

The Dispatch

"Defender of the Public Interest Since 1974"

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Huntington High School, Huntington, New York

Friday, February 17, 1978

Storm Closes School, Forces Board to Propose Extension Until June 29

ATH to Consider Proposal

by Abner Greene

The snow storm which forced the cancellation of school last week has forced the Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Charles Rudiger to recommend an extension of the school year from June 23 to June 29.

The action was taken following an executive session at Monday (February 13) night's Board meeting at Toaz Junior High School.

The school calendar for 1977-1978 has 184 days scheduled into it. State law requires a minimum of 180 school days for purposes of state aid, which amounts to \$21,000 - \$25,000 for the district per school day, according to Dr. Rudiger. Because this school district has shut schools eleven days in the past two months, the Board was faced with the possibility of losing seven days of state aid if it did not act to recommend a change of the current school calendar.

Because the extension of the school year will only make up four of the lost days, three other days must be accounted for. Those three days, as proposed by the Board, are to be eliminated from April vacation, which runs from April 24-28. Although the Board has not stated it, it is highly probable that if there are any other snow days the April vacation will lose more days, accordingly.

(The full context of the Board's statement, as distributed to the student body on Wednesday, is published in a box below.)

Article VII of the 1977-1978 teacher's contract includes the school calendar and the sentence "In the event the number of student school days falls below 180, the Board shall have the option of changing the Calendar to bring the number of days for pupils to 180." The Board's recommendation to extend the school year is not a final resolution, as it has not been voted on at a public meeting. Before this action takes place, the Board will seek the approval of the Associated Teachers of Huntington (ATH), because a calendar change would constitute a contract

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Board's Statement

Repeated school closings due to the combined fury of blizzards, ice storms and floods, have forced the Huntington Board of Education to seek ways to make up lost school days so that state attendance mandates are met.

With over a month of winter still ahead, the Board has declared it will seek to make up lost days by extending classes in June until the 29th and by drawing whatever other time is needed from the April vacation (April 24-28). The final details will depend on calendar discussions now in progress between the Board and Associated Teachers of Huntington, and on the number of additional snow days that may be needed in February and March. The public will be informed as soon as final details are firm.

In making the announcement at this time, the Board is hoping to minimize public inconvenience by providing enough time so that families may plan for the additional school days in April and June.



photo courtesy of The Long-Islander

This scene, on the Northern State Parkway, was typical of many during last week's storm.

Many Options Were Available

A number of people representing various special interests showed up at the Board meeting Monday night to express their respective views on the problem of making up seven lost school days.

The Board knew it couldn't please everyone, but in making the decision that it did, it came close to pacifying almost all. Here now, a break-down of the options the Board had and the different reasons people gave to oppose or support those options:

- February vacation could have been cancelled. Opposing this was ATH president Roy McDougald, who said the ATH planned on seeking "injunctive relief" - a potential lawsuit - if the Board cancelled the February recess. Also, the possibility of more bad weather during February would seem to prejudice any group choosing that vacation to be cancelled. The only sentiment favoring having school during scheduled February vacation came from the people who felt that we've had enough days off recently, and that the upcoming vacation was not necessary. Nevertheless, this option was never seriously considered.

- April vacation could have been cancelled. What the Board has suggested now is that three of

the five days of April vacation be school days, leaving the other two open in case of more snow days. The major opposition to this move came from the orchestra, which has planned a trip to Bermuda for a competition during the April recess. According to Mr. Thomas Karolyi, orchestra director, the group will lose \$2,000 of a \$3,500 investment if the trip is cancelled. The orchestra, which comprises fifty-two HHS students, has had the trip planned since the beginning of the school year. Ralph Folz, member of the Board and

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chairman of its Policy Committee, mentioned the possibility that the Board would give the orchestra special dispensation to take what would become an overnight field trip, if April vacation indeed is lost, which seems highly likely at this point. H. Craig Sutton, past president of the Board, mentioned from the audience that the Board would then have to assume the insurance liability for the orchestra, a problem that may cause some concern among some Board members. The other major point of opposition to April vacation going by the boards was the fact that students would then

have to attend school without a significant break from the end of February until the end of June, a fact which many people feel is true but which must be lived with this year.

- School could have been extended through the last week of June, and we could be put on the "B" Regents schedule. This is what the Board has recommended, and what will probably take place. The only objection to this plan is a major one: at that late June time, the heat will be high and many students will flock to the beaches rather than attend school.

- The Board could have done nothing and assumed a loss of state aid for each day under the minimum. This was suggested by a few people, but most saw this as unnecessary, in light of the fact that there were other options.

- The state legislature can still grant a reprieve and lower the minimum from the current 180 school days. If the legislature does anything, whatever decision the Board makes will probably have to be changed.

- Any combination of the above could be done. As of now, the combination of extending the year and dropping some of April vacation is the probable outcome, along with the possibility of a state reprieve.

-- Greene

Editorials- Needed--Vocational Education

A few months ago, this paper wrote about "The Roots of an Educational Tragedy." We examined one of the main reasons why a child reaches high school without the proper education: the lack of parental and teacher interest in the child's need to know.

Mrs. Olga Smith, principal of Washington School, recently commented on education. Her major point was that each child has an ego -- and idea of self -- and that the future of that ego would have a direct effect on the future of the child's education.

It should be pointed out that the word 'ego' should not be tied in with a word that many people are familiar with, 'egotist'. While an egotist is thought of as one who has an inflated opinion of himself, the idea of ego is a simple psychological term with which everyone should be aware. The term 'ego' involves "the conscious subject; the self" [American Heritage Dictionary]. Therefore, the ego is the controlling factor over a person's opinion of who he is. And this is so very, very important.

Take, for example, a child who very early in life finds great pleasure in creating things with his hands. He builds marvelous sand castles, block houses, and clay sculpture. His parents, however, push him towards reading, which he does not love. The child's opinion of himself is bound to plummet as he say "I guess my sand castles weren't so good after all."

Or the child who loves to read. All day long he locks himself up and loses his imagination to the world of fiction. His teacher, however, finds this scary and thinks that the child should be outside playing at recess. He is pushed in that direction.

What will happen to these children? And better yet, what is happening in this school district to these children? Mrs. Smith accurately commented that there are many children in Huntington who would prefer to receive some type of vocational education. We do have Wilson Tech, but that's not really enough. For the numerous students who are interested in fixing cars, painting houses, driving trucks, etc. -- from K-12 -- this school district does not provide programs to fulfill their educational needs.

And where do the egos of these kids go? Too often, sadly, instead of receiving the individualized attention to coincide with their needs and their opinions of themselves these kids are pushed in the "right direction." The prevailing idea is "Go to college," which is great for many and lousy for many others. And instead of feeling "I'm important because I can do ----," these students sometimes feel, "Why won't they let me do what I want? There are so many offerings for the kids who want to go to college, what's in it for me?"

This brings up the final and toughest question. Granted, the G.O. is doing a

great thing in introducing new course offerings, but as Mr. Ralph Marley, guidance counselor at H.H.S., pointed out, why haven't there been new courses and programs developed for students who are going no further than high school in their education? It's a very tough riddle to solve. Unfortunately, the parents who are the most vocal are almost always the parents whose children are going to college. Also unfortunately, the members of the Board of Education want to keep their positions and cater to the parents who speakout, and vote. The same holds true for administrators. Without making a specific attack, it can be said that people who hold power will do what will keep them in power. If all of a sudden this school district started centering its efforts on improving things for the non-college bound student, hell would be heard from the parents of the more academically involved children.

This is an unholy conflict for sure. What are the solutions? Everything that can be offered as an answer, or a partial answer, may sound great. But Utopia is always great -- what's not so great is the present. Theories can be beautiful if they are put into practice; and this is achieved through the efforts of courageous leaders who aren't afraid to buck the system a bit and equalize the current imbalance in education today.

Take Hart! A Good Idea in Trouble

by Mary McAward

Everyone has seen the "Take HART! The Buses Are Coming" advertisements up in shop windows all over town. What does it mean? HART stands for Huntington Area Rapid Transit, an innovation in mass transit by Huntington Town. These big, new buses go just about everywhere in all weather and at most times in Huntington. For fifty cents once can either joyride all day in heated comfort or get from one corner of town to another a lot quicker and cheaper than by private means.

There's one hitch, though. These buses may run all over and at all

times, but just about nobody knows where or when. The Town of Huntington has made one colossal goof: it has poured many tax dollars into promotional material for this project, but has either neglected or decided against sending bus schedules to Town residents.

The Town can afford to blanket the area with ice-skating pamphlets and garbage-collecting rules and regulations -- why hasn't it done its citizens and itself a favor by sending out bus schedules to every home in Huntington? Sooner or later, the Town will discontinue the HART bus

program, saying that mass transit in this area is simply not feasible. This will be a great loss to both Huntington and its citizens. Mass transit is feasible and a potential money-making project in this town -- it's up to our local government to put schedules within easy reach of everyone, [they are available from some of the buses] and it's up to us citizens to support this program by riding the buses whenever possible and leaving our cars home.

Letters to the Editor Attack On Vandalism

other letter, see p.8

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my concern over the growing amount of vandalism that is affecting our school. During the early '70's up until about three years ago, the problem of theft and destruction of property was largely under control. But, in the last three years this problem has grown to alarming proportions. Isn't it about time that our administration take effective measures to prevent the vandalism by a

few which is ravaging our school?

These are just some examples of what is happening in our school. About a month and a half ago, a valuable gong was stolen from the music department. Two weeks ago, a piano was virtually destroyed in the auditorium in what appears to have been a pure act of violence. Hundreds of dollars worth of musical instruments, both personal and belonging to the school,

have been stolen. Although I have only cited examples in the music department. I am sure that much has been lost by other departments in our school as well.

Vandalism to the school in general and to lockers has risen. Down jackets, books, instruments, and money are just a few of the items reported missing from lockers. Graffiti, broken windows, destruction of lockers, and the burning of

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The Dispatch

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Mr. Walker- A Sprinter in Special Ed.

by Seth Popkin

Many students consider a teacher as being only that: a teacher. Very few students realize that, although teaching is a career, an individual in that profession may have other interests or talents which can be fascinating. Such is the case with Mr. Dennis Walker, a teacher of Special Education, in his fifth year at Huntington High School. Mr. Walker was an alternate in track for the 1972 Olympics.

Mr. Walker, now twenty-six years old, began competing internationally in track at the age of seventeen. He believes that he gained most of his education through his participation in track, since this brought him recognition and scholarships. Presently, Mr. Walker runs for the D.C. Striders, a track team from Washington, D.C. In addition to participating in the sport, the members of this team help youngsters, through sports, to enhance their educations. The

Striders encourage youth to become involved in sports so that students may further develop their educations, hopefully, be receiving scholarships and becoming further motivated.

Having just completed a European tour this summer, Mr. Walker is already planning a trip to Puerto Rico. The team has been invited there for Memorial Day time.

