



Wentz



News Hilites

Students Conduct Discussions on Colleges

Friday, December 19, several recent graduates of Niles East will engage in a panel discussion on various colleges during second period through eighth in Room 108.

All junior and senior students are invited to attend the discussion during their non-class time. The college students attending the activity will give students a first-hand account of college life.

Counselors chose the college students on the basis of their articulation and availability. In addition, counselors sought to have as wide a variety of different types of colleges represented as possible. Miss Aune Toivola, counselor at Niles East, was in charge of coordinating the program.

Orchesis Presents Show in February

On Friday and Saturday, February 14 and 15, Orchesis will present their second annual show. The entire show will be choreographed by the girls. Mrs. Mary Marshall, sponsor of Senior Orchesis, said that "it's coming along very well."

Mrs. Marshall explains that the girls usually select music that appeals to them and then fit a dance to the music. The choreographers this year include Sue Buckman, '71; Roxanne Hefter, '70; Katie Klehr, '71; and Pam Wallis, '71. Girls' gymnastics will also appear in the show. Members of the girls' gymnastic team will use apparatus and make use of free exercises.

"It takes a lot of work on the girls' parts, but I think the show will be one of the most student oriented things we have in school," explained Mrs. Marshall.

Niles East Frosh Debaters Place First

Four Niles East freshmen, debating on the Junior varsity level, placed first in the Glenbrook North tournament, Saturday, December 13. Winning freshmen include: Jeff Silber, Robert Letchinger, Robert Fein, and Ronald Kammerman.

Qualifying for the quarter finals at the University of Chicago debate held Nov. 24 and 25 were seniors Joel Feldman, Steve Deutsch, Stuart Levin, and Jeff Facter, debating at the varsity level.

Mr. John Palm, English teacher and faculty sponsor of the team stated, "Both varsity teams have excellent chances to win state championships."

Legislature Works Toward Reform

The Niles East Student Legislature has recently been working to gain new parking facilities for students and to liberalize the 90-minute parking zones already in existence.

Students from the legislative house have continued to work with the faculty and administrators to evaluate the plan for an open campus. A final report will be sent to Supt. Charles Szuberla for his recommendation to the school board.

A committee is presently investigating the limitations imposed on freshman and sophomores compared to the freedom given to upper-classmen. The need for security guards is also being investigated.

Committee reports will be submitted to the administration during the month of January.

Lettermen Initiate New Members

The Niles East Lettermen's Club initiated 20 new members on Thursday, December 4, bringing its total membership to 40.

The club began the year with a fund-raising campaign. N-Club members are selling cans of spray shoe polish for \$2 a can. The N-Club will donate most of the money which it collects to a charity which will be determined at a later date.

Girls Form Interscholastic Volleyball Team

The first girls' volleyball team to represent Niles East in interscholastic play has been practicing after school for weeks now, getting ready for their first three-team meet. The girls are being coached by Miss Carol Vavrinek and assisted by Miss Jo Morris. The team is practicing serving, setting up, and digging the ball to help improve their all-around team play.

Meanwhile, in the pool, "the Ripplettes are conducting a clinic to help devise numbers and ideas and skills for the annual swim show," said Cathy DeFrancheschi, president of Ripplettes. "Those Were the Days," the theme of the show, will be presented in early spring under the direction of Miss Vavrinek.

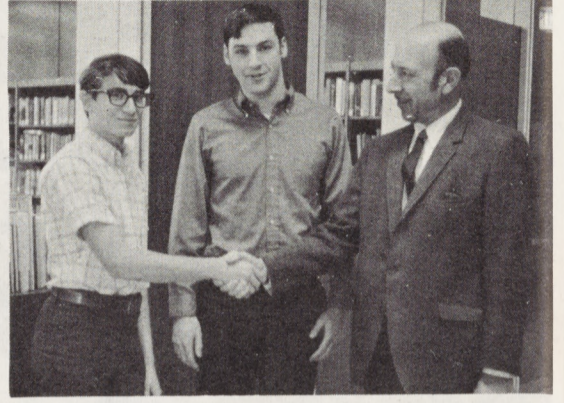
National Merit Tests Scheduled Feb. 14

The qualifying tests for the National Merit Scholarship Program will be given on Saturday, February 14, from 8:30 to 11 a.m., the guidance department announced. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, January 13. The cost of the test will be \$1.25.

According to the Student Information Bulletin, "The National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQST) is a two-hour and ten-minute test of educational development in four areas—English Usage, Mathematics Usage, Social Studies, and Natural Sciences, Reading Comprehension, and Word Usage. Each of the four tests in the battery is separately timed and designed to measure what a student can do with what he has learned, not just the number of facts one knows."



James Simon, '70, and Julian Solway, '71, recipients of the National Honor Society scholarship, study at the library.



Dr. John Betts, sponsor of National Honor Society, congratulates the scholarship nominees of the National Honor Society.

NHS Scholarship Nominees Chosen

Seniors Jim Simon and Julian Solway were nominated as Niles East's 1970 candidates for National Honor Society scholarships.

One-hundred and seventy-five awards for \$1,000 each will be awarded. Students who do not wish to be considered for finan-

cial assistance are eligible for honorary scholarships.

Traditionally, the National Honor Society has awarded scholarships largely on the basis of academic records and performances on the PSAT or similar tests. This year's winners will be evaluated by the student's contribution within his

school and community. Qualified nominees should have demonstrated outstanding leadership, scholarship, character, and service.

Nominees have completed special Scholarship Selection Questionnaires which will assist the Scholarship Board in selecting a winner.

Project Wingspread Starts in Spring

On Monday, December 15, 1969, juniors attended a special assembly regarding Project Wingspread.

The program will begin spring semester of this school year and involves an exchange of students between Niles East and Austin High Schools in Chicago.

Project Wingspread gives students a chance to study urban problems by taking field trips to various places of interest. Niles students also will attend

Austin High School in Chicago for a nine-week period while Austin students attend the Niles schools.

