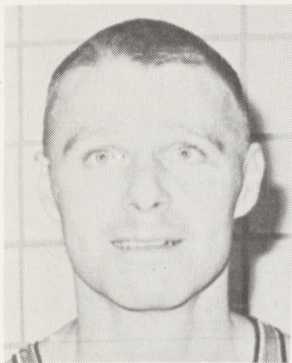


Faculty Coaches Battle Varsity N-Club At Basketball Doubleheader Tonight



Player-Coach
Karl DeJonge

NILES EAST'S N-CLUB will present its annual N-Club basketball doubleheader tonight at 7 p.m. in the Contest Gym, according to Coach Chuck Morrison, N-Club faculty supervisor.

THE SECOND game of the evening will feature the Niles East Coach's City League Team. Sponsored by the N-Club, the Coach's Team plays regularly in the Skokie Recreational League. Members of the squad include Coaches Jerry Richardson, Mike Oatley, Ken Polaski, and Jim Harkema. Carl DeJonge is the team's player-coach.

Faculty Team Named

Other team members include Mr. Robert Baumgartner, Mr. Jim Pooley, Mr. Romaine Baker, Mr. Len Winans, and Mr. John Mackie.

The coaches will face the Varsity hoopsters in a contest referred by regional high school officials. The seniors include Mark Bishop, Scott Glickson, and Gary Minkus.

Announces Ugly Man

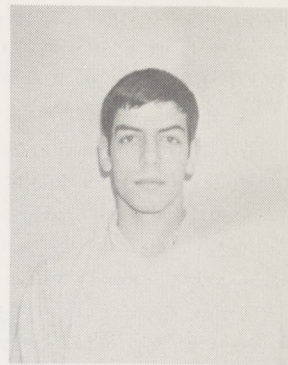
At half-time of the second game, the winner in the N-Club's first annual Ugly Man contest will be announced, and trophies will be presented. The class treasury of the winning Ugly Man will receive one-half the proceeds of the contest, which total more than \$1,450 to

date. N-Club will receive the other half and will donate it to the 1968 Olympics.

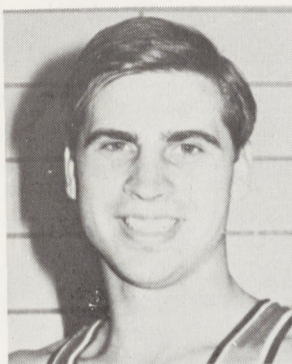
IN THE FIRST game, senior lettermen without a major N in basketball will battle a faculty team coached by Player-Coach Mick Ewing. Members of the latter group include Mr. Ed Burns,

Mr. Art Colver, Mr. Jim Dougherty, Mr. Ed Ernst, Mr. Robert Keen, Mr. Wayne Lueck, Mr. Stu Olney, Mr. Charles Plock, Mr. Jerry Ferguson, and Mr. Robert Ramgren.

Tickets for tonight's event will be available at the door, 50 cents for students and \$1 for adults.



Co-Captain-Player
Scott Glickson



Ken Polaski

Steuben Society Honors Two At Annual German Banquet

SENIOR GEORGE BUCHER and Junior Ira Gans will be presented with the annual Steuben Society Awards at a banquet in the Grand Ballroom of the Germania Club tomorrow evening, according to Miss Kay Beck, German Club sponsor.

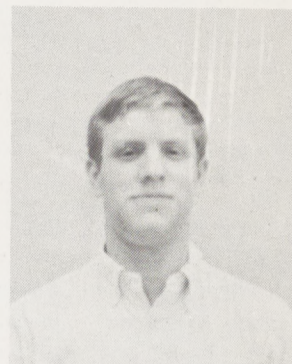
According to Miss Beck, "The Steuben award is presented to German students who have demonstrated merit in German language, literature, and culture. It is perhaps the greatest honor for a foreign language student."

BOTH students were required to write papers on one of many possible topics. The papers were judged by a special committee set

up by the Steuben Society, possibly earning the students an extra scholarship in addition to the Steuben Award. On the senior level, a \$250 award is available.

About 300 people will attend the banquet, where the award-winners will be introduced to the heads of the main German societies in the Chicago area, including Consul General Eugene Betz.

THIS year is the 12th consecutive year Niles East has been granted Steuben awards, being one of the six original schools chosen for the honor. For the last two years, East has been granted two awards out of 22 to 28 given to Northern Illinois high schools.