"One of the reasons I stayed in education is that it allows me to perform," explains Mr. Walker. "If I were in business, I wouldn't have the two months of the summer to be active in my travels and sport. I'm a person doing some entertainment and I enjoy it very much. It's a vacation for me!"

Mr. Walker contacts the European promoters and they provide the meets.

"The foreign athletes like running against American

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Kornfeld to Run for Board

Mike Kornfeld, who graduated from Huntington High School this past January, is planning on running for the Huntington Union Free School District #3 Board of Education. Kornfeld, who will be eighteen, and therefore eligible to run, on February 25, will be competing for the two openings on the Board in the May 10 election. The seats of Claire Ryan and Ryan and Vincent Smyth are both up for grabs this year, although neither candidate has announced whether he/or she will seek reelection.

Kornfeld decided last May, after the school board elections, that he would seek an early graduation and run for the Board in 1978. "I determined that it is essential that there be a

young person on the Board who is aware of what's going on in school," said Kornfeld. His major issue, other than the need for a young Board member, is that the Board should concern itself more with setting policy and curriculum. A line that will appear in Kornfeld's releases is "I will not sit back idly and argue solely about finances while the state arbitrarily infringes on our right to plan curriculum set policy which is best suited to meeting the needs of our young people."

Kornfeld feels that he will need over 1,000 votes to win, and will be asking for student support both during his campaign and at the voting booth. An estimated 200 Huntington students will be eligible to vote for the May election.

-- Abner Greene

BOCES Courses

Huntington High School will initiate a variety of "occupational education courses" in cooperation with the Board of Cooperative Services (B.O.C.E.S.). These courses, "designed to prepare students for gainful employment as semi-skilled workers, skilled workers, and technicians," will be adopted for the 1978-1979 school year. "Three credits will be awarded for each year of successful completion in the program". The courses will be given at Wilson Tech, and there will be two work sessions, morning and afternoon. All interested Sophomores can obtain information from Mrs. Vera Thyberg, Wilson Tech representative, and guidance administrators. Courses offered will be in communication, transportation, health, service and construction fields.

-- Robert Malleck

People-A New Dispatch Feature

by Donna Tatro

What interesting hobby do you have? Where have you been lately? The Dispatch found Peri Chouteau, Jane Smedley, and Laurie Gutstein and three interesting stories from these Huntingtonians.

Peri Chouteau, a junior, has aspirations to become a Broadway actress. Beginning with the elementary school choir, Peri has enjoyed singing. She believes that her enjoyment stems from her parent's involvement in music. "It's inherited," she says. "A lot of people have a hard time making up their minds about what they want to be, but I never did." Since seventh grade, Peri has taken voice lessons and participated in N.Y.S.M.A., and annual musical presentation by instrumental and vocal artists. In her first competition during seventh grade, Peri received an "A" rating, and in ninth grade she performed a very difficult piece of music and again received an "A" rating. Recently, Peri attended the All-State Music Program, a weekend of music at the Concorde Hotel. There, students are engaged in long practice sessions

culminating with a concert for parents and directors. The All-State choir was a great honor for Peri to participate in. Most choir members that qualify are seniors. "Through All-State, I've been invited to audition for many European Concert Tours." One tour that Peri has her hopes set on is for the Prince and Princess of Monaco.

Peri has already decided that college is not the road she will take. "College, for many, is great, but for me, it offers unnecessary curriculum." If her plans succeed, she will be four years ahead of other aspiring actors and actresses. With the help of her parents and friends, Peri has a great head start. "Both Carol and Mia, my best friends, have helped me and have been great influences on my life, kind of like second mothers!" When asked to sum up her achievements, Peri said, "Music is my life; I don't want to know anything else. I could, but I don't want to."

Senior Jane Smedley is into a "different" hobby: Rock Climbing. Last July, Jane ventured to Buena Vista, Colorado and found

her rock. "Turtle Rock," a mass of mountain is approximately 1,500 feet high. "The experience of climbing is fantastic. You have to learn how to harmonize with the mountain. You're not trying to conquer it but rather to work with it." Jane, who "loves" heights, explained that it's necessary to warm up before attempting a climb. Near Turtle Rock there was a smaller rock that Jane used to get "the feel of the mountain." In climbing, a climber can only use his feet. The climber must wear a crash helmet and is connected to a "life-line." The ascent upward is comparable to the game "Follow-the-leader." As the leader shouts down commands, the climbers must follow orders to insure a successful climb. The ascent becomes more difficult as the climber reaches the top. The mountain wall becomes extremely flat, which Jane claims is the most exciting part. "The sight, once at the top, was most inspiring," she said. Then comes the descent, or "rappelling" down the mountain. Out on the flat side of the mountain, where the climber's body

must be at a 90 degree angle, the rappelling begins. The right hand controls the speed of the fall, and the climber safely returns to earth. Jane, a newcomer to rock climbing, is enthusiastically looking forward to continuing her new found hobby.

Another senior, Laurie Gutstein, spent her summer in the "hottest" college spot on the East Coast. This past summer Laurie enrolled in a six week academic program at Boston University, where the temperatures reached a record breaking 104 degrees! Seriously, it can be stated that Boston is the ideal student city. According to Laurie's close observations, the average age in Boston is twenty-one. The entire city is geared to the surrounding colleges, which include: Harvard, Boston College, Northeastern, M.I.T., Wellesley, and Tufts. This ideal atmosphere is completed by the many cultural centers (including the Boston Pops), historical sites, and sports arenas. Fenway park, of Boston Red Sox fame, is located near the center of most attractions. Commenting on the night life, Laurie said, "I loved it!" In addition to the culture

and sites, Boston offers many fine restaurants and bars. "Bette's Rolls Royce" and "Durgin Parl" are two of the spots frequented by college Bostonians. Although her main objective was academic, Laurie enjoyed a great deal of the night life.

Academically, Laurie took courses in English Literature and Cultural Anthropology. "I wanted to see if I could live in Boston because I'm interested in the six year medical program they offer. At first it was difficult to adjust to the strange surroundings. It was strange being isolated from everyone else because in the classroom everyone worried about themselves." Because the classes were small, it became much easier to make friends once things got settled. Every Saturday night the dorms sponsored parties. The atmosphere was friendly and relaxed. To sum up her experience in Boston Laurie said, "I really enjoyed living on my own and learning about college life. My stay has tremendously helped me to adjust to the demands of college life. This experience has removed the doubts and fears that I had previously had."

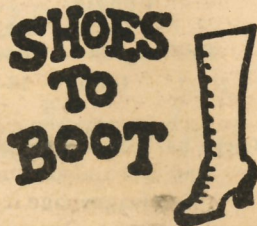
Will You Be My Valentine?

John, Dave, Bob, Jeremy, burnt you Chris.
Nancy, Happy Valentines Day, Love Chris.
To W.N. alias W.B. - wishing you an extra special Valentines Day. With love - K.W.
To B.V. mon seul amour - Happy Valentines Day.
Happy Valentines Day to Porky, The Best Whopper Jr. Love always - M.D. & C.W.
Dear Mata Hari - Happy Birthday! Love Sue

Hey Laura - Do you want to be a godmother?
Beatrice & J.D. - Wish Fred a happy Valentines Day!
C.J. - you are the "Snowbunny" of my heart - Love Pedro.
Mom, Happy Birthday! Love ya, Billy, Susie & Jon.
Happy Valentines to all my seniors. A.L.W.
A.O. - It's been great. Love, K.O.
To Joan; Stay away from broken branches falling on cars - Have
[Continued on page 7]

Shoes to Boot Sale...

Shoes to Boot Sale...



Frye-look
all leather boots
\$39.99

February Sale
50% off all Fall
and Winter Shoes
20% off all clogs

"SHOES to BOOT"
313 Main Street
Huntington Village
Tel. 421 0876

A Year in Mexico with Bonnie

Sunny skies, Acapulco, fiestas, som-breros, beans, tortillas, and Spanish are only a few aspects of the contrasting, fascinating culture of our bordering southern neighbor, Mexico.

From August, 1976 to August, 1977, I spent my Junior Year as a Rotary International Foreign Exchange Student in Mexico. It was a very exciting, spectacular year.

I lived in the city of Chihuahua, which is in the northern part of Mexico. (Contrary to popular belief, Chihuahua is not overrun with Chihuahua dogs! I only saw one in my entire stay). Chihuahua is located in the desert and is three hundred miles south of El Paso, Texas. It is a good-sized city of 400,000 inhabitants.

I lived with two Mexican families. My first family, the Bacas, has nine kids ranging in age from twelve to twenty-four. The Papa is a cattleman and has a tremendous ranch about a four hour's drive outside the city. I did some horse-backriding there with my six brothers: Salvador, Javier, Luis Carlos, Jose Antonio, Mauricio, and Jorge, and two of my three sisters -- Olga and Maria Luisa. Rosario, my other sister, was in Ohio as an exchange student. Living with so many people made life in the house lively and interesting. The Baca house was very large and quite elegantly decorated. On my arrival in Chihuahua, I was surprised to walk in the front door and see such beautiful marble floors and paneled walls.

In January, I moved to the Siqueiros Family, where I stayed for seven and a half months. Their home was like a second home to me. Papa, an architect, and Mama, a professor of philosophy, were very interesting and fun to talk with. I shared a room with my sisters, Angela, age sixteen, and Lupita, age nine. One of my brothers, Alejandro, was in New Jersey as an exchange student. Luis Felipe, age nineteen, Inancio, age fourteen, and Fernando, age thirteen, were all at home.

In both the Baca and Siqueiros Families I felt like a sister and a daughter. I also felt very close to another family, the Nunez's and their seven children, with whom I visited in Guanajuato and Mexico City.

The family always ate the big meal of the day, "La Comida," together. All schools, businesses, and stores were closed between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. so that everyone could go home. "La Comida" usually included some kind of fruit

(papaya, pineapple or mango), a hot soup (zucchini, carrot, or mixed vegetables), a macaroni pasta, a salad, a main dish (enchiladas, meat, or tortilla souffle) and a desert (flan, jellatine, or jamoncillo candy). Mexican food is delicious, although I never could get used to the hot chile. Luckily, my families served many dishes without the hot seasoning in them. Dinner was usually very light and was eaten between 7:30 and 10:00 p.m. Tortillas and beans were served at every meal.

Learning to speak Spanish fluently was

together for each course as the teachers moved from class to class. An advantage to this system is that I became very close friends with my classmates, especially

Gasthon, Jorge, Hector, Miguel, Laura and Emma. Many of the students were keenly aware of political, economic, and social issues. Most Mexicans are very conscious of the United States and are quite informed about national events.

There was a seriousness and depth to the questions I was asked by various Mexicans with whom I came into contact. Although it was known that I was a "Gringa," I

Orchestra at various functions. I also accompanied, on the cello, a pop-folk group called "Amanecer," which gave me the opportunity to meet more people and to travel.