Credits for U.S. history and English are given for this volunteer program.

For half of the semester, Niles students will carry their normal majors at Niles East with the exception of U.S. history and English. In replacement of these classes, the afternoon will consist of an Urban Studies class

which will include the Austin students who are at Niles for one-half of the semester. Field trips will originate from the class.

The other nine weeks of the semester, Niles students will spend their entire day at Austin. Their normal majors will be taken in corresponding classes at Austin High School in Chicago and the Urban Studies class will be held in the afternoon.

Social House Collects for Crusade

A selected committee from the Social House of the Niles East student government recently collected money for the Skokie Valley United Crusade Drive. The drive supported a local campaign which is part of the Metropolitan Crusade of Mercy.

During the week of November 20, Niles East's volunteers

collected \$188.50. In addition, the Student Legislative house donated \$50 toward the drive, bringing the total to \$238.50.

Committee members for the drive included Cary Vinarski, '73; Dave Spiegel, '73; Debby Kaplan, '73; Barb Solan, '73; Donna Epton, '71; Carol Tarantur, '71; Marla Baygood, '72;

and Chris Short, '70.

The money received helps support the human care and service program of 12 organizations that serve the residents of Golf, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Niles, and Skokie. The campaign's goal is \$27,500,000, which is 10 per cent more than was raised last year.

AFS Plans International Program

The AFS is sponsoring a program the first weekend after winter vacation, January 9, 10, and 11. Sixteen foreign students from around the world and their American brothers and sisters

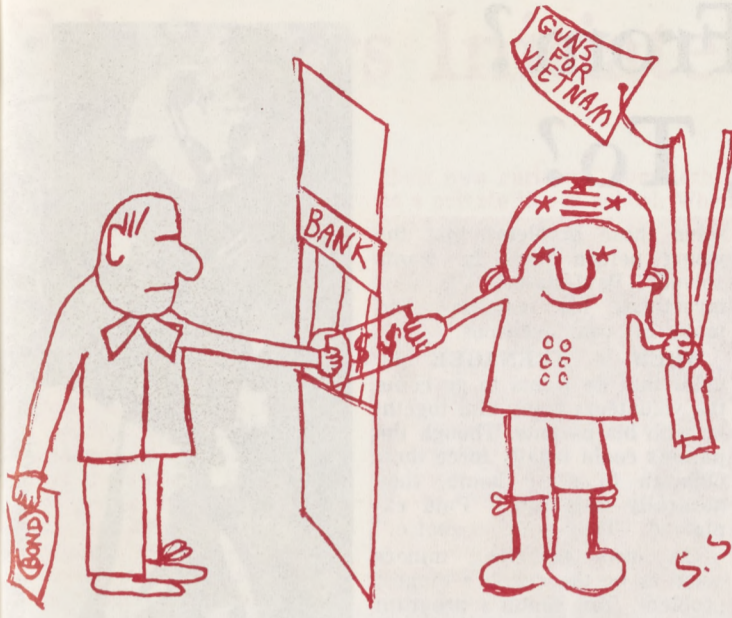
will participate in the program.

Miss Judy Rochotte, sponsor of AFS, explains the schedule for the weekend. "On Friday evening there will be a party for

the students and on Saturday during the day we will see the sights of Chicago. In the evening there will be a splash party and on Sunday morning there will be a brunch at the school."

Nixon's Secret Plan To End the War





Cash In Your Bonds!

by Les Farber

DO YOU SUPPORT the war in Viet Nam? Do you believe ABM and MIRV should exist? Do you feel U.S. troops should be in Okinawa? If your answer is no to any of the above questions, you should not own U.S. Savings Bonds.

When you buy a U.S. Savings Bond you are donating money to the government. Money from the savings bonds goes into the National Budget. Approximately 70% of the national budget is used for military capital.

THE "CHRISTMAS SEASON" or "Christmas spirit" which will involve almost all of us in the next few weeks, is supposedly one of a feeling of peace. Many people will buy U.S. Savings Bonds as gifts. In this spirit or feeling of peace people should definitely not want to aid the ruthless, illegal, murdering in Viet Nam or the waste of billions of dollars on anti-missles and anti-anti-missles. The point of ridiculousness has been reached by the government of this country and it is time that the people of this country do everything in their power to stop the progression of these illegal actions, in any way possible, and force a change. A means and a beginning to this change is such a thing as cashing in savings bonds and not buying any more.

When the United States government can spend 78.4 billion dollars on the military in one year and allow people to starve to death, live in filth, and die because of lack of medical attention, the demand for change is obvious.

UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS are a voluntary tax. If you do not support the war in Viet Nam, anti-balistic missles, the troops in Okinawa, or any of the many other costly large scale military projects of this country, **CASH IN YOUR SAVINGS BONDS!**

Seasonal Joy Stresses Compassion for Man

WITH GOOD WILL and seasonal spirits in the air, the Nilehilite wishes to extend its holiday wishes to the faculty and student body of Niles East.

We all realize how important peace and understanding are, and throughout the year, many of us fight to keep these qualities alive. Yet, the Nilehilite wishes to emphasize the importance of compassion for your fellow man.

ALL TOO OFTEN, cruel, savage students taunt and tease their classmates, unknowing or probably uncaring how deeply it hurts the others. Many times a student will put his neighbor down so that he, himself, looks bigger, while in reality, he's no bigger than a rat.

Teachers, too, must have compassion for their students. Students must be treated like intelligent human beings instead of ignorant children.

If only people would realize that no one is better than any one else and would only consider someone other than himself, then this yuletide season certainly would practice a few of its ancient preachings.

Mother Cites English Teachers as Radicals

THREE ENGLISH TEACHERS, Mr. John Palm, Mrs. Judith Pildes, and Miss Nancy Tripp, have recently received mimeographed copies of a letter written by a mother who is concerned with her son's education.

