonstrate how to make a banana split came to class only to discover that the ice cream for the demonstration had melted. Another student demonstrated how to improve one's golf swing. As he stood on a desk giving a high back swing, he shattered the fluorescent light about him.

Other topics that the freshmen will cover this semester include listening skills, informative speeches, reading short stories and novels, Bible, and mythology.



Debra Gassel '82 gives demonstration speech as part of a freshman English communication unit. (Photo by John Matsuoka)

"Stuchers" teach kids

by Janice Greenberg

What would such children's items as fingerpaints, Play School farms, see saws, play kitchens, and modeling clay be doing in a high school? These toys are all part of East's child nursery located in room 220.

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, eleven 4 year old children from the neighboring community attend East's nursery where they are taught pre math and reading concepts, health and safety. The teachers of the youngsters are juniors and seniors who have fulfilled the prerequisite for Child Growth and Development. Some of the activities at the nursery include art work, marching bands, filmstrips, and woodwork.

"THE STUDENTS REQUESTED a 'hand on' program with kids to coincide with the Child Growth and Development class. Both East and West started the nursery in 1973 as a response to this request," stated Shirley Foss, Child Growth and Development and nursery teacher at East.

The high school students, who Foss refers to as "stuchers" (students and teachers), are divided into three

groups. One group observes the children, one group is researching and developing a plan around a topic which was assigned by Foss, and the third group is utilizing their plan.

"I like teaching the children, but I also enjoy observing them because we are watching the kids from a different angle," stated Leslie Schulmeister '79, a "stucher" in the nursery class.

"EACH 'STUCHER' IS assigned a specific child to observe and work with throughout the semester. A detailed case study is the culmination of the 'stucher's' work," commented Foss. There are no tests and few written assignments for the students, although a room project is assigned to each "stucher". Projects created in the past include a puppet stage, phone booth, doll houses, traffic light, wood-working bench, and other learning materials.

"The main subjects we try to stress are strengthening self concepts with activities the children can accomplish, peer interaction, and building pre skills for kindergarten," concluded Foss.

At some point while growing up, a teenager asks himself a variety of questions that will determine his whole future: What should I do with my life? What field should I go into? Will there be a job in the field of my choice?

These questions will be all the more important to high school students today, due to the fact that the U.S. Labor Department predicts that there will be a shortage of 4.5 million jobs in the total labor force in the next decade.

THIS ISN'T A pleasant outlook. It simply means that some college graduates will be forced to take jobs that high school graduates used to have. Many high school graduates will be forced to take jobs dropouts used to get, and finally high school dropouts will displace those who never finished grade school.

Nevertheless, the more education a person has, the better he or she will be able to adapt to changes and be successful in tomorrow's job market. Indicative of things to come, many Ph.D.'s in the humanities have turned to business and management due to tremendous shortages of humanities professorships open at the university level. Also, young people trained as elementary or high school teachers are finding the need to adapt, due to the overabundance of qualified teachers. These would be teachers who are going back to college for degrees in accounting or business administration, two fields in which a substantial growth in employment is forecasted in upcoming years.

CURRENTLY THE FASTEST growing of all professions, law, will reach its peak in the early 1980's. Projections made by the American Bar Association indicates that there may be 100,000 more lawyers than the profession can employ by 1985. Many will undoubtedly take jobs in management, a field where legal training has become very important due to the proliferation of laws regulating commerce.

Any estimate of where the largest number of jobs will be in this dynamic economy must take into account the rapid growth of the service industries. In 1948, the number of workers involved in producing goods exceeded the total

Job market undergoes change

by David Eingorn

involved in servicing of goods by a ratio of 55 to 45. Twenty years later the ratio has reversed with 55 per cent of all workers in service industries and 45 per cent in production. According to the Department of Labor, "Now more than 58 million workers, seven out of every ten, are employed in the service industries," according to A.H. Raskin, editor-in-chief of *The Journal of International Labor*.

OF ALL THE SERVICE industries, the one that will entail the most rapid growth will be the health service industry. In the future, the need for physicians, nurses, and technicians will be greater than ever. Also, there is a prospected boom in a paraprofessional medical fields like doctors' assistants.