Mexico City, Mazatlan, Guadalajara, Michoacan, Queretaro, Yucatan. Traveling! I was very lucky to have the opportunity to travel throughout the Mexican Republic with my families, friends, and the Rotary Club. A most unusual excursion that I made was through the Yucatan Peninsula to see the magnificent ruins and pyramids of the ancient Mayas, an experience which left me spell-bound. In the state of Yucatan, I met some Mayan Indians who still speak the native Mayan tongue.

Before I went to Mexico, I had read and heard a lot about the poverty there. Reading and hearing is nothing like seeing. I became painfully aware of what deprivation and suffering really mean, when little children with dirty faces, bare feet, and ragged clothes came up to me begging for one peso (five cents). The streets were filled with blind harmonica players and old Indian women selling baskets, along with popcorn sellers, fresh fruit vendors, and xylophone players. I realized how complex the society is when I saw small mud and paper-walled shacks adjoining majestic marble mansions.

Being back in the states has made me appreciate certain conveniences, such as turning on the tap and getting hot water immediately, or the absence of waiting several seconds to get a dial tone on the phone. However, I'm now able to reflect on my own society from a different perspective. Mexican people are very open, personable, and sociable. The country is very people-oriented. Life is not quite as tense and rapid and people are not as pressured and worried. I learned quickly what P.M. really means -- "Punctualidad Mexicana." If someone said they'd meet me at 4:00 p.m., I never got met until 5:00 or 5:30 p.m. Everything was very relaxed but surprisingly enough, everything got done, whether it was work, school, appointments, or movie-going.

In all respects, my Mexican year abroad was fully packed with fun, discovery, and growth. I learned to love Mexican people, their language, music, tortillas, frijoles, and fiestas, and more than anything else, I learned to live life intensely and to enjoy it fully. Vive la vida intensamente!



Bonnie Taub stands in front of a cathedral in Guadalajara, Mexico.

very exciting. Muy emocionante! Maravilloso! Excelente! Magnifico! Wherever I went, I asked questions, because I was so eager to "hablar en espanol." I learned Spanish so well, that after six months of being back in the U.S., I still dream in Spanish at times!

It was easy to make friends with the warm, generous, hospitable Mexicans. They were always eager to help me learn more Spanish, to show me good times, and to help me feel at home.

I went to school at the Preparatoria Colegio de Bachilleres. My courses included anatomy, biology, sociology, philosophy, economic structure of Mexico, chemistry, and English. In contrast to Huntington High School, there were fifty students in my class and we all stayed

quickly became known as an individual. I tried to give as accurate an understanding of my country as I could, and I in turn tried to get a broad view of what Mexico was really like. I helped many Mexicans to understand that all Americans are not engineers or owners of Cadillacs. I made friends with people of all social and economic backgrounds.

Mexicans love to party and socialize and I did my share also. Week-ends were spent dancing at the discotheques and attending fiestas where a lot of American rock music was played. My latest night out was New Years' Eve when I walked in the door at 8:00 a.m. Que noche extraordinaria!

I took my cello down with me to Chihuahua and had the opportunity to play in the University of Chihuahua Chamber

"This country is professional sports oriented. Americans will watch sports and not so much play them. They don't care much about non-professionals."

Being black, Mr. Walker has both experienced and observed discrimination in sports. He says that sports are very discriminatory, but subtly, so that most people do not realize it. The greatest differences lie in one's ability to "cash in". Mr. Walker says that there is great favoritism towards the white athlete, and if a person is white, he will usually earn more financially. In Europe it is the same way.

In the Special Education Department, Mr. Walker works with students with special learning problems, such as those of group association and basic skills. He feels that schools are going through a time of crisis and attitudes are changing among both students and teachers.

"The field of Special Education still has far to go," explains Mr. Walker. "There are people who have very stiff attitudes and who simply don't understand that there are less fortunate people in the world. The students who have these handicaps are often thought of at the bottom of the barrel."

The problems which Mr. Walker encounters can range from reading difficulties

to emotional disturbances, and not long ago, would just be put out of the way, not to be handled. It is only more recently, since the law now prohibits this kind of treatment, that school systems are changing their ways.

"Teachers are conservatives and they should be," points out Mr. Walker. "But everyone goes through emotional phases and we have all kinds of individuals in our society. Those who have sympathy for these handicapped students will usually do something and the result is fewer problems. This is a very good school academically, but some advances are necessary in the area of Special Education, and if we are going to overcome these problems, people have to be willing to accept certain changes. These halls are just like life, all walks of life, and the same problems are found throughout the world."

Update:

Huntington tops
East Islip 56-33;

Girl's basketball wins also -
One more victory
for league tie.

Walker

[Continued from page 3]

athletes," says Mr. Walker. "Basically, the non-Communist countries like to see the athletes from the United States. There are major meets in the cities of London, Paris, and Berlin, and you can earn money by running track in Europe. You receive about three-hundred dollars per meet, plus room and board. Here in the United States you can't earn money in track unless you're someone like a Bruce Jenner."

In Europe, a runner from the United States can run on his own, however in the United States, one must run with his team. Mr. Walker prefers the meets in the small towns of Europe to the fanfare of the larger meets. The sports clubs in the small towns provide a yearly function, a sort of sports carnival. The people in these towns are very friendly and the competition in the small towns is not as difficult as that of the large cities.

According to Mr. Walker, the United States at times promotes foreign athletes more than American athletes.

"In colleges and universities they use many foreign athletes and do not give the American athletes the opportunities they deserve," states Mr. Walker.

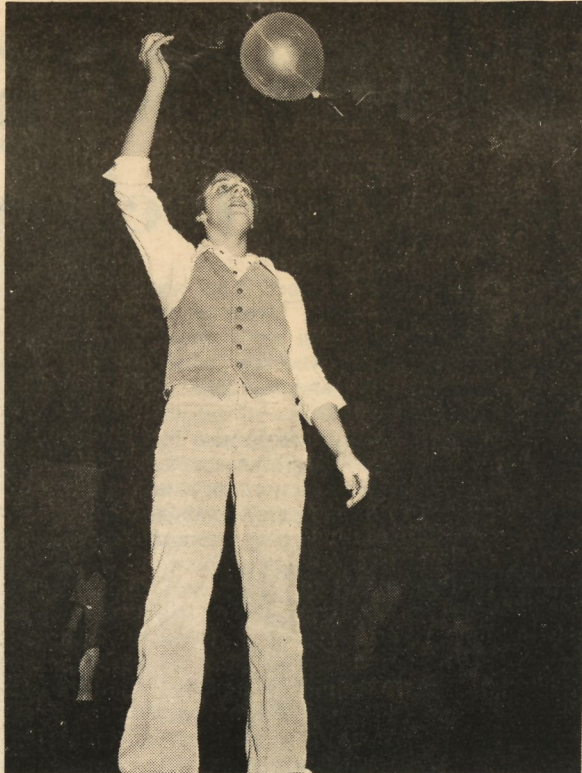


Luncheons Only

11:30 - 3:00 Mon.-Sat.
Sunday Brunch 12-3:00



Rocky DeNino, alias PEBBLES.



"Believe in Magic" with Joe Garsetti.



Seth Popkin belting out a tune.

Rocky, Gladys, Camp Granada Steal Show At Lacrosse Jubilee

by John O'Rourke

The Lacrosse Jubilee, an annual mid-winter affair, began its fun-filled evening on Saturday, February 4, at the HHS auditorium with a prance down the main aisles by all the performers singing to the melody of "Cabaret" (with "Lacrosse Jubilee" substituted for "Cabaret"). If you missed this particular jubilee, or have never seen *this gala event*, then the following summary is primarily for you. The jubilee is basically a variety show of comedy skits and talent performances prepared and presented by lacrosse players (and even some regular HHS students). Here are a few of the highlights.

This year's jubilee began with a rendition of "Camp Granada." For those of you unfamiliar with the theme of Camp Granada, just think back to those nostalgic years of your youth when you were sent by your parents to those lousy summer camps with the abominable counselors and that atrocious, detestable food (ever heard of SPAM - consider yourself lucky if you haven't). While this rhythmic poem of a young boy's woes was being recited, some strange things were happening on the right side of the stage. The principal characters were a dog, a dog owner (Caroline Butterfield), and a girl (Mary Ann Barry).

After a brief presentation by the SQUAT team, Snow Red and the Seven Giants hit the scene.

Snow Red (Craig Werner), considered the most beautiful woman in the land, stumbled into the home of the Seven Giants one evening and borrowed some food and used one of their beds. Although the giants complained, they all agreed to allow Snow Red to stay on as a maid around the house. However, unknown to Snow Red and the giants, the villainous queen (Barry Lipnick) had decided that since Snow Red was the only one between her and the top (beauty-wise, that is), Snow Red must die. In the final scene of this act, we find Snow Red poisoned and sprawled out on the floor, and, as the curtain is closing, one of the giants exclaimed optimistically, "We can rebuild her."

A special guest performance by Gladys White and the Pips followed. As the curtain opens, one, two, and then three Pips appeared (Eddie Solar, Roy Messinger, and Jeff Milliken). Then, with her back to the audience and her hips-awinging, Gladys (Gary Smolokoff) began a medley of songs for a by-now hysterical audience. By a general survey, it has been determined that Gladys and her Pips were at their best, as evidenced by the hearty laughs and resounding rounds of applause, while one of the Pips was a mannequin and Gladys was desperately attempting to get her wig back in place.

Next came a daring,

challenging, imperilling attempt by three highly skilled mountain climbers (Scot Hugh Abernathy, British Bill Broderick, and Italian Tom Tramazo) to scale a perfectly horizontal surface. Both the Scot and the Italian slipped and fell to their doom while the Englishman ended up with the beautiful female prize (Denise Arenth).

From the towering mountains we next moved to the Seven Seas. Aboard a raft which had been lost for three days were four hungry, tired sailors (Dave Brush, Kevin Sebold, Steven Murray, and Tad Henn). After deliberating over what they would do for food, three of them attacked the fourth as a means of food with the fourth's last words being "it ain't kosher."

For those of you who watch Saturday Night regularly, the following act should not be anything new. Decibet, following in the tradition of our conversion to a metric number system, is the metric counterpart for our alphabet. In his presentation, the translator (Abner Greene) briefly demonstrated which letters had been combined and which had just been eliminated. Here is an example. The letters "E" and "F" are combined in such a way so as to form an old-fashioned hanging post (for you physics scholars, it's the torque symbol). Another interesting feature of this new system is the

condensation of the letters P-Z into a symbol resembling a butterfly (monarch or viceroy for all you butterfly collectors).

How many of you saw the Gong Show a few months ago? If you missed the Lacrosse Jubilee, you missed the return of the stupendous, the phenomenal, and the extraordinary Panzini Brothers (Kevin Record, John Jensen, and Mike Dougherty). This act covered the entire range of talent, from John Jensen trying to drive himself up a forty five degree ramp on a tricycle to hurdle three garbage cans (he was semi-successful on his third attempt), to Mike Dougherty swinging like Tarzan of the Apes onto a mat, to Kevin Record demonstrating some real juggling talent (three balls and three bowling pins) and a high dive into a cup of water from atop the shoulders of his two brothers (a "bottoms up" success).