According to Mrs. Pildes, the letter referred to the three teachers as "members of a radical element of the Niles East faculty," and forbade the administration to put her son into any contact with the three of them in any way, or any other members of this radical group. Mrs. Pildes further said that the letter stated that the mother hoped Dr. Arthur C. Colver would "see fit to remove these dangerous and incompetent people from (his) staff."

Specific charges made against these teachers are:

1. Mr. Palm does not follow the curriculum in his class.

2. Miss Tripp allows her children to work only when they want to. The children are allowed to play cards, and the mother does not like her tax money going to this.

3. Mrs. Pildes indoctrinates her students with ideas adverse to mores and religion of their families.

"What is interesting is that this woman does not have a child in any one of our classes, and she has never visited our classes herself," Miss Tripp noted.

"**NEITHER DR. COLVER** nor Mr. John Golata, English department chairman, told us we must stop what we are doing;

however, they suggested that we be aware of existing school guidelines and board policies and continue to reevaluate our methods of teaching," Mr. Palm said. "But, given the wave of reaction that is sweeping the country and the fact that schools are the most vulnerable targets, it comes as no surprise that these attacks are being leveled against those teachers who employ progressive and innovative techniques in the classroom," he added.

"We have been told in various ways that this isn't the only letter," Miss Tripp said. "But what is disturbing us the most is that none have come to us directly."

"**I HAVE NOT RECEIVED** one complaint directly from

parents or teachers in six years about what I do," Mr. Palm stated. "What disturbs me are the refusals of people to come to us with their complaints. We are willing to speak to students, parents, or teachers at any time. All are invited to the classrooms."

Because of their concern, these three teachers, among others, scheduled a parent's night on December 17 as evidence of their willingness to discuss differences of opinions and problems. They all emphasized the fact that they are "willing to talk to anyone, anywhere."

"We can only continue to do what we believe is good and right," Mr. Palm concluded. "and respond with openness and courtesy to those who disagree with us."

Opinions from the Student Body

DEAR EDITOR,

In answer to the attack made on security guards in the last issue, I would like to say that the students of Niles East got what they deserved. We act like children; incapable of conducting ourselves in a mature way. It is really unfortunate that \$42,000 a year is being wasted.

I think that the security guards are being paid for nothing. But in the four years I have been in this school, I have seen the administration try quite a few things to give us a sense of responsibility (junior responsibility last year, a student lounge two years ago, a resource room, open study halls, and everything), and we have thrown it back in their faces. I think the students in this school have no regard for property at all. This is evidenced by the great condition of our cafeteria and lounge. And what about the washrooms? It is really sickening. God forbid if somebody has to go.

In the last issue, Renee Romanoff, '71 spoke about responsibility. She said, "We are not given the chance to show that we can handle our part of it without constant supervision." But unless we are under constant supervision, we literally tear the school apart. Only children need supervision. Also mentioned was "the respect and dignity to which we are entitled as human beings." We have shown we are animals. No human being would have such complete disregard for others as we seem to have. Where is the dignity of the student body? It is very rare when it shows.

Now is the time to show our responsibility. Maybe if we change the conditions of things around here the guards will go.

DAWN NUDELL, '70

DEAR EDITOR,

Several students have asked me what I tried to accomplish and what I thought of the series of sessions held on November 14 to consider the role of the U.S. in Viet Nam. May I speak to all students who are interested.

My purpose was not to sell a point of view nor to arouse any quick emotional commitment. I doubt the real value of groups that quickly and noisily conform to an action or vocal pattern suggested by some one else . . . before they have really thought through the analysis or solution. Why be manipulated by others?

Therefore my purpose was to present valid facts and to willingly mention my sources and invite all who participated to recognize that all spoken or written information is not valid or reliable. I intended to remind thoughtful and concerned students and citizens that opinions and guesses may be a waste of time, unless a person has earned the right to be listened to by knowing enough to speak meaningfully. During one of my sessions I deliberately told students, who asked my opinion of given situations or possible futures, that I did not know enough to make my guesses worth either his time or mine. I was concerned about quotations taken out of context. This is rather demagogic and basically is not intellectually honest.

The problem in Viet Nam is complex. It did not develop just in the last year or two. Actions taken now have both short term and long term consequences. We all share an opportunity and a responsibility for arriving at a good solution. Catch labels are dangerous for they imply easy answers that do not exist. The rules for judging one side or element of a problem should be applied to . . . all standards or similar problems or aspects. Why should a double standard be considered fair. . . or wise?

Those who attended the sessions where I was, exhibited a concern and a level of thought that showed responsible citizenship. One college girl who was present said afterward that the questions asked were well phrased. Obviously this complex problem needs more than 25 minutes or 40 or 60 minutes. Many students have already given much thought to this problem. Why quit? There is room for more effort, thought, and evaluation.

E. A. COLTON
SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER

DEAR EDITOR,

The Student Legislature would like to thank all students for their involvement and reaction

to the Vietnam Educational Program. For those who actively participated, the Student Legislature was gratified with the thought that a significant number of students did take advantage of what we thought was an excellent program. But especially for those students who may have been upset by the loss of class time due to the program, the Student Legislature would like to extend our apologies if this offended you. It is our hope that future educational programs will be on a student voluntary basis. This way, those students who want to attend the program can do so, and those students who want to attend class will not be denied this privilege.

But whether or not you agreed with the Vietnam Educational Program, the Student Legislature hopes that all students will realize that this program, or any program sponsored by the Student Legislature, is designed to help the greatest number of students, teachers, and administrators possible at Niles East. It is with this goal in mind that the Student Legislature will continue to work for the benefit of the integral parts of the school.

THE STUDENT
LEGISLATURE

DEAR EDITOR,

As a concerned student, I feel it necessary to write this letter to the entire student body of Niles East.