Bob Gottlieb



Jim Harkema

Project Wingspread Soars

DISCUSSING "FACTS and fantasy with top industrial leaders and spokesman" is one of the many opportunities for students who participate in Project Wingspread this summer, stated Mr. Charles A. Szuberla, superintendent of the Niles High Schools.

Project Wingspread is a newly developed exchange plan between students at the three Nilehis and Austin High School in Chicago. A total of 100 students will participate, including 50 from Niles and 50 from Austin.

Explains Areas of Study

Areas of study in this volunteer program will consist of communications media, law and justice in the metropolitan area, essential public services in the city, and the airlines industry. The entire course will last five weeks. During this time a fraction of the students will spend from six to eight days studying each subject on a rotating basis.

REGISTRATION will be open to students in early spring. All present sophomores and juniors are

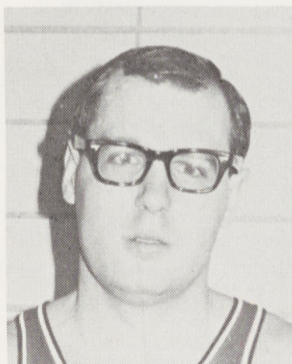
eligible, although "an attempt will be made to select a cross-section of the student body in terms of abilities and academic interests." Participants will earn two credits in social studies for the summer program.

Teachers To Participate

"School personnel and curriculum will be committed to providing cosmopolitan education for children, and the heterogenous classroom environment will provide a realistic setting."

Eight professional people will work with the project, four from Niles and four from Austin. Several teachers from both schools will participate also.

Final approval of the summer Wingspread project by the federal government is expected in the next month.



Mike Oatley

Panic '68 Provides Carnival Potpourri

HURRY, HURRY! Step right up, folks, and wind your way through an electric maze, expand your mind in a psychedelic light show, or send a Russian spy a secret telegram.

These are some of the events that will be available to students at Panic '68, the annual all-school carnival sponsored by Senior Cabinet, to be held Saturday, March 30 at 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the girl's gym.

Largest Carnival Yet

"Panic will have 12 booths in total," stated Carnival Chairman Dave Levin '68. "This is the greatest number of participating clubs we ever had. Last year's carnival was extremely successful, and we

are expecting an even larger turn out tomorrow night."

Describes Booths

Additional stands include a dart contest sponsored by Junior Cabinet with popular records awarded as prizes, the annual Student Council fish throw, and the GAA cane toss and basketball throw.

"Missions are Difficult," a special half hour length film produced by Senior Cabinet, will be shown continuously all evening in the art room.

For Story on Film
See Page 3

Technis' light show, described by Dave as a "blinding experience with colored lights and sound," will be shown in the dance studio.

MOST OF the booths will range in price from 5 to 30 cents. No tickets will be sold, but a change booth will be available. "We found that the use of tickets was too complicated," explained Dave. "Furthermore, this method will prevent students from having unused tickets left over."

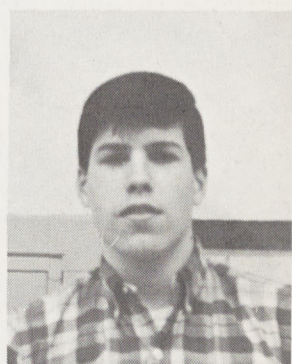
Refreshments such as soft drinks and candy will be sold by Senior Cabinet at Panic.

Musical Cast To Perform Special Show

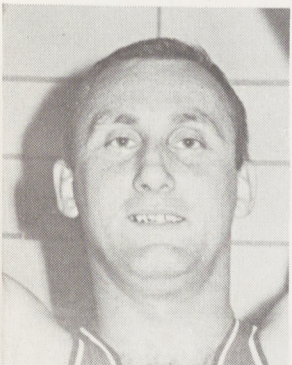
A SPECIAL performance of "My Fair Lady" will be presented April 4 at 7 p.m. in the Niles East auditorium, according to Musical Director Earl Agee. "This show will enable students who would otherwise not be able to see the production due to rush commitments to do so," the director commented.

TICKETS will go on sale next week in the cafeteria for this special performance. They are at the regular box office price of \$1.50 for adults and 75 cents for children. Seats will not be reserved.