The greatest overall growth

within the next ten years of any industry will be in clerical jobs. Government analysts predict that four million new clerical jobs will come into being by 1985, many of which will be the result of the spread of computerization.

Engineers will also be in strong demand especially in the energy field. Occupations in the retail and wholesale trades and in banking and finance will also experience strong future growth, according to the Department of Labor.

FINALLY, NO MATTER what profession one goes into, a college degree will be the key. During the recession in the early 1970's, unemployment was three times less likely for a college graduate than for a high school graduate.

Santa makes his list

Although dolls, choo-choo trains, and jacks-in-the-box are in past memories of teachers, this holiday season still brings excitement and anticipation. While Santa is busy making his Christmas List, East teachers shared their wishes with the Nilehilite.

Two extra hours in every day.

Richard Livingston
Two 240 lb. tackles and a tailback who can run 9.6 seconds in the 100 yd. dash for my football team.

Gerald Ferguson
A computer . . . to solve all my problems.

John Cooper
Peace and harmony in mankind.

Galen Hosler
East to have an outstanding basketball season.

Emil Capitani
A trip to Florida.

George Galla
A General Electric steam and spray iron.

Barbara Scarbrough R.N.
A class with all 'A' freshman students.

John Moshak
Natalie Doi to fail school and come back and play volleyball and her sister Leslie to grow to 6'2".

Jerry Richardson
East to stay open.

Miss Rita Stewart
A dog sled . . . to get

through the snow.

Miss Judy Rochotte
38-26-38.

Seymour Rifkind
A little more spare time.

John Golata
A new car.

Alex Miron
A toupee (suggested by Mr. Henry).

Jerry Oswald
A new garage door and an automatic garage door opener.

William Henry
A 35 foot sailboat.

Ed Ernst
SUNSHINE!

Mrs. Dee Whyman
A happy time with my family.

George Yursky
An atmosphere of teaching where I can expand my energies in creativity to help the students rather than constantly being forced to defend what I think is educationally sound.

Mrs. Mary Scherb
A giant sized Lego set so my children can be happy for hours.

Frank Mayfield
Everything including a trip to Florida.

Mrs. Kay Powell
A few extra hours in each day and a world of well-mannered people.

Mrs. Jeanne Derichs
A new Porsche.

Irwin Drobny



A future Picasso at work painting in East's nursery class. (Photo by John Matsuoka)

Doi receives awards

"We can do it (stamp, clap) hey!" yells the East volleyball team as they run onto the court, jumping up and down, limbering their muscles, and calming their nerves. In the serving position, a ponytail bobs, capping the figure of 4'11" Natalie Doi '79.

This tiny member, who is one of the co-captains, was selected as MVP of the East team. Natalie was also chosen for the All Conference award for the 1978 volleyball season among twelve other girls in the North Division by the coaches of 15 schools. She was one of only three girls who was voted unanimously by all the coaches. Senior Bobbie Lewen,

the other co-captain, received an honorable mention citation.

NATALIE HAD JOINED the East volleyball team during her sophomore year and was moved up from the Junior Varsity, along with Bobbie to the varsity, near the end of the season. She has been a starter for the past two years.

"Although we're not a perfect team, I know we had the potential to do better," commented Natalie on the '78 season.

Because of her lack of height, Natalie had to focus almost totally on defense. "At the beginning of the season, my goal was to block a spike but I wasn't even able to reach

the top of the net yet," smiled Natalie. "I hope to play volleyball in college; so now I'll have to concentrate on my setting too."

NATALIE BELIEVES the most difficult game this year was against New Trier East. "There was a lot of tension because we beat them last year in districts."

Natalie, who played on a church team for three years before joining East volleyball commented, "The competition in high school volleyball has greatly increased and I'll always remember when we won the districts tournament last year."



Natalie Doi '79 executes a bump during pregame warmups. (Photo by John Matsuoka)

Grossman guards secret

by Leslie Doi

"Let's take four cards and turn two right side up. I'll flip all four cards over and voila! They're all face down again!" No card had moved in his hand. They all lay like solid bricks in this deft hand; yet, somehow they must have turned over.