On Friday, October 31 and Saturday, November 1, the fall play was held at our auditorium. Many students were involved in the production, which proved to be both entertaining and enjoyable. Many long hours were put forth to provide our school with a product that we could be proud of! And indeed the few that did see the play were proud. It's really too bad that only a handful of students come out to see a school play, and their fellow students' efforts.

I'm sure it affected the members of the cast, also, by the minute number of responses they received.

I feel that the entire cast is to be congratulated for putting on a fine performance. Bravo, to the cast, crew, and everyone involved in making Niles East's fall play a success.

EILEEN SIEGEL '70

Nilehite

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Editor-in-chief Lisa Grossman
News Editor Marci Ellis
Feature Editor Janet Migdoll
Sports Editor Bruce Wolf
Copy Editor Diane LaZaar
Photography Editor Diane LaZaar
Associate Page Editors Les Farber
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Sharon Mittelman
Reporters Barb Levin
Doug Propp
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Pam Wallis
Rona Bass
Photographers Gene Sherman
Bill Grutzmacher
Artists John Hervatin
Business and
Circulation Manager Linda Silverman
Advisor Mrs. Mary Scherb

Who Are You Running From? Who Are You Running To?

FOR ALL RUNAWAYS in the country a nation-wide all points bulletin is issued. Sixty runaways were reported to the Skokie police department in 1968. The average age of runaways is 15 years old for males, and 14 for females. "We've never lost one yet," stated Officer Ken Cody.

Officer Cody has been with the Skokie police department juveniles division for approximately 12 years. According to the officer, the legal definition of a runaway is "a minor in need of supervision." Lots of kids run away because their parents are either too strict, or not strict enough." Yet each case is unique in itself.

THE LONGEST RUNAWAY case ever handled by the Skokie police department was two months. In 1968 10 per cent of Skokie's runaways were repeaters. One adolescent ran away 23 times. Five per cent of those cases handled by the Skokie police department are taken to family court. From court approximately one per cent are

sent to St. Charles or Geneva reformatories.

It is up to the judge whether these cases are dismissed, put on probation, or referred for psychiatric help. Those runaways who refuse to go home await trial at the Audy home. Their crime is only a misdemeanor, and therefore it is up to the juvenile officer to decide whether or not any cases will ever go to court.

SEVENTY-FIVE PER CENT of the reported runaways return home by themselves according to Cody. A large per cent of the runaways are never reported, because "these parents are afraid of the police," Cody stated. Where do these kids go?

One of the largest centers for runaways in the Chicagoland area is Grace Lutheran Church, 555 Belden, Chicago. In the year and a half since Pastor Phil Bigelow originated the program, the center has had contact with 1400 teen-agers of which they've housed 600. Any runaway can obtain housing if he will tell his parents where he is.

The program was started because "the official methods of dealing with runaways are rotten," stated Paul Wagerin, volunteer at the church.

THE REV. RALPH WILKINS is now directing the program. Because of its great success, the Illinois Law Enforcement Foundation is supplying money to extend the program to 12 locations within the next two years. Aside from expanding the program, the church needs money for its many other bills. A large percentage of their work is done over the phone. Last month's phone bill was \$275. Their hospital bill is no longer countable. "We just take all the hospital bills and store them in a cubby hole in the pastor's office," Paul joked. "There are always kids hanging around the church and if they get hurt, somebody has to pay for it."

Paul's attitude toward helping people is typical of those working at the church. If the runaways want help, they get help. If they want to be left alone, they are left alone. "We

solve those problems that the young person feels he wants solved," Paul stated. "He must investigate his resources and make his own decisions."

WHEN A TEENAGER decides that he wants to go home the volunteers bring him together with his parents. Though the parents could legally force their children to come home, they generally cooperate," Paul explained. "They have no choice."

The laws governing minors seem to be the center's biggest problem. The center's program may be endangered by runaways whose parents are searching for them. The police make regular visits to the church.

The police are looking for runaways, but the church is too. Who are you running to (from)?



by Lisa Grossman
Janet Migdow

"Hair" Celebrates Life

by Lisa Grossman

Great music, nude scenes, great soul, nude scenes, peace and harmony, nude scenes, freedom, nude scenes. They all describe the much talked about and everyone's dying-to-see play, "Hair."

Knowing it was impossible to get tickets, especially on a weekend, I ventured down to the Shubert theater one Friday afternoon. In the lobby, my

us. He spoke to the two cast members. Learning he was Clint Spencer, the production manager, I directed my questions to him. He couldn't take time to answer my questions since rehearsals were starting, but he invited us to watch the dress rehearsal.

Finally accustoming my eyes to the dimly lit room, and realizing that I was actually watch-

breaking the conventional barriers in theaters."

Many cast members agreed that "Hair" is a celebration of a golden moment. It is the celebration of life, both good and bad.

Joe added that the play deals with bigotry and sexual and personal freedom. The title is appropriate, he said, because long hair and all it stands for is the best way to sum things up.

KATHLEEN JOHNSON, a tribesman, said that the theme was not against the United States. It was rather to exemplify freedom as long as it doesn't hurt anyone. "Do what you please and be considerate of others," she stated.

Another tribesman, Stephen Klatch, felt that this play exemplifies the return to Greek theater. It is highly ritual and in it we make sacrificial offerings.

After rehearsal, Clint Spencer invited us to the evening performance.

Seven of us excitedly waited in the dressing rooms, to be seated. What impressed me was that these actors were as wild and great off stage as they were on stage. At last, we were seated in box seats.

The play, itself, was fantastic. The basic plot centers on Claude, a hippie, who is drafted into the army. He said he didn't want to go, but would not burn his draft card. He thought he'd fail the physical, but in the end wound up as a straight soldier.

ONE TRIBESMAN said that they "must get into the audience," and indeed they did. In the beginning, a line of tribesmen walk over the audiences' seats. Throughout the whole play, various players intermingle with the audience, and in the end half of the audience is onstage to dance to "Let the Sunshine In."

The whole day was truly an exciting experience. I wonder if Brock Peters would like to be interviewed . . .