"We are also having a performance Wednesday, April 3, for all junior high students who will be attending Niles East." Mr. Agee explained, "This will give them a chance to see some of the opportunities and facilities that are made available to them when they attend high school."



Roger Kimball



Jerry Richardson

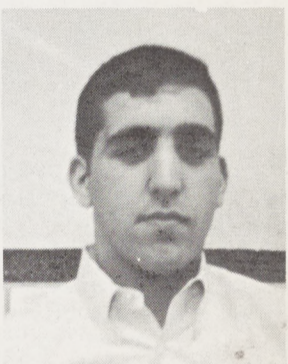


Len Winans

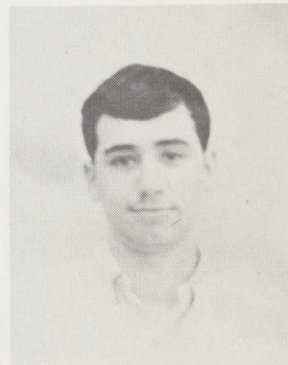
Ill. State Scholar, Dancer Omitted

SENIOR STEVE Rosen's name was accidentally omitted from the list of Illinois State Scholarship winners printed in the March 15 issue of the NILEHILITE.

In the same issue, Senior Holly Lubow and Junior Charlotte Siegel, dancers in the upcoming musical "My Fair Lady" were



Gary Minkus



Phil Leibowitz



Co-Captain-Player
Mark Bishop

Forum

Project Offers Insight

THIS SUMMER, East students will have a unique opportunity to acquire insight into subjects and situations directly affecting them by participating in Project Wingspread.

The NILEHILITE feels that this new, ambitious project will present the students of East with an entirely fresh approach to learning. Project Wingspread has a number of worthwhile objectives it hopes to reach.

First, it will allow the students of East a chance to meet and learn with students of other social and economic groups than their own. From this, they should be able to obtain helpful and important knowledge from each other by combining experiences from their different community and school situations. Secondly, it will afford both the suburban and urban student learning opportunities which he normally would not have. Rarely will a student be able to obtain as much insight about news dissemination, urban law and justice, and the airline industry as they will be afforded in Project Wingspread. Next, students will be able to see types of schools and be in learning situations which may never be open to them.

Other goals of the project are just as worthwhile. Project Wingspread will create an atmosphere of inter-community cooperation. It will readily demonstrate that social agencies and different school systems can pool their resources to provide high-quality education. Lastly, it will illustrate that planning and evaluation can lead to positive intercultural experiences.

While the editorial staff realizes that Project Wingspread may not completely fulfill all of these objectives, there is no reason why it should not educate its participants in the three subject areas as well as to establish a good beginning in eliminating some of the differences between persons of varying backgrounds. The success of the project, however, ultimately rests on the amount of participation both the school and the community services and organizations can provide.

Thus the NILEHILITE wishes to commend the school board for its willingness to offer facilities and to provide participants in the program, and urges East students to make Project Wingspread a success by taking part in this forward approach to learning.

R. A. S.

Senior Gift Evaluated

EACH YEAR the senior class presents the school with a traditional gift which serves both as a (practical) object and as a remembrance of that class to the school. This year's senior class, represented by the Senior Cabinet, has chosen to present Niles East with a life-size statue of a Trojan. The statue, which is being created by an artist selected by Cabinet, will cost from \$600 to \$700.

The NILEHILITE feels that although the Trojans statue will be a unique and spirited gift, the great expense and the selection of the statue in view of better and more practical gifts must be questioned.

The selection of the gift was voted on by the entire senior class through homerooms. The Trojan statue was chosen over other suggestions in a trial vote; a final vote was never taken among all seniors, but rather in Senior Cabinet. Perhaps the seniors did not have a serious enough say in the final selection of their class gift. Nevertheless, the NILEHILITE suggests ideas for future class gifts.

For example, at a much smaller cost, much needed benches could be placed in the court yard, which becomes especially important to the students during the warm weather. The benches would serve both to beautify the court yard and to convenience the students, since the grass is almost always too wet for students to sit on comfortably. Or perhaps some future class could present the school with paintings or some other art display which would also serve to beautify the school. Or the senior class money, such as this senior class' \$600 to \$700, could be placed in a scholarship fund which would help to finance needy students through college.