That is the magician's secret — the answer to the trick lies in the mind of Tom Grossman, counselor at East and an experienced magician. Grossman first became interested in these illusionary acts when he was about 10 years old.

"I FIND IT EASY to learn tricks. I either invent them, read about new tricks, or trade ideas with other magicians," explained Grossman.

Grossman, a member of the Society of American Magicians and International Brotherhood of Magicians, has taken his magic shows to lounges, restaurants, bar mitzvahs, and

sweet sixteens. "My work is geared primarily for teens and adults. I have performed all over the world including a show at the Magic Castle in Hollywood, California."

"THE HAND IS QUICKER than the eye. Sometimes the magician uses misdirection. He lets you look at something while he does something else."

Grossman noted, "My favorite tricks deal with mentalism or mind reading." He proved his professionalism in this area by asking this reporter to think of a card in the deck and he simply pulled it out as if she had told him to do so.

Grossman does not use any fancy props or costumes because "magic is magic when common everyday things start doing things they shouldn't be doing." With this statement, he pulled the cigarette that he was smoking at that moment

from his mouth. The tip was lit and smoke filtered out from the end. He put it slowly into his cupped hand and pulled it back out without a wince. Again he pushed the cigarette into his hand and tightened his grip on it. With a look of confidence, Grossman opened his hand . . . the cigarette had disappeared! He assured, "It's gone! See what I mean? If I had used a little black wand, you probably wouldn't have been as impressed."

GROSSMAN reminisced a memorable moment. "I most remember when one of the world's finest magicians, Dai Vernon, complimented me on one of my routines."

Disappearing cigarettes, flipping cards, and mind reading makes one wonder just what the trick is. When asked if he would ever reveal a magician's secret, Grossman replied with an absolute "Never!"



Tom Grossman uses common everyday items as props to perform his magic routines.

Abominable snowman baffles scientists

Of all the unsolved phenomena in our world today, there is still one riddle that students, scientists, and researchers around the world have yet to answer or even try to explain — the existence of the Abominable Snowman (also known as the Yeti).

According to some East students, the Yeti is anything and everything ranging from "a big furry thing" to a white "Bigfoot" (a beast that is reported to live in the northwestern part of the United States).

IN ACTUALITY, the Yeti is a half-human, half-ape "monster," that some scientists believe could be the last missing link between ape and man.

The Yeti, reported to stand between six and ten feet high, is believed to live in the Himalayan mountain range. It is said to roam over the vast highlands between India, Tibet, and the Soviet Union. One thousand five hundred fifty miles long and 160 miles across, this highland area contains five of the world's highest mountain peaks, all greater than 27,500 feet in elevation.

The first alleged evidence of a Yeti was found by a Western explorer, Colonel W.A. Waddell, in 1887. He claimed to have found footprints 18 inches long. The foot was the same as a man's foot except that the big toe was opposable,

like a man's thumb. This suggested to the Colonel that the creature whose footprints he had found was a cross between a tree-climber and a ground walker.

EVIDENCE OF AN ape-like man roaming in this mountainous region continued to pour in as Western expeditions continued to attempt to scale the world's highest peak, Mt. Everest. Most expeditions that returned after failing to scale this peak brought back varying types of Yeti stories. Many of these stories proved to be nothing but the politeness of local natives, who told visitors from the West just what they wanted to hear.

Many scientists doubt the existence of the Yeti, but then they remember their predecessors who had doubted a Phoenician navigator who had claimed to have seen a huge ape which beat its chest with its fists when angered. Scientists prior to 1856 laughed at the alleged sighting of this animal that they knew nothing about. In 1856, a Frenchman, du Chaillu, shot a gorilla in Equatorial Africa and set the facts straight. This had stunned the scientific world.

TODAY, AS A LIMITED search goes on for the Yeti, many scientists hope that they too, like the Frenchman du Chaillu, will someday be able to turn a legend from fiction to fact.

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Trojans face New Trier tonight

by Jay Wilensky

The East varsity basketball team will be trying to improve their conference record to 2-3 when they face the New Trier West Cowboys tonight at 8 p.m.