HAS IT EVER irked you that you get so little time to use the swimming pool? Did you ever get exasperated because there was no place to sit down with a teacher or some friends and just talk? Did you ever get to the point where your hunger just couldn't stand up against the mess in the cafeteria so you skipped lunch altogether? If Dr. Colver's new building renovation recommendations are approved, the students of Niles East may never encounter these and many other problems again.

In a fifteen page pamphlet, Dr. Colver outlined his solutions to student problems. His proposals were:

1. A Student Services Center which would extend from the present cafeteria out into the courtyard to approximately where the flagpole now is. This new building would be three stories high and would be sectioned off by levels for specific purposes. The first level would be a new dining-lounge area with smaller tables, carpeting, and booths for informal discussions. The second level would be for staff members who work with students such as counselors, the registrar, and social workers. The third level would consist of multi-purpose rooms which could be used for lectures, small conferences, workshops, or testing areas.

2. A new pool area would be built between the new wing and the back of the football bleachers. This new building would include a 120' by 45' pool, two classrooms, one weight room, and two locker rooms. The new pool would have several accessories that the old pool is sorely lacking, such as a deeper diving section, wider decks, an automatic timing device, hair dryers, and equipment for the lighting of water shows.

3. A new wrestling and gymnastics gym built above the present boys' locker room. This area would not only give the boys the room they need for classes and meets, it would also give the girls further use of their gym areas.

4. An Instructional Materials Center would be created on the second floor of the old building and would include the library, the present AVE center, and room 220. This section would be converted into one large floor where a student or teacher could go to use books, filmstrips, record players, tape recorders, or a TV monitor. In this way, all library and audio-visual equipment would be made available to any student or teacher.

ALONE WITH THESE IDEAS, Dr. Colver also suggested that three new art rooms be added to allow art students the opportunity to work on more and varied projects throughout the year. He also included in his proposal the conversion of several present study hall rooms and offices into classrooms, conference rooms, and departmental offices.

After completing this report, Dr. Colver asked the members of Student Legislature to review his ideas and remark on any aspect of it which they felt was important.

DUE TO THE GREAT COST which accompanies all of these projects, the legislature suggested that a list of priorities be drawn up with the Student Services Center and the new pool at the top, in case there are not sufficient funds to carry out all the projects. The legislature also suggested that areas for major student organizations should be created, that student parking areas should be provided; that all new additions be air-conditioned (along with the old sections), that many of the older classrooms be redecorated, and that facilities for electronics, photography, and computers be expanded.

Dr. Colver Offers Renovation Proposal



friends and I saw two people. Boldly approaching them, I asked the girl if she were in the cast. I told her who I was (editor of a high school newspaper) and that we wanted to interview the cast. She seemed agreeable, but the big black man next to her shook his head and decisively said "No way."

UNDISMAYED, we rapidly fired questions at the girl. She was Arlene Vrhel and played Jeannie, the pregnant girl who loved Claude, the star, although he wasn't the father.

From behind, a tall and very handsome man walked toward

ing the dress rehearsal of "Hair," I noticed that some actors were hanging from the rafters and others were swinging from ropes connected to the ceiling. Still others were dancing and singing while a few engaged in an orgy.

ONE LONG-HAIRED moustached, hippie-looking guy came up to me and I began to question him.

"I am the token dago in the play," said Joe Mantegna. "There are eight spades, but only one dago. Speaking of the play, I dig it. It is a new and different thing. This play is

Educators Initiate Changes

by Rona Bass

Ed. Note: The following story is the last part of a series of articles exploring the modern educational process and reactions to it.

AMERICAN EDUCATION is in the midst of a revolution. A. S. Neill, George Dennison, John Holt, William Hull, Jonathan Kozol, Viola Spolin, Nat Hentoff, and Frances Hawkins are leading the forces. Their importance is only second to that of the students themselves. These people are the prominent spokesmen against our present educational system. They have all written articles, essays, and books about the school system. Very little of what they write is favorable. These critics are all veteran teachers and scholars who have made the education of children their livelihood. Why is it that highly-qualified, educated teachers are trying to destroy the American educational system?

A. S. Neill, author of "Summerhill" and "Freedom Not License" created a school, Summerhill, in England. The students there learn by their own motivation and as a result of

their own curiosity. Summerhill is a private live-in school. When the students have questions about math, politics, or sex, they ask Neill for answers. There is no fear of punishment for stupid questions or wrong answers. They learn what they want and are generally happy, well-adjusted people.

Emotional Freedom Exists

George Dennison has a school in New York called the First Street School. He has written a book called "The Lives of Children," which explains the workings of his school and why it's better there than the average New York Public school. Dennison's school emphasizes emotional freedom. His school breeds in an atmosphere of truth and frankness that is lacking in convention-bound society.

TWO PEOPLE WHO teach at special schools are Viola Spolin, author of "Improvisation for the Theatre"; and Frances Hawkins, author of "The Logic of Action: From a Teacher's Notebook." One of Spolin's major points is that children substitute teachers for parents as objects

of approval/disapproval. Students really beg for approval. A teacher's disapproval means FAILURE.

Stimulation Needed

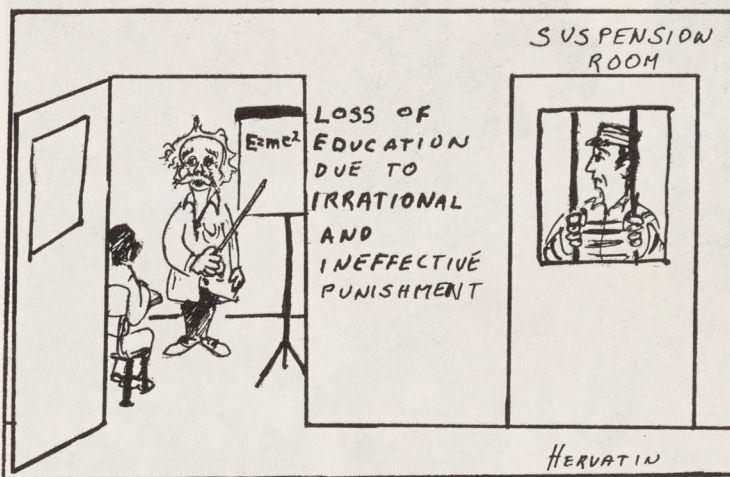
Hawkins feels that students must be stimulated into testing, investigating, and learning for themselves. She feels that stimulation is necessary to establish an environment of independent learning, instead of the conventional situation of having a teacher choose the settings, materials, and conditions for all student activities.