The recent box office hit "ROCKY" proved to be the motivating factor in the presentation of "PEBBLES." As in the actual movie, Pebbles 1) boxes a piece of raw bacon, 2) is kicked out of his locker by the gymnasium manager because everyone thinks he is gay, and 3) fights Apollo Creed for the heavyweight championship in a game of Rockem-Sockem Robots. However, all kidding aside, Pebbles (Rocky DeNino) actually did drink down five (5) raw eggs, did do several of those

difficult one-arm pushups, most admirably, as he relived the Rocky atmosphere for the entire audience. Thank you, Pebbles.

Also in the show was a brief chorus by the Andrews Sisters (Mike Nicklaus, Bob Rogan, and Pat Fitzmorris), a revisit to the Twilight Zone (Woody Thompson, Craig Werner, and Sue Howell) because of "one hurting buckaroo" (Rocky DeNino), and a guest appearance by the Conehead family. Mr. and Mrs. Conehead (Hugh Abernethy and Bill Broderick) engaged themselves in a friendly game of ring toss with their heads while their daughter (Jeff Milliken) was courting (or was she being courted?) by a friend (Eddie Solar).

Joe Garsetti's magic was astonishing as usual. After securing his lovely assistant (Donna McNulty), and locking her in a chest, Mr. Garsetti went about removing Donna from her bindings, making one of his assistants (Greg Blower) appear from the once-again locked chest and then himself mysteriously appearing from the rear of the auditorium. Good show, Joe.

All in all, the Lacrosse Jubilee proved entertaining. At the conclusion of the show, all the performers came through on the stage to realize how well their hard work had been appreciated. Oh, by the way, the MC for the entire show was Mark McDermott. Way to get 'em Ace.



The Flashers showing off their "stuff."



Kevin Record high-diving



The SPAM Vikings feasting.

Huntington is A

Open Your Eyes to the Heckscher Museum

by Peter Wies

Heckscher Park is known to virtually every H.H.S. student as a place to play tennis and baseball, listen to summer concerts, feed the ducks, go ice skating, or just as a place to hang out. Many people don't realize that situated in the Park is an old limestone building which holds a local and national reputation as a leading small art museum - the Heckscher Museum.

August Heckscher donated the land for the park and the museum building, plus a small endowment, in 1920 as a gift to the people of Huntington, particularly for the children. For the last 15 years, the museum has been under the directorship of Eva Ingersoll Gatling who greatly elevated its status and quality and brought it national recognition. Ms. Gatling retired on December 31 and passed her title on to Ms. Katherine Lochridge who plans to "continue on a course that will keep the museum up to date, responding to the developing needs of the public." The Dispatch recently interviewed Ms. Lochridge to find out a little more about the museum and of her plans to further its quality and expand its notoriety.

One of the primary undertakings of the new director is to boost attendance. Ms. Lochridge seems to feel that the performing arts (such as the PAF playhouse) seem to attract more attention from the people of Huntington simply because "art is a difficult thing in terms of comprehending - even more so than symphonic music, etc. People think that the visual arts are hard to understand and when they come in, it is a personal interaction with one person and one object. There is nothing else that I know of where people feel so put upon to have an answer, some knowledge or some background as when they are

viewing art. When people are in the museum by themselves and they are looking at an object in relative quiet, they feel very nervous, somewhat like they're on the spot." To correct this problem, Ms. Lochridge suggests using "interpretive labels" which tell the artist's name, background and what inspired him to paint this particular work,

the finished product. This way there are "three levels of understanding - you see someone demonstrating, you see yourself participating, and you see the finished product."

Ms. Lochridge would also like to see more programs for the people to get them more involved with the museum and establish "creative, low cost programming

centers, etc., to familiarize people with the programs of the museum and hopefully encourage more area residents to pay it a visit. Says Ms. Lochridge "People know about the ducks, but they don't know that the museum is right here."

The new and innovative ideas of Ms. Lochridge, hopefully will help the museum become the main attraction of Heckscher Park and more area residents will realize the multitude of interesting programs and exhibits that it offers.

Upon entering the museum, the first thing that catches the eye is the large fountain at the back of the building. August Heckscher dedicated the fountain to the children of the world whose "youth and innocence are forever enshrined by art."

Adjacent to the lobby are the two main galleries, one of which holds the permanent collection, and the other the temporary exhibitions which change approximately every five weeks. Included in the permanent collection are mostly paintings from the 16th-20th centuries, both European and American, with the emphasis on American artists, many of whom came from Long Island.

Heckscher Museum has long recognized the quality of American art and regards it just as highly as European. Many paintings in the permanent collection have been donated by generous local residents and also from New York galleries. The collection is strong in works of artists well known by people who have a basic background in Art History. Some of these artists include George Grosz, Ralph Blakelock, Thomas Eakins, Lucas Cranach, Courbet, Fairfield Porter and others.

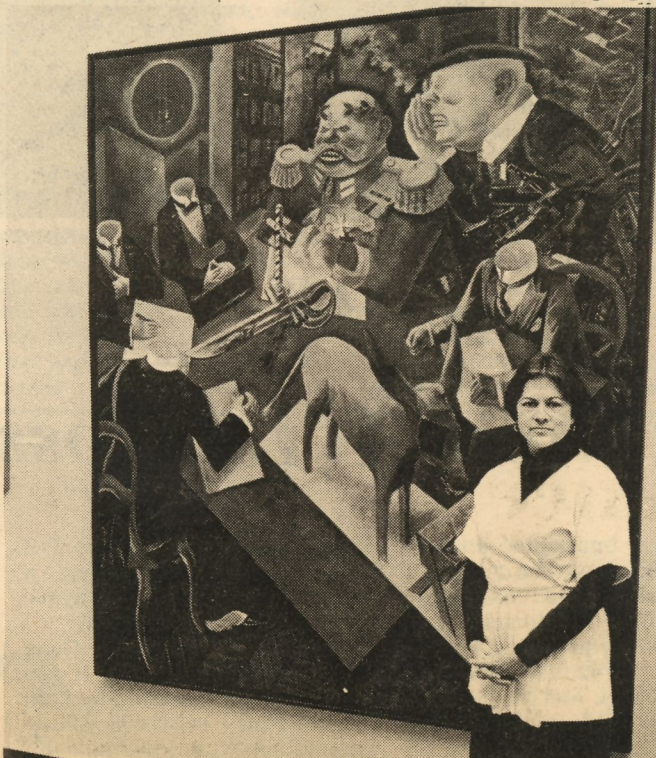
The temporary exhibitions have been said by Ms. Lochridge to be "just as exciting and just as scholarly as any done in New

York City." Former director Ms. Gatling has pioneered in bringing innovative exhibitions to the museum, some of which have included works by Picasso and Rembrandt. Plans for later this year call for an exhibit of the American Precisionists who painted in the 1930's and whose works were characterized by extremely realistic images of the factories and industrial life of society at that time.

Space at Heckscher Museum is lacking, therefore plans have been drawn up to extend the building to include more galleries, an auditorium, a "junior museum" and more office space. The plans have been postponed since there is a lack of funds. The addition would greatly encourage more public participation at the museum and would aid in supplying valuable storage space.

The basic facts to know regarding the museum are simple. There is no charge for admission and it is open, throughout the year, every day except Mondays and holidays. Primary funding is provided by the town of Huntington, but grants from county, state, national, and private sources also help to keep the museum going.

The Heckscher Museum is truly a great asset to the Town of Huntington and should be treated accordingly. Any student at H.H.S., or for that matter any resident of Huntington who has not seen the museum, is doing himself a great disservice. The staff is friendly and willing to help. The galleries are quiet and unpressured. Once a person sees "Eclipse of the Sun" by George Grosz, or "Low Tide" by a local artist, he will be amazed at what the museum offers. Next time you are wandering through the park, stop in at the museum - it will be time well spent.



Ms. Katherine Lochridge with George Grosz' "Eclipse of the Sun" or what the painting is really trying to convey to the observer. She also maintains that the museum staff is always available to lead guided tours, answer questions, or give additional information on the works of the museum.

Another solution would be to have "see and learn exhibitions." Ms. Lochridge gives the example of a basket exhibition where people watch artists make baskets and at the same time see

with our existing staff." Such would be the creation of more after school and Saturday programs for children and young adults, the continuation of the noon-day luncheon series, bus tours to exhibits in New York City, plus a lecture series by outstanding lecturers at the Heckscher museum.

Another interesting program suggestion is the establishment of "suitcase exhibits" which would be brought to schools, shopping

PAF-Theater Comes to Town

by Hilary Kopp

What do the letters PAF mean to you? To many Long Island residents they spell quality theater in the suburbs. The Performing Arts Foundation (PAF) provides a series of shows every year and also serves the community with its Arts and Education Program.

PAF was established in 1966 by Clint Marantz, an ex-faculty member of Huntington High School. During the first year that PAF was operating it staged popular Broadway and off-Broadway plays.

Jay Broad became producer of PAF in 1975 and initiated a policy of producing only new or previously untried plays. This policy gives new playwrights a chance to produce shows; and two thousand scripts are submitted each year.

The Playhouse does not maintain a resident acting company. All the auditions are held in New York City and the plays are cast from Actors Equity, a professional actor's union.

Right now PAF is very concerned about fund-raising. PAF

is doing well, but like any other professional arts organization, PAF's programs cost more to produce than they could ever hope to bring in at the box office. The accumulated debt that it has taken to get PAF where it is today is \$250,000. PAF wants to expand its 250 seat theater to a 500 seat theater in order not to have to turn away theater-goers. The estimated cost for this expansion is \$200,000.

PAF hopes to solve its money problems with the help of Long Island businesses, individuals, and the Ford Foundation. The Ford Foundation has awarded PAF a five-year \$335,000 debt retirement/cash reserve grant, if it can meet certain conditions. The Ford grant is a matching grant; whatever amount of money PAF raises, the Ford Foundation will match. Harry Chapin, President of the Board at PAF, helps tremendously with his concerts that will bring in about \$75,000.

Making the performing arts an integral part of the educational system is the main concern of the Arts and Education Program. Its work extends into over one

hundred schools on Long Island. What the actors do is to go into the schools and with the use of improvisational theater, pantomime, and theater games, enter into the whole teaching process. The Arts and Education Program also sponsors acting classes for people of all ages. Classes are taught in such areas as mime, circus techniques, regular acting, and stage crew techniques. Many students at H.H.S. have attended these classes and have found them tremendously informative and fulfilling. (see "Dispatch" 11/22/77, p. 7).

Another part of the Arts and Education Program is the PAF/McDonald's Youth Theater. This theater, which was originally started with the financial help of McDonald's, is set up for performances for elementary school classes.