The Cowboys are ranked in the top ten in many polls. Last year's squad earned a spot in the state tournament as one of the eight finalists.

"IT WILL DEFINITELY be a tough game, but I think we can pull out a victory," stated Head Coach Emil Capitani.

Against what many people consider a team better than NT-W, the Trojans lost to New Trier East Tuesday, December 12 by a score of 81-72.

"Just like at Evanston we spotted New Trier an early lead (22-8). We dug too deep a hole to climb out of," observed Capitani. Al Andrea led all scorers by popping in 33 points and Tad Slowik contri-

buted 18.

IF THE DEFICIT at the beginning of the New Trier game was bad, then the start of the Evanston contest was horrendous. The Wildkits ran up 17 straight points before the Trojans got on the scoreboard. Although the team cut the lead down to seven points, Evanston prevailed 81-67. High scorers in this game were Slowik with 31 points, and Joel Kessler, coming off the bench, scored 12.

"Getting behind a good team like Evanston by 17 points makes it tough to come back. We had trouble with their pressure defense and committed far too many turnovers," stated Capitani.

"It's awfully tough playing two top teams like Evanston and NT-E within four days of

each other," commented Andrea, "we'll get even with those teams when we play them at home."

The Trojans opened their conference season December 2 with a victory over Niles North 69-65. The Trojans maintained a small lead throughout the game but the Vikings closed the lead to one point before East pulled away for their first conference triumph.



Joel Kessler, seen here in J.V. action vs. Evanston. Kessler has lately been seeing much varsity action including a 12 point performance against Evanston. (Photo by Mike Silver)

Bowlers have success; volleyball ends season

BOWLING

The East girls' bowling teams have opened up their seasons by posting victories over Niles North, Niles West and Glenbrook South.

"Though there isn't one star bowler on the team, the group is the strongest we've ever had," boasted Head Coach Dee Whyman.

The varsity team's current range is a pinfall between 140-153 per game. According to Whyman this average can give the girls a chance at the District Meet on February 3. Success at districts means a shot at the state tournament.

"BEFORE WE START thinking about districts we have several very tough matches coming up," commented Whyman.

Glenbrook North, Maine East, and St. Benedict's will all present a challenge to the East bowlers.

VOLLEYBALL

Although the final record was not as good as past

seasons, girls volleyball Coach Jerry Richardson still maintains that the '78 campaign was "a super season."

"We finished 8-10 and maybe there weren't any outstanding victories, but it was a super season. Many players improved their skill and received much playing time during the games," stated Richardson.

RICHARDSON POINTED out that a lack of experience as well as serious height problems plagued the squad. "Offensively we were at the bottom; we missed last year's jolly green giants and their effective setting and blocking techniques," lamented Richardson.

Co-Captain Natalie Doi, an all-conference selection and a member of last year's squad, believes that the team's problem was that "in some games we had too much energy and in other games we stuck to the floor. We just never were consistent," concluded Doi.

GIRLS' SWIMMING

The East girls' swimming team is in the midst of a season that Head Coach Don Larson describes as "a season in which I'd be surprised if we won any meets."

"THEY'RE BASICALLY laissez-faire. The team is only committed if jobs, homework, or other sports activities don't happen to stand in the way," complains Larson.

Despite the difficulties, several individuals have broken school records this year. Kelli Gillen '79, has broken previous records in the 50 and 100 yard free style events. Nancy Zimmerman '81, has set new school marks in the diving events.

"I'll be satisfied with the season as long as we show some improvement," concluded Larson.

Wrestlers face stiff competition

By Brian Kamajian

The East wrestling team is in the midst of what Head Coach Fred Richardi describes as being a "successful season, so far."

The team has had only two conference meets so far this year. The wrestlers faced Niles North December 8 and swept all four levels by large scores. Last Friday, December 15, the Trojans faced the Evanston Wildkits in their only other conference meet.

"We have more matches in tournaments and against out of conference competition than we have against teams in our own conference," commented Richardi. "Our non-conference meets are against the toughest competition in the state. When we go against these good teams, it makes us better."