Holt has written "How Children Fail," "How Children Learn," and "The Underachieving School." Holt describes the methods underachieving students use to avoid humiliation and failure. He erases these problems by erasing failure. The students learn for themselves, sometimes from materials Holt brings in, but never are they forced to participate. This is stimulation: the idea that someone else may inspire curiosity without directing it, forcing it, or grading it.

Students Seek Learning STIMULATED EDUCATION is also the basic philosophy of the Parents School in Chicago. Students, ages 2½ to 12, need not attend. They learn what they want, play when and what they want, and fight if they have to. These students actually ask to be taught reading and math.

Nat Hentoff and Jonathan Kozol have written books dealing with the terrible way Negro children are treated in schools, particularly Boston. It is sickening to see how inhuman these kids are treated; they are beaten, manipulated, and mistreated, as they are often made the objects of sadism by teachers.

THESE PEOPLE ARE just a few whose deep and valid criticism has offered solutions to the problems of American education. This logical criticism from learned, intelligent people cannot be ignored; they must be listened to if we are to help the floundering American school system.



In Passing

Suspend Suspension!

by Janet Migdow

"Students shall show respect for the constituted authority of the schools, shall obey all directions and attend all instructions of teachers and administrators, shall work diligently at their studies, shall cooperate willingly in maintaining order, shall observe the common courtesies and proprieties of speech and action, and shall at no time or place, either by word or deed, cast disrupt upon the good name of the school."

The above statement is a direct quote from the School Board Policy of the Niles high schools. It is largely on the basis of the aforementioned policy plus the teacher's union contract that discipline is administered in the high schools.

In the first 62 days of school this year 155 suspensions were presented to 130 different students. Twenty-six seniors, 34 juniors, 59 sophomores, and 15 freshmen were suspended at least once. Nineteen students were suspended twice, 5 were suspended three times, and one student was suspended five times.

One hundred and eighteen in-school suspensions were given out. Twenty-three suspensions were given for less than a day, 100 for one day, four for one and one-half days, six for two days, 20 for three days, one for four days, and one for one month.

In cases of discipline students have become the object of regulations established for the benefit of teachers.

"Teachers shall be responsible for the management and discipline of students..." (School Board Policy) "When they (teachers) find it necessary to refer any case of discipline to an administrator, they shall be entitled to expect full administrative support and prompt and vigorous administrative action." (School Board Policy)

Now that the teachers and administrators are satisfied, what happens to the student? While in school the administration has legal authority over the student. Most high school students are not adults under the law and their parents, by law, must keep them in school until they are 16.

If the student feels he has been dealt with unfairly, he can appeal to the principal, the superintendent, or finally the school board. The student becomes a defendant appealing to those who created the laws he broke. His chances of winning are slim.

Keeping a student out of class for cutting a class is contradictory. While the School Board Policy states that the administration may deny the student "the ultimate privilege of attending school," it also states that it is prohibited to "in any other way degrade his (the student's) educational achievement."

Possibly the biggest problem students have in our present school system is trying to obtain an education between punishments.



Who's being educated, those outside the classroom or those inside?



Humanities Offers Symposium

"WE ALL LIVE IN A time of radical social change. Some of us are initiating that change; others are responding to it (each in his own way). We would like to get some people together to listen and talk..."

Thus begins a statement of the plans now being made for a symposium on education. The program, sponsored, organized, and run by the Niles East Humanities Department, will be a full day activity and will take place at East on a Saturday early in the spring. Beyond this definite information, the plans are still in a formative stage.

However it is organized, one thing is certain: the symposium will be directed toward the concerns of a changing educational system. Some experts claim that the whole educational system will undergo a complete transformation within five to ten years.

THINGS ARE HAPPENING NOW at East that affect many of us directly, and all of us indirectly. With these thoughts in mind, the humanities teachers prepared the following statement on the symposium: "What is going on at Niles East? There seems to be a rapidly growing number of teachers and students who are breaking away from the orthodox approaches to for-

mal education. There are also many (mostly teachers) who object in one way or another to the new freedoms which, to them, represent chaos and anarchy or worse. It seems only appropriate that these people get together to discuss these changes which are happening."

The present plan is to have speakers and films in the morning with discussions and workshops in the afternoon. The film, "High School," a documentary about a white, suburban school with a student body the size of East's, already has been ordered. Possible speakers are John Holt, renowned author of "How Children Fail," and Edgar Friedenburg, author of "The Dignity of Youth, and Other Atavisms."

HOPEFULLY, THE SYMPOSIUM WILL be able to accommodate not just students, teachers, and administrators, but also parents, counselors, secretaries, clerks, cafeteria workers, custodians, and other members of the community and the school system, whose concern with education is not always recognized. The symposium need not be a "one shot deal." If the participants are willing, it could be the start of an in-depth look at one of the major forces of our culture.

MARSHALL McLuhan, a pop culturist-professor at the University of Toronto, divides forms of communication into two classifications of media: the hot media consisting of books, radio, and photographs, and the cool media of television and films. We have to throw ourselves into hot media; the cool medium comes to us as in "Medium Cool."

Haskell Wexler, writer-director-producer of "Medium Cool" has suspended movie-goers and McLuhanites through the looking-glass. The screen becomes a mirror image of life. The plot itself mirrors a man's own life with the audience, on both sides of the mirror at the same time.