Perhaps in the future, Senior Cabinets should take more serious consideration in selecting such an expensive and important gift to Niles East.

Letter to the Editor

Senior Fondly(?) Recalls 'Wonderful Years' at East

DEAR EDITOR:

Thank you for the four wonderful years I am to complete this June. I will always remember fondly:

-the fairness with which members of such organizations as cheerleaders are chosen.

-the planning ahead, sometimes as much as half a year, for the positions and activities for the next year, including elections.

-the thoughtfulness of the four cabinets concerning themselves solely with matters (Carnival

and Prom funds) other than important and long-lasting problems such as Dress-Code, which they leave to Council.

-those teachers who are so thoughtful and considerate as to relieve students from the pressure and strain of application of knowledge, instead of stressing the memorization aspect only.

-the P.A. announcements which have provided the school with a miniature advertising agency.

-SSO study halls, and the forth-

coming student-supervised cafeteria, which are the epitome of an ideal situation in which students cooperate willingly with those who display, more readily, leadership qualities.

-the Senior Class gift, a three-dimensional Trojan, for the school which has everything.

Let this be my gift to the school, my school, which in years to come, is destined to reach new goals, adding to an already solid foundation.

Jane Lerner '68



Your Write To Say It

'Ho-Ho-Ho For An Oreo'

by Michael Pardys, English 82

Perhaps the most important discussion group at East today is the loosely organized and unofficial Oreo Cookie Faction. It is composed of people who know the delights of sitting down with 10 or 15 Oreos and their favorite brand of milk. Until a few weeks ago these people believed that they were alone in their affection for Oreos. The faction organized after a New Hampshire group released a poll in which 53% of those questioned stated that they would purchase Oreo cookies "if I were going to buy cookies today." Chocolate covered graham crackers ran second and Texas shortbread pulled only 2% of the vote despite their well-publicized attempt to label Oreos as instruments of "black power and the communist conspiracy."

Last week's faction meeting was devoted to methods of eating cookies. The most popular is that of separating the two wafers and eating the cream filling. This method gives the most immediate pleasure but leaves one with two rather dry tasting pieces of cookie to dispose of. Another technique is dunking. One dips the Oreo in a glass of milk. The only drawback to this method is that it looks obnoxious. This problem may be solved by employing the new

method of "internal dunking." The cookie is broken in half across a diameter, one half is put into the mouth, the milk is introduced into the mouth, and the cookie-milk combination is sloshed around the oral cavity and swallowed. In using this technique one must be careful not to open his mouth or an embarrassing situation could develop.

Unofficial sources have reported that in response to the growing surge of Oreo popularity, an Oreo Tax Act will be introduced in the Congress. Sponsored by the liquor and tobacco lobbies, the bill will tax Oreos at the rate of 10 cents per pound.

Another lobby-supported bill would make possession of Oreo cookies a felony punishable by three years imprisonment. In a speech at Northwestern University, Robert Kennedy told cheering students that, if elected, he would take all measures necessary to safeguard the Oreo. Richard Nixon said he has a plan to end the Oreo dispute but he can't discuss it at the present. Thus, it appears that the fate of the Oreo cookie will be left up to the electorate in November.

Spring Fever Invades East; Sick Students Left in Wake

A feeling of light-heartedness, restlessness, and even slushy sentimentality that accompanies the coming of spring is cunningly and appropriately known as spring fever.

Every year at this time spring fever takes its heavy toll but there are other diseases, equally as serious but lesser known which plague sophomores are beginning to drive high school students this time of the year.

Among some of the elder students in the school, senioritis, an ailment that often begins in the fall or winter, takes on epidemic proportions and becomes shockingly acute.

This disease accounts for the large, and often unexcused absence rate among seniors. Symptoms include listless and lackadaisical attitudes and swollen egos.

Another dread affliction is known as wallet malnutrition. Causes for this is the barrage of activities ranging from Panic to Prom which leaves many facing a financial crisis.

Spring also finds most students with a starvation for recreation. The cure for this is nice, constructive play in the courtyard. There constructive games are known as "Buck-Buck," "Chicken Fight," and "Hill the Guy Who's Standing Up."

There also seems to be a sun starvation as typified by students

laying in coma-like states soaking up sun for four periods.

As the weather gets nicer students become more inattentive causing a reaction by teachers assigning more homework. This result in frustration ulcers from students, a condition which proves more malignant than the original ailment.