The PAF theater has had many accomplishments. Two of the plays that started at PAF, "Gemini" and "Vanities," made it to Broadway. The amount of subscriptions over the past years has risen so much that PAF is sold out this season. The per-

formance currently playing at PAF is entitled "The Killing of Yablonski." For anyone who is interested in attending a PAF performance, call 271-8282.

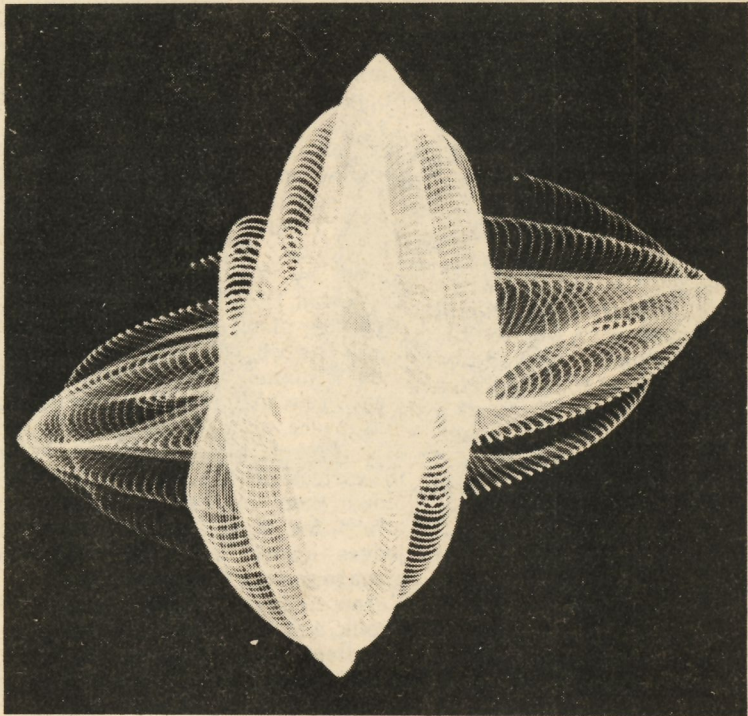
The Performing Arts Foundation is a tremendous service to our community, and Long Islanders know it. Over the past three or four years PAF has

shown fantastic growth. Hopefully, if the plans for the expanded theater succeed, PAF will continue to grow. When asked what were the general feelings people had about what PAF accomplished, a PAF employee stated, "Amazing." The Performing Arts Foundation brings a taste of culture to Long Island.



PAF Playhouse, in Huntington Station.

Festival for the Arts



You'll see it-at the Light Show.

Eye See It!

by Sue Pelisson and Diane Sweeney

A third grade field trip was probably the last time you visited the Vanderbilt Planetarium in Centerport. It may be well worth your time to visit it once again and see the Eye See The Light Show.

The Eye See The Light Show is a live production involving a multi-media presentation of music and lights. Jazz, rock and classical music is combined with a light show of laser and incandescent light, presented on the dome of the planetarium.

The Eye See The Light Show company is based in Michigan and has performed in twelve planetariums before coming to the Vanderbilt. The Vanderbilt Planetarium was picked because it is one of the fifteen major planetariums in the country. This company rents the dome from the Vanderbilt.

In an interview with Dallas Bauer, a member of the touring company, The Dispatch learned that three people are needed to present each show. He pointed out that the Eye See The Light Show is different from Laserium in that Laserium is 50% automated with no variation and it uses only a laser. Also the Eye See The Light Show tries to keep away from "pop-pop" music, using instead a mixture of classical, jazz, and rock. Mr. Bauer explained that the Laser show is used to help people feel and see the music as well as hear it.

After the interview, these reporters had the opportunity of viewing the show for themselves. The show is a combination of flashing and swirling lights, coupled with music by Electric

Light Orchestra, Kansas, Jethro Tull, Moody Blues, Rossini and Jean Pierre Rampal. We were informed that the sound track changes every couple of weeks.

The show, which lasts a little over an hour, is packed with showers of lights, laser writing and periods of total darkness, where you can not see your hand in front of your face. The laser light show was unlike anything we have ever seen before. It is hard to explain the total captivation experienced by your senses.

Admission is \$3.00 and the show runs Thursday to Sunday. The company of the Eye See The Light Show will continue to perform until public interest dwindles. We feel that it will be here for a long time.

The Cinema Experience

by Abner Greene

It was December, 1973. Victor Skolnick and Charlotte Sky were unhappy. They loved movies, but there was no place on the Island to see films that were somewhat out of the ordinary. Thus, in a loft-like room atop a dance studio on Main Street in Huntington the New Community Cinema was born.

Today, over four years later, the Cinema is thriving. Over 10,000 people are on its mailing list, and the auditorium at the old Village Green School, where the Cinema resides, is often packed.

Kevin Duggan, who, with Skolnick and Sky shares the title "co-director," told the Dispatch about the Cinema's past, its present, and its vision for the future.

The Cinema was begun with no capital, a borrowed film projector, and a bedsheet for a screen. People brought their own chairs. Six months later the Cinema moved downstairs in the old gymnastics center. This building was in the process of being leased by the Salvation Army, and after months of negotiations the Cinema moved upstairs in December, 1974.

By this time couches and arm-chairs were present, people had given money to buy a screen, and the Cinema owned its own projectors. The Fire Department found the couches and chairs to be a hazard, so the Cinema raised \$1,500 to buy new seats.

The Town of Huntington, which had originally waived the need for a rear fire escape, determined late in 1976 that the Cinema needed the escape. "They tried to close us down," said Duggan. But by that time the Cinema had developed a mailing list of 6,000-8,000, and this following put up an outcry that forced the Town to rescind its order.

In December of 1976 the possibility for the Cinema to move to its current location became available. Finally, in August, 1977, after a \$10,000 fund-raising drive, the New Community Cinema took up its present location at 423 Park Avenue.

The rent now, \$10,000 annually, is higher than ever, but so is the seating capacity, 350. Film rentals cost anywhere from \$35 to \$700.

The Cinema shows many foreign, old American, and new, independently produced films. "We are part of a small, but growing group of independent theaters that are showing films by new, independent filmmakers," said Duggan. Because the Cinema has built an audience, it can take a chance and show an unknown film and be assured of a decent turnout. In the summer, when many more "popular" type films (such as the recent "King of Hearts" and the older "Laura") are shown, the theater is often filled.

Films such as Bergman's "The Magic Flute" and Chaplin's "The Great Dictator" have recently

brought a large turnout. The Cinema also shows many lesser-known foreign films. Its February schedule has included: "The Island," a Japanese production; "The Memory of Justice" and "Mr. Hulot's Holiday," from France; and "Breaking With Old Ideas," the first feature-length movie ever released in the USA from the People's Republic of China.

The future looks bright. "Our real goal," said Duggan, "is to become a film center. We've done three or four film-making workshops, and we'd like to expand on this. We'd also like to be able to make films and show them."

"What makes us really different is the audience. We get an audience of almost every different type of person, and that's really unique."

Valentines

[Continued from page 3]

a very happy Valentines Day - Love & XXX's from the W.Y.W.N. man - Lloyd
Hey Dave - We'll have to go watch the sunrise sometime over a glass of orange juice. Always stay just the way you are. Love ya - The wincy women.

Dear Chris, I love you a bushel and a peck! Love, Stephanie.
Dear Russell, Happy Valentines Day! Miss ya! Your fellow woodworker.

To Poo - Happy Valentines Day! and next time we'll try for 5 o'clock. Love the B.A.S.I.M.

Dearest Mother - Happy Valentines Day! Love, Diane.

Dear Editors, Thanks for helping to make the Dispatch #1. Love - Abs.

To our favorite Editor-in-chief; Happy Valentines Day! S.P., D.S. & L.C.

Dear Mrs. Lockom - Happy Valentines Day & get well soon! Sue P. & Laura C.

To Rooo - from the great imperial wizard, have a happy voo day!
To the #1 Anthro - Allstar (Mr. Record) Happy Valentines!
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Huntington Arts Council

by Elizabeth Mackenzie

"Huntington is where the Arts are ... And the Huntington Arts Council is helping it happen!"

What exactly does the council do? It is an organization that aids the various artistic and cultural groups based in Huntington by providing them with the services needed to bring their achievements to the public. Most arts groups are in a constant search for funds, and the HAC holds fund-raising events, as well as assisting in the areas of public relations, audience-building, and financial management. Its advice is invaluable to new arts groups trying to get started, and the administrative aid it offers, such as the use of its offices, equipment, and personnel, is used by many of the older, more established arts organizations.

Among the participating members of the HAC are: the Huntington Township Public Libraries, Children's Music Theatre of L.I., Heckscher Museum, Huntington Audubon Society, Huntington Choral Society, Huntington Historical Society, Huntington Township Art League, Long Island Symphony, New Community Cinema Club, Orlando Ballet Company, PAF of L.I., USDAN Center for the Creative and Performing Arts, and the Whaling Museum.

In all, there are sixty-three

participating members, and another twelve associate members. The associate members, along with various commercial companies, help to support the council financially.

Although the council is an independent organization, and not a governmental agency, the local government does work closely with it. Huntington Supervisor Kenneth C. Butterfield sponsors the HAC, and among the HAC Board members is a Town Board Representative. The Summer Arts Festival is an example of what the cooperation between the government and the council is producing.

The HAC was founded in 1963, by a group of women who were concerned about the arts in Huntington. It voluntarily gave its time and effort to insure that the arts in its community could flourish. Now, it has a salaried staff, many members, and, in Huntington, one of the major cultural centers on Long Island.

The ultimate goal of the HAC is, according to Sandy Chapin, Vice President of the Council, "To try to get the arts to be an integral part of American life." The HAC will continue to provide the citizens of Huntington Township with artistic and cultural experiences, by helping other arts groups to grow, and by encouraging us, as members of the community, to participate in their activities.

Snappy

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Huntington
Village**

"Tap Dancing Up the Flagpole" A Winner

by Robert Malleck and Donna McNulty

This year's Play Festival, presented January 27 and 28, displayed a wide spectrum of talent on the part of the Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes, in the fields of theatrical, musical, vocal, and artistic performances. These performances were taken and individually judged by Mr. Dan Wargo, a Director of Theater at Mineola High School, Mrs. Jaye Crucilla, and Mr. Joe Crucilla, who worked in early television, Summer Stock Theater and Provincetown Playhouse. Mr. Crucilla presently teaches English and is a drama coach at Hicksville High School.

The Sophomore production, "An Evening Alone," received the judge's award for Best Choice of Play. The play, written by Tom Drance, a 1977 HHS alumnus, took a comic look at John Simpson's (played by George Drance) desperate effort to propose to his girlfriend, Andrea (played by Kathy Welch), with whom he has been dating for eight years. Humorous interruptions were made by Simpson's obnoxious sister, Lucy. She was portrayed

by Martha Berti, who received Best Supporting Actress. Barbara Pletcher and Claire Ohlenberg, playing two old ladies, caused more amusing interruptions that were acted out so well that they received Cameo Awards. Such disturbances as burglars, parents coming home, pizza deliverers, and church groups added to the interest. Colby Thomas, director, stated, "It was difficult at first, but everybody cooperated and we had a great time."