The plot itself is incidental to the film, a fictional documentary about a cameraman, John, who loses his job for getting too involved in a story. When John discovers that some of his footage has been used by the FBI, he is shocked, angered, and considerably explosive: "Just what is this . . . ?"

WHILE JOHN IS JOBLESS he meets a thirteen-year-old boy, Harold, and his young

mother. They are West Virginians living in Chicago's Uptown. Harold's father, Buddy, left one day and died in Viet Nam. Buddy's death might have been shown on Huntley and Brinkley.

John mysteriously gets his job back with an assignment to cover the Democratic Conven-

cal events: the Bobby Kennedy murder is heard from the Los Angeles hotel's kitchen, Martin King's "I have a dream" speech, the convention and the convention riots. (The last two segments of the film are actual, on the spot films of those events; they weren't staged or set up.)

I AM GREATLY DISTURBED by an important point of the film. Wexler has gone to great lengths to produce a "hot" film in emotional terms. The artistry and mastery (Wexler is an Academy Award-winner for photography) present a film dangerously close to reality. "Medium Cool" doesn't allow one to leave the scene of the accident. One has to get involved and change things.

But what about Harold? Harold Blakenship really is poor and dirty. He really does hate school ("They don't teach ya nothin'"), and Wexler left him there after he made "Medium Cool."

John, the cameraman, is Wexler's mirror image, or Wexler is John's image. The trouble with mirrors, is that one never knows who is looking at whom.

McLuhan "Mirrors Life:" Medium Cool

BY RONA BASS

tion of August, 1968. During the convention week, Harold runs away to fool around in the city. The Grant Park and Lincoln Park "riots" are unscheduled mirrors of a phony hippie-army confrontation staged earlier in the film. This time, the mirror image is reality.

Wexler mirrors recent histori-



TOM FILLIP AND AL ACKER, both top varsity fencers, pose in their fencing attire for cameras.

Fencers Beat Marshall

WHAT TURNED OUT to be one of the biggest victories in Trojan fencing history almost never occurred last Friday night.

The fencers downed Marshall, last year's number one team in the state, whom the Trojans finished second to. But the whole meet almost didn't take place.

Scheduled for 6 p.m., the meet was to have taken place in the indoor track, but Marshall didn't show up.

The fencers were just about ready to pack up and go home at 7 when the Marshall team finally came.

STILL THERE WAS SOME CHANCE that the meet would be called off, but finally the two coaches decided to go ahead with the meet, and it was a lucky thing for the Trojans that they did.

The fencers won, 12-6, a handy victory, with Tom Fillip, Rick Waysdorf, and Julian Solway leading the way with 3-0 records.

Pending the outcome of last night's meet with Maine South, another top contender for the state championship, the fencers can really tell where they stand in state competition this year.

Beating Marshall, of course, has to be a great lift to the team for the rest of the season.

"We lack depth, but if we stay healthy, we stand a good chance of placing in the top three in state this year," said Tom Fillip.

Gymnasts Win Two Meets

THE NILES EAST GYMNAS-TICS TEAM has won two of its first three outings this year.

In the gymnasts' first meet, the Trojans defeated Glenbrook North and Glenbrook South while taking four out of six firsts.

Al Weiner took two firsts, on trampoline and free exercise, while Gary Michaels and Tom Tripp followed him up with second and third place respectively on the trampoline.

Larry Krause took first on the rings, and Dave Cech was a double winner, taking both the parallel bars and the new All-Around event.

AT NILES WEST, the Trojans missed on a few events, and were beaten by a more con-

sistent Niles West team, 103-99.

The highlight of that meet for the Trojans came when Dave Cech beat Kirk Moser, who took fifth in state last year on the parallel bars. Cech had a 7.85 average.

Last Friday, the gymnasts defeated York with Larry Krause taking the ring event, and Dave Cech winning the high bar event.

At the Evanston Invitational last Saturday, featuring last year's top five teams, the gymnasts didn't fare too well, but Al Weiner and Gary Michaels placed on the trampoline.

Winless Cagers Face Oak Park

LOOKING THE MOST impressive it has been all season, the Niles East basketball team lost to Highland Park, 63-61, last Friday night at Highland Park.

It was the Trojans' sixth straight loss of the season, but it was the first time the Trojans were actually in a ball game this year which has to be an improvement.

During their first five games the Trojans lost to Glenbrook North, Niles West, Niles North, Proviso East, and Glenbrook South by margins ranging from

18 points to 48 points.

In the Highland Park game, the Trojans finally saw some light but still lost their second league game.

THE TROJANS will try to win their first league contest tonight at home against Oak Park who last year was the worst team in the Suburban League.

The Trojans beat the Huskies twice last season and edged them out for seventh place in the Suburban League.

This year it may be tougher for the Trojans to beat the Huskies since Oak Park has al-

ready won a game against Morton East.

Fortunately for the Trojans, Pete Armstrong is too short to play basketball, so they won't have to face him tonight on the court.

Playoff Equal Time

by Bruce Wolf

LAST FRIDAY NIGHT, I had the self imposed assignment of covering the swimming, wrestling, and fencing meets, all of which took place within the friendly confines of Niles East.

Nothing was new in this procedure. I have rushed back and forth between meets before, except for the fact that this was the first time I had ever witnessed a fencing meet.

Luckily, I picked the perfect time to watch the fencers dual since last Friday, the fencers beat last year's state champs, Marshall, 12-6, before a paid attendance of 0.

THE FENCERS, timekeepers, scorekeepers, directors, coaches, and I were the only ones witnessing one of Niles East's greatest athletic accomplishments ever.

But by the lack of an enthusiastic crowd behind them, the fencers' victory hardly seemed like much of an accomplishment at all.

Of course, Marshall didn't help the cause any either by almost not showing up and making it seem as though the Niles East Fencing team didn't exist at all.