Another spring hazard is brought on by spring indirectly. Traffic conditions become dangerous as So, as absences mount, and apathy swells, students will have to adjust as they face the long, hot spring ahead.

NILEHILITE

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Cabinet Flick Premieres

WILL MR. PHELPS succeed in breaking up the underground conspiracy at Niles East to sell test answers? Will unsuspecting Joe Crudger and Dave Creeper be suspended as punishment? If any of the D.M. Force are caught, will Mr. Colver disavow any knowledge of their plan?

"Missions are Difficult," the Senior Cabinet film written and photographed by Dave Levin and starring Sam Warshawer as Mr. Phelps, Chuck Dribin as Joe Crudger, and Dick Saffro as Dave Creeper, will premiere tomorrow night at Panic '68.

Movie a Take-off

"The film is a take-off on the popular television show 'Mission: Impossible,' with a Niles East situation," explained Dave. "We chose this subject because it was fairly easy to handle and will interest most of the students."

Anything Can Happen

"The idea stressed is that anything can occur behind the scenes at Niles without the students' realizing it. All the while that Mr. Phelps is plotting to undermine the crime ring, Creeper and Crudger are totally unaware of what's happening."

Other actors in this world premiere include Marsha Fink, playing Paprika; Curt Rodin, playing

Holland; Bill Bruck, Blarney; and Janitor Jerry Kastino, playing himself.

Compares to Past Flicks

"This definitely is not a home-made film," Dave pointed out, comparing it to movies shown at the last two carnivals. Whereas "past flicks lacked both sound tracks and well-defined plots," 'Missions are Difficult' was filmed entirely in color and includes a script, written by Dave, and music taped directly from the television show.

Professional Film

Furthermore, "although this

movie contains several funny sections, on the whole it's a serious story. Much time was spent in organizing, and it should prove to be quite professional sounding." In total, the seniors have been working on the production for more than a month, although the actual filming was completed in two weeks.

Running from 20 to 30 minutes in length, the movie will be shown continuously all evening in the art room. The charge is 25 cents.

"I am sure the movie will be a great success and all the students should enjoy it."



FRESHMEN CLAUDIA Harris and Joanne Kaye apply the finishing to one of the sets of "My Fair Lady."

Play Uses Professional Methods

"MY FAIR LADY" will not only consist of a professional level of acting, but will also use production techniques generally used in professional plays, related Mr. Alan Kent, faculty sponsor of the stage crew currently preparing for next weekend's production.

Probably the most important of these innovations is the use of a revolving turntable to change scenes in the play. "This turntable can be rotated around on casters, as well as be moved forward and backward for maximum effect," Mr. Kent explained. "Each of the

two turntables consists of a number of separate rectangular and triangular platforms bolted on to it. These platforms can easily be detached, stored, and used in later plays."

MR. KENT pointed out several advantages of having a revolving turntable. "First, it is much easier and faster to change scenes when using these turntables. Because of this, more elaborate sets can be built. In addition, because small parts of the sets can be detached, storage is much easier."

Some of the more elaborate as-

pects of the set were pointed out by Senior Al Goldman, chairman of the stage crew. He, together with Seniors Mike Kaye, in charge of lights, Ron Gould, in charge of sound, and Stage Manager Rich Harris, is responsible for building and setting up the scenery on the turntables. Included in the set of "My Fair Lady" are expensive crystal chandeliers, a number of stained glass windows in the Higgins' study, and a railing on banisters which once belonged to a downtown Chicago hotel.

HOWEVER, this increased scenery also means an increased amount of preparation. Mr. Kent estimates that the building of the turntables themselves takes about two weeks and has already been completed. "However, the building greatly improve the quality in our productions," he concluded.

not yet been completely finished, and has been going on for about a month."

The Stage Crew will have to rely on "student power" to move the turntables, each of which weighs about 1000 pounds and measures 18 feet in diameter. Mr. Kent feels that it will take six to eight boys to revolve the turntables.

A LAST modification the stage crew is making this year is also designed to save parts of the set for future plays. "Many of the major components of the set, such as the wall, are being built in much smaller parts than normal to facilitate future storage," Mr. Kent elaborated. "All these changes in our methods of production should greatly improve the quality in our productions," he concluded.