"Tap Dancing Up the Flagpole" was a successful variety of entertainment, with the Juniors receiving six of the thirteen awards given, including Best Production. The opening skit viewed forceful singing by Peri Chouteau and Mark McDermott portraying Curly and Laurey during their reconstruction of a famous scene from the musical "Oklahoma." "Gone with the Wind" came off with two major awards, namely Best Actor and Best Actress, for Woody Thompson (playing Rhett Butler) and Elizabeth MacKenzie (playing Scarlett O'Hara).

DISPATCH discussed with Elizabeth and Woody their views pertaining to the Play Festival.

DISPATCH: Many people were critical of the awards system. Do you believe they should be carried on?

THOMPSON: Yes. It gives each class something to work for. It becomes everyone's prime motivation. There was nobody that did not want to win Best Play or some kind of award.

DISPATCH: "It has been quite controversial and rumors have said that the judges chose you for an award and favored the Junior class because they know your family and have had a direct influence by the Junior class. What's your opinion?"

THOMPSON: "Mr. Crucilla is highly regarded as a drama coach and there is no way he would be influenced by personal ties. I think it's stupid for anyone to think that he would just 'give' an award away."

Elizabeth MacKenzie believes the awards are unnecessary.

MACKENZIE: "There is no way that one can categorize a serious drama with a comedy

and choose one that is best."

DISPATCH: "Don't you believe people need the motivation?"

MACKENZIE: "The motivation should be within the actors and actresses. They shouldn't do their best just to get an award."

DISPATCH: "Did you enjoy the work of putting it together?"

MACKENZIE: "Very much. Everybody worked hard and the acts were very good."

From "Gone with the Wind," the play swiftly shifted to the antics of the Marx Brothers in a cabin scene from "A Night at the Opera." Groucho (played by Scott Zimels) and Harpo (played by Anthony Brown) portrayed a typically funny Marx Brothers scene of people just tripping and fumbling over people. Best Costumes, coordinated by Margaret Weiss, Best Program, designed by Nancy Nelson, and Best Scenery were other awards the Junior received.

The excellently produced Senior play was an adaptation of "The Me Nobody Knows," depicting the life of children in the ghettos of New York. The

script was written by children between the ages of 7-18, and reflected the problems, hopes and sometimes wild dreams (as displayed by David Swaim) of the kids who grew up in poverty. Cam Williams received Best Supporting Actor for his role as Carlos, a Puerto Rican boy who was having a miserable time growing up in the ghetto. Cam later stated, in a mesmerized voice, "I feel great." Singing was highlighted, and given special merit, by the trio of Lorrie Emberton, Donna Tatro, and Sue Montana, along with the trio of Kevin Record, David Swaim and Cam Williams. The work of the stage crew, stage manager Paul Lewkowicz, and spotting work by Mike Mohlenhoff, helped shade the various moods of the play and aided them in receiving the award for Best Lighting. The judges award for music was given to seniors Tom Sutton, Eric Eaton, Chris Griesse, Mike Grofik, and Tom Chilton for their excellent performances. The Seniors also received the award for Best Posters. Lorrie Emberton, voted Best Director, said, "I loved doing it, though I think the cast deserved better awards."



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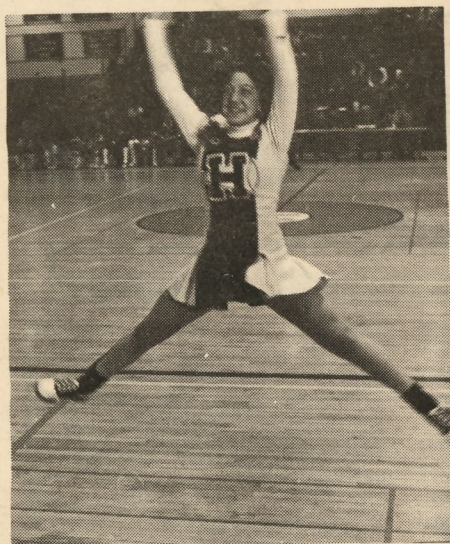
OLYMPIC VILLAGE

Letters Fans Wanted

Dear Editor:

As representatives of the Huntington High School Wrestling Team, we feel it is necessary to publicize a feeling that has developed amongst the entire team. At last Friday's (February 3) match the team beat East Islip 56 to 2. The crowd was so sparse that the varsity club concession stand did not know whether to open or not. However, when Huntington's team goes to wrestle such schools as Spencerport or Bayshore, the gym is filled to capacity with supporting Spencerport and Bayshore spectators because they know they will see a truly fine competing team in action. The Huntington High Wrestling Team has been traditionally one of the top teams in Huntington, Suffolk County, and New York State. We have won eight straight league titles and two New York State Championships. Huntington has had six individual state champions in the last five years and could break or tie the state record of seven this year. This is a remarkable statement which no other team in the state can truthfully make. The key to such continued success is Coach Louis Giani and a great deal of simple hard work by the wrestlers. Huntington High School wrestlers have brought much recognition to Huntington on a state and national level. This year's team has the potential to win both the county and state championships. The support of the high school students and town residents would increase the chances of attaining such goals and make the achievement more meaningful.

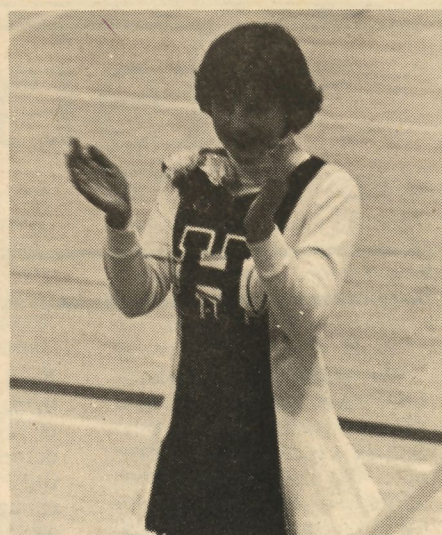
Sincerely, Tri-Captains,
Richard Romeo
Michael Thomas
Paul Wideman



Mary Price photo by Jeff Milliken



Varsity Cheerleaders: Tammy Barber, Mia Arvans, Laurie Greco, Denise Arenth, Mary Price, Sue Howell, Carlene Feraco, Sue Boege.



Sue Howell

Cheerleaders

An Important HS 'Family'

by Abner Greene

It was near the end of half-time at a recent Huntington High basketball game. A group of girls -- a very special group of girls -- stood clustered around a lone reporter trying to decide on a line to categorize their feelings. As each girl proposed a new sentence or two, the others would laugh and comment and snap out another line. It was somehow typical of this group that they couldn't agree -- couldn't "categorize" their feelings -- but that in their disagreement they formed a harmonious unity.

Finally, the most vocal of the girls, Mia Arvans, decided that she would give the group's saying: "Cheerleading is the best way for us to contribute to the school."

There are ten varsity cheerleaders. They are, for basketball: Laurie Greco, Jill Schwarz, Mary Price, Sue Howell, Denise Arenth, Mia Arvans, Carlene Feraco, Tammy Barber, Linda Sobosan, and Sue Boege. Everyone sees them, and hears them, but most only view them in a very narrow light. They are much more.

Before each sport that cheerleaders cheer for -- football and basketball -- tryouts are held. The judging, which is done by varsity advisor Rose Nastase and J.V. advisor Nora Walsh, consists of five categories: appearance, jumps, pep, smile, and personal cheer. This year a sixth category, a split, was added for basketball.

Many people feel that the best looking girls are chosen for cheering. While good

looks certainly can't hurt, "Rosa and Nora's basic thing is attitude," commented assistant captain Jill Schwarz. "They'll pick a better cheerleader over a better looking girl."

The cheerleaders enjoy football better than basketball. "Outdoors is really a plus," said Schwarz. "Even though it's cold sometimes, there's just something about yelling outside to stands full of people."

Laurie Greco, varsity captain, agreed, saying "There's more to do with the guys in football, and the crowd gets into the game more."

Little friendships develop among the girls. As they sat in the front row of the stands during the game, Sue Howell and Mary Price started singing "R-E-B-O-U-N-D, rebound, rebound; R-E-B-O-U-N-D, rebound that ball" to the tune of Old McDonald. Very quickly the girls broke into hysterics at the somewhat humorous cheer. But there was one very interested onlooker, Susie Boccia, who got a big kick out of it. Susie, the daughter of Coach Lou Boccia, is the little girl who cheers with the big girls. She runs out in her little uniform and imitates the others. It's a tradition at HHS to have a young child cheer with the cheerleaders.

Why would a girl want to be a cheerleader? "School spirit is one thing," said Greco. "The position of being a cheerleader is another. It's just like any other sport; it's hard to make the team."

Schwarz thought a moment at the question, and then said: "Some girls try out for recognition. Some girls try out because they feel they can support the guys on the team. Others try out because they have a lot of spirit and want to display that spirit."

"I like to get into the school. Cheering is a way for me to get out my energy in support of the team. I like to show people at my school and people at other schools that I want my team to win."

Most things the cheerleaders do are not on a planned schedule. Greco gave a run-down of a typical home basketball night:

6:00 -- all the girls are at the school. They watch the first half of the J.V. game, and cheer along with the J.V. cheerleaders. After half-time they go and practice in the lobby for half an hour, and then go and watch the end of the J.V. game. The girls do the "Hello Cheer," facing the visitors' stands, and then go and meet the visiting teams' cheerleaders. During this meeting they decide who gets the first time-out, and who's going to go out first for half-time. Then each group does its "Team Cheer," and the game begins.

During the game, the girls are constantly jumping up out of their seats and starting different cheers. They can all be sitting talking -- for a moment -- and one girl will start a cheer. Then, as if an alarm had gone off within each girl's head, they all respond to the cheer. They are a

well-knit, well-coordinated unit. And they have fun.

The cheerleaders are a team, and moreover, "We're like a family," said Greco. "Everybody gets really close. We do things together; we practice together."

"I wish other people would view us as a team," added Schwarz. "We have our differences occasionally, like any family. We're very close. We get involved in other cheerleaders' problems."

Even ex-cheerleaders feel like they're part of the group. At one point during the game one of the girls jumped up and said "Let's do Rose's victory cheer!" Quickly, the team was up and cheering. In the stands was Rosemary Mahon. She had used this cheer as her personal one for football tryouts. She made the team, but had to quit after the football season. Now she shouted along, with a wide smile and a strong feeling of affection for the "family."

In the final telling, the cheerleaders are a vital part of high school life. "We didn't go to one basketball game," said Greco, "and the guys said they really missed us."

"I think we add a little bit of excitement," added Schwarz. "I think we add a little bit of comedy. And the guys can't cheer for themselves. When they're losing, they like to hear a 'Come on guys, get up and go!'"