Nevertheless, the fencers are good, proving it against Marshall and possibly have the best in the way of an athletic team Niles East has to offer this year.

This, of course, is not to put down the other teams because they deserve recognition too, and they get it, but the fencers don't get one iota of recognition.

THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS for the unpopularity of fencing. First of all, the fencers compete in the indoor track, which is not exactly the most ideal place for a crowd to gather.

This could easily be remedied by having the meets in the contest gym where seating could be provided.

The second, and most important reason for fencing's unpopularity, is the lack of interest in the sport.

Somehow, students are more interested in the big time sports like football and basketball, and leave fencing by the wayside.

FURTHERMORE, the fine points of the sport are not easy to notice, and it takes time to learn them.

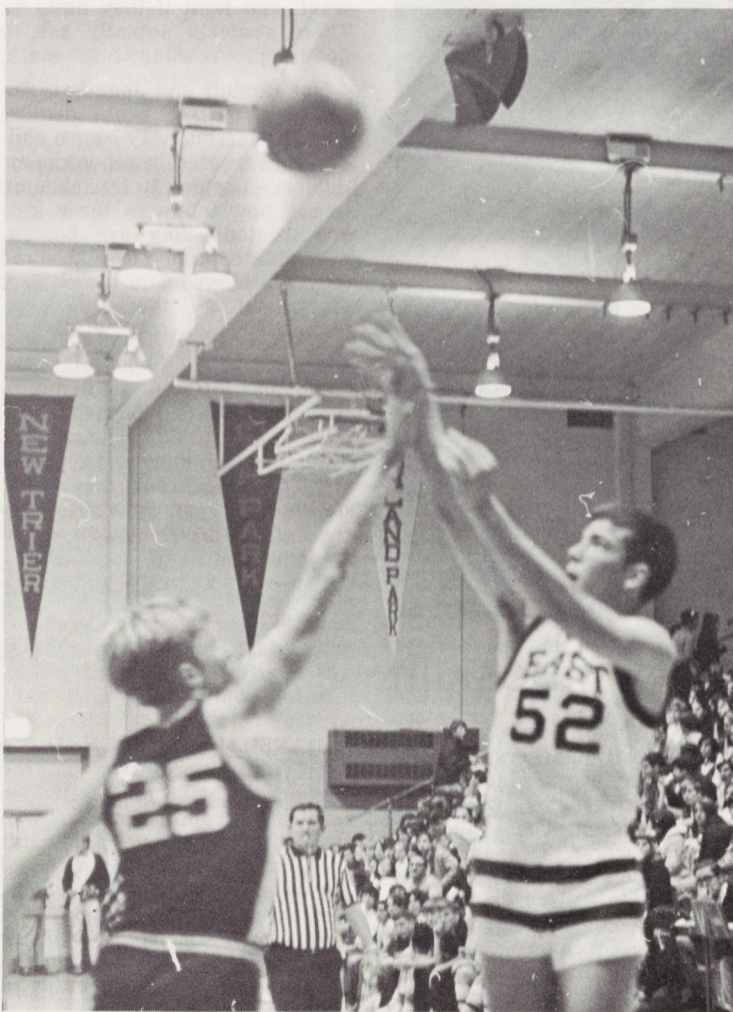
Fencing has also not been equated as the most masculine sport either, and at times fencers have been called "gay blades" and other such names which are totally false because fencing is just as tough as any other sport.

What fencing has done has been to take what Errol Flynn made millions on in swashbuckling and develop it into a fine art.

Of course, fencing was around a long time before Errol Flynn. As a matter of fact, it dates back to the 1500's at least.

And what the Niles East fencers have done is to make their team a top state competitor almost every year.

A team that constantly is a winner deserves at least a little recognition.



KEN URBANAS takes a shot while a Glenbrook South opponent tries to block it.

Highland Pk. Swamps Swimmers

TONIGHT the Trojan varsity swimmers, better known as the Cods, face Oak Park in their second Suburban League meet of the season.

Last Friday, the Cods lost their opening meet at home to Highland Park, who literally drowned the swimmers.

The Cods lost, 80-15, and managed to pick up only three second place finishes.

However, facing Highland Park in the first meet of the season can't be a morale booster

since the Little Giants figure to place high in the Suburban League.

JIM SIMON took two second place finishes in the 200 yard freestyle and the 100 yard fly, while Bruce Herman placed second in the breaststroke event.

That was all the scoring for the Trojans in a meet that tarnished the swimmers' perfect 2-0 record before going into their first league meet.

Before the Highland Park meet, the Cods defeated Niles

West and Elmwood Park and showed some improvement over last year.

The main improvement for the swimmers has been one man, John Peterson, who as a sophomore swam varsity in the Niles West meet and won two events.

COACH LARSON had Peterson swim sophomore level against Highland Park since the varsity didn't have too much of a chance anyway, and John won the 200 yard freestyle and the 400 yard freestyle events.

Troy Takes Third in Wrestling Quad

COACH RON HUTCHERSON'S MATMEN started off their season by taking third place in the Niles East Quadrangular held here two weeks ago.

The Trojans finished with 68 points, just one point shy of the second place team, New Trier West. Glenbrook South won the meet with 81 points, while Wheeling came in last.

Taking firsts for Troy were Ken Kravitz, Ralph Sataloe, Reid Karabush, and Bill Schmitzer.

Schmitzer also took a first in the Niles North Quadrangular at North on November 26.

THE WRESTLERS can now look forward to their tough Suburban League competition, against which they did not fare too well last season.

Last year, the wrestlers went winless, but this year Coach Hutcherson doesn't face quite as tough a problem he did last season when no lettermen returned in their senior year.

Consequently, the team relied heavily on sophomores last year, and it is hoped that by now there will be enough depth with these returning men.

Even though the team may be stronger, the Suburban League competition is no weaker, either. This weekend the Trojans will try to prove their strength against Oak Park.