Covers Add Zest to Classics

SINCE THE turn of the century high school students have been reading the same literary syllabus with little deviation. Freshmen read "A Midsummer Night's Dream;" sophomores read "Julius Caesar" and "A Tale of Two Cities;" juniors read Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter," and seniors read "Walden."

Students usually buy these works as part of a double package. One 45 cent paperback novel is coupled with a \$1 edition of Cliff's Notes.

MANY STUDENTS feel depressed when they put aside their hard earned cash and pick up a paperback novel which they will never read. The book is, after all, a "front" which deceives the teacher into believing that the student is relishing such "quaint 19th century prose."

If paperback book artists and ad men would only alter paperback covers and copy, students would enjoy reading such allegorical tales as "Sin in Salem": the story of a girl rebelling against ancient Puritanical ideals. Caught in a web of love and seduction, young Hester felt the burning fire within her brand itself on her breast."

The same artist who painted the cover for the "Harrad Experiment" could paint an equally thought provoking masterpiece for "Sin in Salem."

ONE SCENE could appeal to masochistic instincts as one sees Arthur Dimmesdale flogging himself. (Arthur was a sort of a Mr. Christian and Captain Bly all rolled into one insane human being.)

Or the artist could paint Hester Prynne seductively removing her

bonnet when she meets good ol' Arthur in the forest.

OF COURSE, the book cover would not be complete without quotes taken out of context from various book reviewers.

Time magazine: "Ribald and Racy"

New York Times Book Review: "Great! according to the 2,550,000 people interviewed."

The New Republic: "Compelling intellectual romanticism."

The National Review: "A Communist Plot."

Students, the next time your Junior English teacher asks you to buy "The Scarlet Letter," just ask him if you could read "Sin in Salem" instead.

Coming Up

March 29
"N" Club-Faculty Basketball Game

March 30
Senior Cabinet Spring Carnival-Panic

April 5
Musical—"My Fair Lady"

April 8
Spring Vacation—No School



HESTER PRUNE and Arthur Dimwit prepare to have another one of their meetings in the forest.

Do Not Pass Go

'College Bound'

by Bob Cooper

I'VE NEVER really given the Guidance department the credit it deserves. I knew counselors filled out personality evaluation sheets for various students who are "college bound" (i.e. Guidance Department jargon). However, I never realized what mental anguish counselors must suffer when they have to fill out the National Educational Association's Secondary School report form. As one counselor said, "I sweat blood."

This questionnaire considers all aspects of a college candidate's personality, including originality, leadership, warmth, concern for others, etc. The committee took all the attributes found in the Boy Scout oath and lumped them together.

HOWEVER, under each individual category the student is evaluated according to special divisions: Below Average, Average, Good, Excellent (top 10%, but not 2 or 3%), and Truly Outstanding (top 2 or 3%). Such dissecting of a human being can only evoke pity.

For example, how is my counselor going to know if my sense of humor is in the upper 10% or in the upper 2%? Is my warmth of personality excellent or truly outstanding?

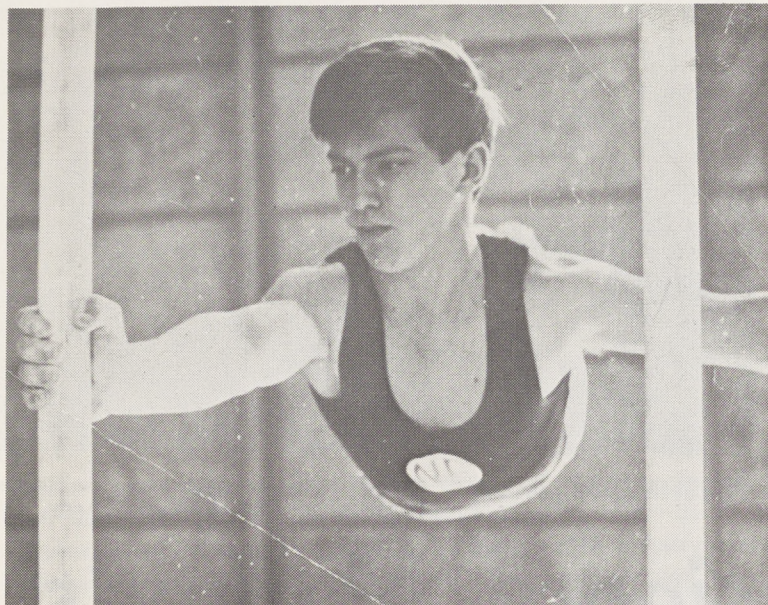
Some child of the future rushes home from school. "Mommy, Mommy," the youngster shouts. "I failed math but I rank in the upper 2% on reaction to setbacks!"