The quality of the Trojans' non-conference opponents was shown when they competed in a four team tournament which included DeKalb, Addison Trail and Glenbrook North.

"DeKalb and Addison Trail are two of the better teams in the state," stated Richardi. DeKalb defeated the Trojans 32-21 and Addison handed the squad a 34-18 loss. The team did however tie Glenbrook North 27-27.

East also faced some tough competition in their own 16 team tournament held November 24 and 25.

"The Niles East tournament is considered as being one of the toughest tourneys in the state. I'm very proud that we finished as high as we did," stated Richardi. The Trojans finished fourth behind state contenders Joliet West, East Leyden and Maine East. Seniors Victor Suarez and John LaManna both took first in their weight classes, while juniors Dan Sarasin, Kelly Walls and Howard Wallovich all placed second.

Our performance in our non-conference meets are really no indication of what our confer-

ence team is like," declared Richardi. "In our meet against Addison Trail, we had several sophomores and a freshman wrestling varsity to give them experience. If we used our line up that we used for conference meets, then we could have given Addison all they could handle."

"That's why we've been so successful the past six years. We give the younger kids experience by having them wrestle varsity matches. That's the reason we have been and will always be a conference contender," concluded Richardi.

Girls' Basketball

Coach previews girl's season

by Mark Pos

The girls' basketball team under the direction of Head Coach Jerry Oswald is looking ahead to what Oswald calls "a promising season."

"We have six girls returning that received varsity letters last year. We have good height which is definitely one of our biggest advantages," commented Oswald.

OSWALD FEELS THAT Waukegan West and New Trier East will be the teams to beat and commented, "We should be ready for these games. We started practicing in mid-November and we have a lot of time to prepare ourselves for these games."

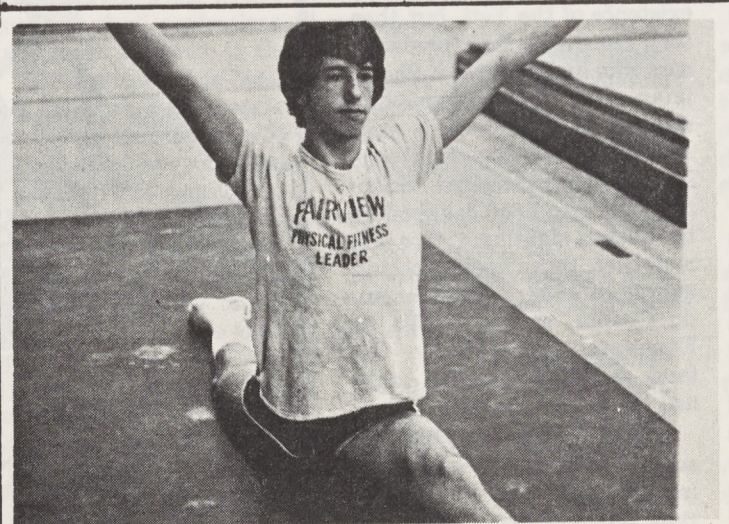
After spending 11 years coaching boys' basketball, Oswald became the girls' head varsity coach last year. Oswald observes that the girls, "Of course are not as strong as the boys. A good girls' team could not compete against an average boys' squad. But I find that the girls' attitude is much more positive towards athletics. They are also much more devoted towards their

sports than the boys."

Last year's team finished the season with a 6-10 record. Two girls from the squad, Andi Slowik and Judy Lee, were named as all-conference players. Both will be missed according to Oswald. "Sure, we'll miss these girls, but they are replaced by a good group

of young ladies."

The following girls will be on the varsity squad this year: Roberta Lewen, Cindy Michals, Sue Gockenbach, Julie Maggio, Chris Porter, Nancy Kusek, Debbie Precht, Karen Konier, Chris Billisits, Carolyn Ulbert, Janice Iacullo, and Linda Bechn.



Varsity gymnast Steve Fishman, shown here, performing part of his free exercise routine. The gymnastic team started their season on a good note by defeating Niles North and West in the township meet.

(Photo by Mike Silver)

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