Storm

[Continued from page 1]

change, thus necessitating teacher approval.

Roy McDougald, a teacher at Flower Hill and President of the ATH, was "disappointed" with the Board's action, which he termed "bargaining in public." He feels that the Board's statement is not even close to being definite, and that preliminary negotiations between the Board and the ATH will begin next week.

McDougald's major premise in down-playing the Board's statement is the possibility of an action by the state government. He stated that the state government in Albany is well aware of the problem facing many school districts, and has discussed the situation. The government, consisting of the Assembly, the Senate, and the Governor, has the power to exempt public schools throughout the state from the 180 day minimum, an action which will almost certainly not be taken until after all possible snow days have passed, i.e., until the end of the winter.

Last year the state government passed a bill that exempted Buffalo schools for a few days below the minimum. The government required, however, that these schools have no more than seven vacation days after February 12, and that they operate under the "B" Regents schedule, which administers the State exams this year from June 26-29.

If the proposed extension of school until June 29 goes through, this school district will operate under the "B" Regents schedule. Normally we use the "A" schedule, which gives the tests from June 19-22.

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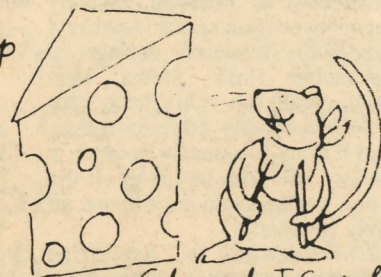
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Viewpoints

Justice, Suffolk Style

by Al Lantz, school librarian

The plain white envelope bore the return address "Commissioner of Jurors, Suffolk County." As I tore open the envelope I felt a surge of civic pride because for the next two weeks I was to be privileged to participate in the great democratic experiment of American justice, jury service. I stood at attention and softly hummed the second verse of the Star Spangled Banner.

Now in candor what I really looked forward to was two weeks away from school. During that time, however, I was prepared to lend my perception, wit, and humane principles to measuring the guilt or innocence of my accused peers: I wouldn't mind exposure to the facts of a

lurid axe murder -- or sitting through numerous showings of confiscated movies to determine whether or not they were pornographic enough to convict the theater owner, thereby insuring the moral purity of the community.

At dawn the following Monday I hurtled over the snow-blanketed L.I. Expressway toward the metropolis of Riverhead, the locus of justice in Suffolk County. The jury room there was a revelation. Hundreds of disgruntled fellow citizens filled the hard wooden seats. The "No Smoking" signs were obscured by clouds of thick blue smoke, a symbol of the efficacy of the system designed to uphold the law. The case to which I was ultimately assigned was

neither gory homicide, obscene flick, nor even legal milestone. It was instead a tragi-comedy in which a service-station attendant was struck by an overhead garage door. The attendant was suing the oil company

"The 'No Smoking' signs were obscured by clouds of thick blue smoke, a symbol of the efficacy of the system designed to uphold the law."

which owned the station. The oil company, in turn, was suing a man to whom it

leased the station. The man who leased the station was suing the manufacturer of the garage door. The manufacturer of the garage door was suing the subcontractor who made the cables that supported the garage door. Unfortunately, the subcontractor had died some six years before, carrying the question of the defective garage door cable to the grave. The room was choked with lawyers, two of which engaged in such a violent argument that they began pummeling one another. They were dragged away by the police to be arraigned on a mutual assault charge. Indeed, the general proceedings resembled a combination of the Gong Show, the Moscow Circus, and the lunchroom at

Huntington High School. The next morning the case -- which had originally occurred in 1971 -- was settled out of court.

For the next two weeks I sharpened my crossword puzzle skills, learning that the residuum in a still after distillation "vinsasse" and "Storthing" is the Norwegian Parliament elected every three years. I was also allowed to go home every day by 12:30. When you consider that there is only a four year backlog of cases waiting to come to trial in Suffolk County, it small wonder that most of the world-class crossword puzzle champions are from Suffolk County -- and you can guess where they learned their craft.

Waiting on Line (Ugh!)

by Donna McNulty

Waiting in lines. They can be long, tiring, along with nerve-racking. Yet, most people today have learned to accept, live with, and may be even enjoy to a certain extent, standing around waiting. We wait in line for the bathroom in the morning, the cafeteria in the afternoon, gasoline lines on the way home. Lines such as these are very time consuming along with boring.

Picture this. You are swooshing down a beautiful mountain very excited because so far you've only wiped out four times. You even met a handsome ski instructor as your skis smashed together. It was too

bad the ski patrol had to zoom him away because he broke his leg. Nonetheless, you can't wait to try it again. You turn a corner and look down the mountain only to see a ski lift line about ten times longer than any "Star Wars" line. Ugh! Quite suddenly your hopes for another run are demolished. So you wait.

Or how about this. You and your friends decide to go to a concert. Before you go you decide to make a quick stop at the supermarket to pick up three or four six-packs. When you go to pay for them, though, you notice the couple in front of you has three baskets of food for them-

selves and their fifteen kids. Hmmm. After thirty minutes you finally get back to your car where your friends are now half crazy. Off to the concert. There is a line into the parking lot. There is a line to get your ticket ripped. There is a line for a program and for the hot dogs. But most of all there's a line of jumpy people waiting for the bathroom. Right when you are in the middle of the jumpy people line you hear your favorite group playing your favorite song. Great.

Bank lines and Motor Vehicle Department lines are lots of fun. You're at the

end of a fifty person line and when it's your turn, they tell you you're on the wrong line, or to move to the next line, or that the line is closing now.

Sometimes movie lines aren't so bad. If you go about it the right way you can meet many interesting people. (Don't try this on a food line. People on food lines are known to be wild and at times a bit violent). You're going to see a movie that you've heard wonderful comments about. A few people ahead of you is a very attractive fellow; tall, dark and handsome. The whole deal. So you decide to flutter your eyelashes a little and

ask if you may cut in front of him. "Sure," he says. Then he proceeds to tell you the whole story of the movie you are just about to see and have been waiting for weeks to see! Oh, well. He did ask you for a date Friday night to see the same movie again. Thrills.

Waiting in lines can be a tiresome experience. The only way one can avoid them is to live in a world consisting of one person. Themselves. So considering that it isn't possible to arrange that at the present time, we will all just have to be patient and put up with each other. And just ... wait.

Senioritis

by Diane Sweeney

Throughout the halls of Huntington High School is heard the cry of distressed seniors in agony over having to spend another four months in high school. "When am I going to get out of this place?" cry the masses. Frustrated students are clawing at the doors in fear of impending boredom. Students stare longingly at those fortunate ones who had the foresight to graduate early to study skiing for the rest of the year.

The DISPATCH would like to recognize these victims of advanced senioritis and has compiled this list of remedies to ward off the symptoms of boredom, laziness and manic-depression.

1.) Come to school as infrequently as possible. Nobody expects you, as a senior, to attend ever day. Informal outings to Heckscher Park, Stowe, Vermont, and the Caribbean are expected by the administration. And if done frequently enough, a student will soon be taken off the school records and considered an early graduate.

2.) Engage in activities befitting a senior in high school. Former seniors have resorted to unscrewing all the tables in the library, drowning the gold fish in

the bio labs, and taking out every book in the library. The DISPATCH would like to suggest putting Mr. Lackmann's car in the commons area to be used as a lounging area, or moving the rock to a sunnier location, perhaps in the center of the library.

3.) Do not worry about getting into a college. This sort of activity only makes for a boring senior class. There is nothing you can do about your 1.2 average and 420 combined SAT's now. Just hope that the University of South Ghana is interested in your basket weaving talent.

4.) Remember not to drop all of your classes; you still need English and gym to graduate. Waking up for 7th period and going home after 8th isn't all that bad.

4.) Dream of all the things you would rather be doing -- surfing in Hawaii, skiing in Utah, or sunning in Florida -- and sleep right through 1st and 2nd period.

Just keep in mind that advanced senioritis can only be controlled, not cured. Not until that final day in June will the symptoms finally disappear and anxiety and great expectations will take their place.

"Do-It-Yourself"

by Lisa Lowen

The twentieth century should be referred to as the "Do It Yourself" age. Self-help books are ever popular in bookstores and in the libraries. A recent sampling that I came across the other day included books on how to meditate, fix a car, kiss, cook, sew, paint, write, and how to choose the right college.

I noticed that the celebrities are getting into the act too when I found a book by Bette Midler on etiquette. "How to Be a Liberated Woman" by Jean Stapleton (better known as Edith Bunker) and "Fifty Ways to Have a Divorce" by Paul Simon were very informative. Steve Martin wrote a book explaining precisely how to get small. Jimmy Carter recently published a book on "Building Treehouses," while Larry Flynt of Hustler Magazine wrote "How to Become a Born-Again Christian."

The popular book by Yule Gibbons titled "Enjoying

Natural Foods" includes an unfinished chapter on how to eat a pinecone and live to write about it. Idi Amin's book "How to Win Friends" is rising on the bestseller charts. "Touch-Typing Made Easy" was written by Elizabeth Ray. Artoo Detoo of Star Wars fame was the author of the book "How to Improve Your Vocabulary." Elizabeth Taylor wrote "How to Have a Close Encounter of the Sixth Kind," while Johnny Rotten and the Sex Pistols dropped "How to Improve Your Image" on the American market. LILCO recently published a booklet titled "The Joy of Camping Out in Your Living Room."

The New York City Teachers Association wrote "The Road to Knowledge." The problem of illiteracy was solved when a book titled "How to Read a Book" hit the stands. Rumor has it that some H.H.S. guys are writing a book called "How to Look Sexy in Your Mother's Old Clothes."

Vandalism

[Continued from page 2]

posters on the walls presents a major threat to our safety as well as our education, and is a strain on the honor and spirit of the student body.

The administration and staff must be well aware of the strong school spirit of the vast majority of our student population. Clear examples of this are seen in the large student participation in such recent events as the square dance, gong show, homecoming and homecoming dance, play festival, lacrosse jubilee, and the square dance to raise money to help Peter Steen. Does the administration feel that the student body alone must uphold the welfare and integrity of our school? I am certain that if our school administrators come up with affirmative plans, and back those plans with decisive action, the vandalism in our school will soon be eliminated.

Signed,
Tom Sutton

DISPATCH SPORTS

Girls Hoops-Winners

by Doug Fernandez

The girl's basketball team approached this season with the idea that they would have some fun, and try to make as respectable a showing as possible. Winning has brought them that respect, as well as making it a fun season.

The varsity team carries an 8-5 record, while J.V. is 7-6. Varsity still has a shot at the playoffs, but must beat tough teams from East Islip and Centereach.

Coach Kratzke puts emphasis on the team aspect of the game. He believes every player needs to be well-rounded, not just able to perform one specific duty. He tries to get the most out of the girls by using a halfcourt trapping man to man (or person to person?) This type of defense has caused opponents to turn the ball over at an extremely high rate. By causing so many turnovers the team has been able to assume control of games.