ONE COUNSELOR remarked that such percentile evaluations are "really splitting hairs." However, with the information that counselors have about East's students, I was told, "a fairly accurate picture can be drawn." With the amount of student IBM cards on file, Rembrandt couldn't produce a greater masterpiece.

Presently, the IBM office is making Student Personality Rating Cards available to all East teachers. With them, our teachers will be able to evaluate each student as an individual. I don't feel that this is the time for students to apple polish their teachers; that should have been started sometime in September.

WHAT IS now necessary is that East students become fully acquainted with the inane questions asked on the NEA Secondary School Report Form so that they may possess the qualifications required at the college of their choice. Harvey Nilehi should now try to develop energy, independence, originality, leadership, self-confidence, warmth of personality, sense of humor, concern for others, a favorable reaction to criticism and setbacks, and a high respect accorded by classmates and faculty. It doesn't leave too much time to study, does it?

Fourth-Place Gymnasts Find Their Niche



SEYMOUR RIFKIND '69 displays agility and grace that spectators won't soon forget.

IN THE STATE gymnastics competition there are two dreaded numbers. They are dreaded because they are the "forgotten" numbers. The members of the dishonored duo are four and 11.

Eleventh place in districts or prelims means oblivion for a gymnast. While the top 10 finishers advance to the next round, he is completely forgotten.

For a team, finishing fourth in state is usually a pretty lonely matter, too. The top three schools receive trophies, get recognition throughout the state, and are listed in the program of every major gymnastic event the following year. But number four is left far behind and is quickly brushed off.

Usually, that is.

East finished fourth in state this year, but it is doubtful that the Trojan squad will fall into the ranks of the forgotten. Many of next year's state contenders will be keeping a close watch on Troy, in fear that this year's performance was only a prelude of 1969.

IN THE PRELUDE, Seymour Rifkind led East's four finalists to Troy's best state finish since 1963. Although he had been eliminated on high bar and still rings in the prelims, Seymour still managed to

amass half of the Trojan's 22 points. On parallel bars, he surpassed all but two of his competitors to take third, and in all-around he clinched three more points with an eighth.

Steve Kite and Jeff Levin bolstered the drive by hitting for sixth and seventh position in state honors on the parallel bars.

Hector Mandel entered East into

the record book a fifth time by taking ninth on trampoline. His placement could have been much higher, but he suffered a fall early in his routine.

Troy's hopes for a trophy vanished in the preliminaries when Lee Sandler fell at the beginning of his trampoline routine, and was eliminated. Lee had been favored to finish among the top three in state.



WARMING UP for the season's opening is southpaw pitcher Phil Leibowitz, '68.

Thinclads Shift Outdoors, Hope for Improvement

THE TROJAN track team is hoping that the outdoor air will help them recover from a disappointing indoor season.

In spite of poor finishes in the recent Evanston and Blue Demon Relays, several individual performers have provided exciting moments.

Senior Mike Rich paced the trackmen in the ETHS Relays with a second place in the 50 yard dash with a time of 5.6 and a 4th place finish in the low hurdles.

Maine East's Blue Demon Relays was the setting for Rich's outstanding performance of the indoor season. He set a meet record in the 50 with a time of 5.5, and also received a kiss from a pretty Maine East co-ed which was given along with the medals at the meet.

SENIOR George Joslyn received a 5th place medal in the 50 in this meet, as did Senior Bill Gardiner for his 5th place finish in the high hurdles.

Mike Mogill, '68, returned to action in the 8-lap class level relay running along with sprinters Ron Stiegel, '71, Jasper Tavalachi, '70, and Mark Koppel, '69.

Commenting on the unsuccessful indoor effort, all-around man Mark Koppel said, "The team did not live up to its indoor potential, but is looking forward to the outdoor season."

The team should be helped with the addition of winter sport athletes. Juniors Barry Hartstein and Al Mormalstein are expected to excel in the broadjump as well as the sprint events.

Debut Against GN

Trojans Await Opener

ON APRIL 6, the Niles East baseball team will take the field against Glenbrook North, in their first game of the season. Optimism is high and the diamondmen feel they can very well take this year's SL crown.

"We're depending on Dave Diamond and De Siegel to come through for us this year," Coach Nick Odlivak noted. Diamond and Siegel are two of the Niles East pitchers, and along with Phil Lie-

bowitz, '68, Theo Prousis, '69, Al Michell, '69, should make up a pretty consistent pitching staff.

In the infield, Senior Phil Leibowitz, Juniors Don Shearn, and Steve DiBenedetto, along with senior Mark Brachman, will vie for the first base position, while Senior Jeff Solomon, and Junior Larry Rafferty slug it out for second base. On the other side of the infield, Larry Rudd, '68, and Mike Kolb, '69, will be going for third base, and Senior Ken Zucker, and Juniors Tom Ryan, and Tom Hop-sicker are trying out for shortstop.

In the outfield, Senior Bob Gottlieb, Juniors Rick Rice and Chuck

Gockenbach will split the chores and some of the pitchers have also worked out there to bolster the outfield positions. In the catching department, Junior Rich Becker, who started Varsity last year has competition from other juniors on the squad.

The coaches are satisfied with what they have seen so far. There is still room for improvement, and the team is playing intra squad games, which puts them in game conditions, and gives them the practice they need in certain areas. East will have a very fine team representing them this year, and the SL trophy would look very nice in the Niles East showcase.

Steel Alloy Tennis Racket Gives Game Added Speed

ALMOST ALL SPORTS equipment is subject to improvement and sometimes to revolutionary changes. Recently, the world of tennis has been profoundly influenced by such an innovation: the steel-frame tennis racket.

Many advantageous features are built into the scientifically designed construction. Two alloy-steel tubes form a reinforced frame which is characterized by extreme strength, high resistance to bending and twisting, precise balance, and controlled weight. The open throat cuts down air resistance, thereby increasing speed and mobility while decreasing fatigue towards the end of a long match.

Various string-suspension systems have been designed by the major steel racket manufacturers, Wilson, Spalding, and Sterling. All these systems provide a consistent spring tension and positive string location. As in the wooden rackets, variety is maintained in grips, sizes, weights, and strings.

NILES EAST Varsity Tennis Coach Chuck Morrison, however, prefers his high school netmen to use the traditional wooden racket. He maintains, "The steel racket

has a lack of feel, and the boys need all the feel they can get. The ball is easier to control with a wooden racket."

According to the coach, the pros at a recent meeting of the Midwest Professional Tennis Association realized the steel racket has a future, but it is still a problem now. In fact, Mr. Morrison and three other pros with whom he plays

weekly started using the new rackets last fall. Withing a few months, all four had switched back to the wooden frame.

Coach Morrison did assert that the steel rackets have a future but need improvement, especially in ground stroke control. The Niles East Varsity players will stick with the wooden rackets for tournament competition in 1968.



WOODEN RACKETS are still good enough for Senior Bob Newlin.

Penetrations

Baseball Not That Boring

by Steve Vetzner

FOR SOME PEOPLE baseball is an exciting game. For others it is a boring one with its time consuming conferences, ball and strike counts and unlimited delays.

Perhaps some of the boring aspects come about as a result of the perfection of the players who compete in the sport. There's nothing really exciting about a batter hitting a simple ground ball to the shortstop who neatly picks up the ball, throws to first base and gets the batter out.

But some excitement is added to the game when the ball hits a pebble, bounces up and hits the shortstop in the face who consequently while holding his bleeding nose throws wildly to the first baseman.

Some compensation is made when the ball hits the shin of the first base coach, an aging warrior now communicating his skills to the young people he works with. The people in the field aren't too happy but the fans in the stands are having a great time.

USUALLY all these goings on can be viewed at any high school baseball game, a place where perfectionists do not abound. But this is not the case for East's baseball team. According to team members, this could be a fantastic season for the Trojans. They are also a team full of stars, hustlers (not pool), and all-around great guys, according to them.

One of the team's greatest tests this year will come from Evanston, a rather interesting team. They give the fan even greater excitement by playing with only two outfielders but five infielders.

East will have a great baseball team this year, and state champions are a great thing, but the majors are still a bit far away.