Val Sands and Sue Salg have

been the leading scorers. Salg is also the team's leading rebounder, while Sands tops the list in dishing off assists.

The offensive system used revolves around patterns which create constant motion. These patterns allow for an offense in which everyone is involved. Kris Kratzke, Sue Waldman, Diane Simon, and Terry Rogers have benefitted by contributing field goals resulting from the patterns.

The JV used basically the same principles as the varsity to earn their 7-6 record. Coach Hogan uses a full-court press which requires fresh bodies, and he substitutes freely getting all players involved.

Girl's basketball, unlike boy's uses a thirty second rule. In other words, a player must attempt a shot within thirty seconds. This provides for a wide open and consistently moving game. Some boys games become boring. A team may control the ball for as

long as they like. A team that is a decided underdog may prevent the favored team from getting too far ahead by keeping them from getting possession. This point is best illustrated by a boys game involving Longwood and Bellport played February 2.

Longwood came into the game as the underdog. They stalled for all but the last three minutes of the game. This tactic was used to try and keep the game close, and even possibly win it for Longwood. The result was a 16-11 Bellport win, and nineteen of the twenty-seven points were scored in the last quarter.

It just goes to show that maybe the girls could teach the boys something about basketball. If the boys had the rule instituted it would do away with the dull, uninteresting games such as the one between Longwood and Bellport, which could hardly be called basketball.



Coach Lou Giani calls out instructions as Mike Thomas looks on.

"I'd Rather Be Skiing"

by Allison Dick

On July 28 it is ninety-eight degrees. You are sitting in your car dreaming about winter. You are Jean Claude Killy as you schuss down the slope. The wind feels cool upon your face and you are refreshed at last. The air conditioned car behind you beeps you out of your daydream. "I'm going to have to try skiing this winter," you say to yourself, as you wipe the sweat off your brow.

It is six months later and you are on the slope. You are freezing cold, lying petrified in the snow. Every muscle in your body aches. "Some wipeout," your friend says, as he skis gracefully to your rescue. You check movement ... right leg, ...

left leg, ... you're okay. He helps you back on with your rented skis. All of a sudden he takes off. You are alone. "Come on; it's easy," he calls. You like him less and less.

Such is the plight of the novice skier. Yet, practice makes perfect, so they say. In two years you will have your own skis and will have advanced from the bunny slope. You will abandon the snowplow and progress to stem christies (a type of turn). At this intermediate level there are two paths from which to choose. If you are of a conservative nature you will probably be a modest, reserved skier, and methodically traverse the hill. Then, again, you could

lose your fear in the transition and become reckless. If this is the case we will cross our fingers, as we watch you fly into the woods.

In six more years, you are finally an expert. You now have Olin Skis and wear a cowboy hat. Yes, you are an aggressive skier! You love to burn those moguls and you ski a mean parallel. The H.A. (hip action) is superb. You look like a snake slithering down the slopes as you wedel in and out. You can now do a Helicopter and a Daffy. You ski like the guy in the Lowenbrau commercial. People gaze at you in wonder. They say you were born on skis ... if they only knew!

Wrestlers 70 Strong

by Barry Tils

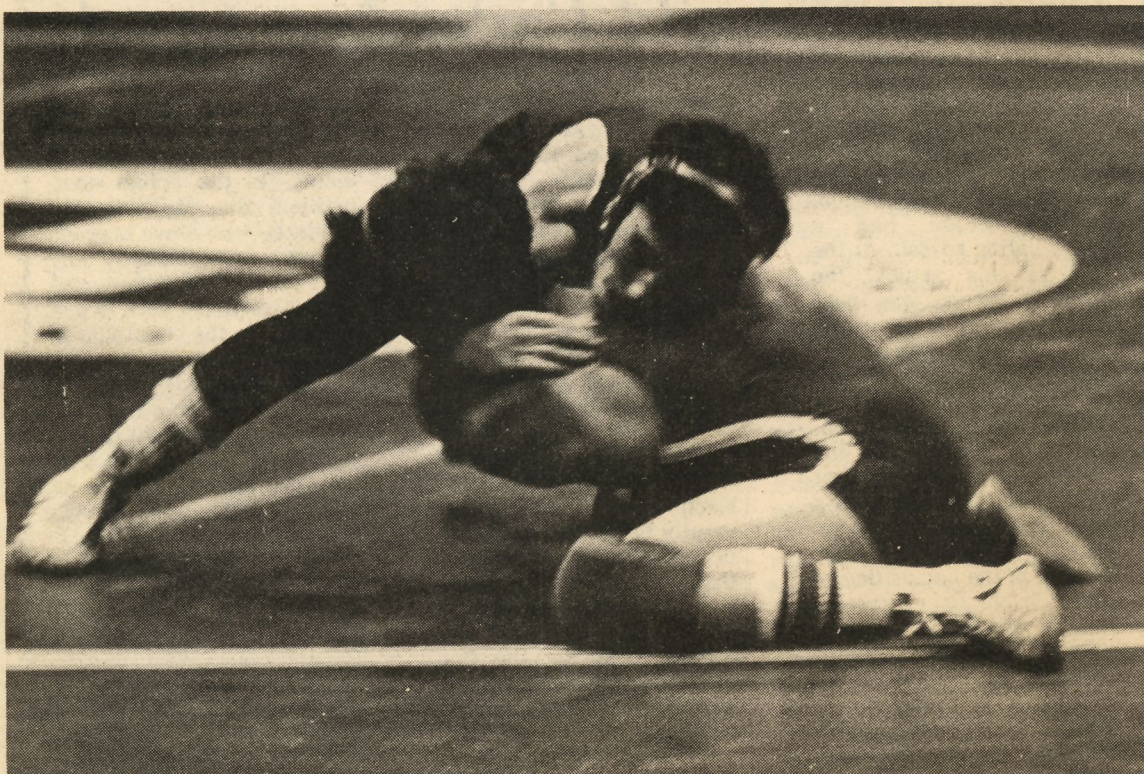
Wrestling is not exactly what one would call a fast moving, action sport, but it must have some salient qualities, for it's one of the more popular sports here in the United States and abroad, and has been for many years. It is a game of strategy and anticipation which requires strength and dexterity. There are those people who do not enjoy it, (which is true of any sport) but it appeals to many people, as is evidenced by the amount of people on the team here at the High School.

The Varsity team, coached by Mr. Lou Giani, has thirty-

seven wrestlers and the Junior Varsity team, coached by Mr. Hugh Norton, has thirty-three members. The two teams, as you can see, are well equipped to do their jobs with seventy members. The wrestling team is a popular group here at the High School, and it is one of the finer teams on the Island and even the state.

The two teams are doing well and are on their way to another championship season, which just goes to show that wrestling has found a home in the High School.

**Support Your
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State champ Paul Wideman looks for another pin.

Bowlers Strike!

by Diane Sweezy

The girls on this year's bowling team must wait and watch as Lindenhurst meets East Islip in the deciding match of this season. If Lindenhurst wins, the Huntington bowling team wins the league championship. If Lindenhurst loses, Huntington will fall to second place behind East Islip.

Doris Line coaches this year's team, which consists of seven bowlers: Kim Geraci, Nancy Godden, Liz Haffeman, Sue Miller, Audrey Schissel, Stephanie Sweezy, and Babette Thoma. They practice at Huntington's Century Lanes three days a week to prepare for their League matches.

Five bowlers from each team bowl three games apiece in a given match. Matches are scored on the basis of points awarded for highest team score, highest single game, and other achievements. The team's league record is 5-1.

This year's most consistent bowlers have been senior Nancy Godden and junior Sue Miller. The team has two more non-league matches before the end of this season. Sue Miller commented, "Miss Line did a great job in getting us to bowl our best. We all tried really hard and it has paid off in a winning season."

DISPATCH SPORTS

Devils Look to Playoffs

by Diana Fischer

"If anyone had told me in early December that we would be sitting on top of the league with a strong Central Islip team, I wouldn't have believed it," said boys basketball coach Lou Boccia.

But it's true. At 11-1 overall, and 6-1 in league play, Huntington is tied for first place in League III with Central Islip, and it looks like the 1977-78 Blue Devil varsity is well on its way to the playoffs.

One amazing aspect of this season is that Coach Boccia has only three returning starters, Bob Marentette, Gary Smolokoff, and Walter Wilson. Marentette has the highest shooting percentage on the team, and he is now averaging 13.4 points a game. He also has the second highest rebounding record so far this season.

Smolokoff's quick defensive playing has really helped the Devils out, and he is now averaging 8.6 points a game.

Both Marentette and Smolokoff were switched from starting guard positions last year to forwards this season, and the move has certainly proven

successful.

Walter Wilson has come off the bench this year to really dominate in the backcourt. In a close game against Smithtown East, which ended with the Devils on top 53-52, Wilson had a remarkable eleven assists, the highest for this season. He leads the team in assists, averaging six per game.

Newcomer Brett Hill has been the answer to Coach Boccia's prayers. A transfer from Whitman, this is Hill's first year of varsity play, and he has been proving himself a real find. He leads the team in scoring, with 168 points in twelve games, averaging 14 points a game, and also in rebounding, pulling down a big 126 in twelve games, averaging 14 a game. In the season opener against La Salle, Hill played a mere eight minutes, but in every game since, he has scored in the double figures.

The Devils undefeated season was ended during a controversial game against Commack South, which ended 61-60 with the Spartans coming out on top. The game is under protest as of late. With 34 seconds left in the game,

Smolokoff went to the foul line, but his first shot hit the rim of the basket and bounced off the top of the backboard. Huntington pulled down the rebound, but the official called the ball dead. The referee claimed that the ball had broken the plane of the backboard, and was therefore no good. Boccia consulted a rule book, and discovered that a ball that goes over the top of the backboard and is not touched is then a dead ball. Huntington had clearly touched the ball, which had bounced back into play, and even gained possession of it. Boccia sent the protest to the Suffolk Conference II protest committee, who has accepted it, and is now deciding on a final ruling.

And what about the playoffs? "They are certainly a reality for us now," says Boccia. With only five games remaining in the season, the playoffs are a definite probability for the remarkable Devils. Suffolk County will see a change in play-off procedure this year, as the number of teams participating increases from 16 to 32, with four teams from each of the eight leagues qualifying instead of just the top two.



photo by Jeff Milliken

Brett Hill pulls up for a jumper versus Central Islip.

A Downhill Season

by Craig Werner

The 1977 Winter Track Team is having another disappointing season. So far, the team has not won a dual meet. Though the team came within ten points in every meet, Coach Hiscox could not create a winning team. In a controversial meet it lost to North Babylon by a score of 34-35.

The team has faced many problems including the competition in the toughest conference of Suffolk County (League I). The team has been combatting sickness, injuries, etc. as well as the other teams.

The track team has many new runners which have strengthened the team. These runners include: Joe Smith, Joe Esposito, Craig Werner, Barry Lipnick, Bob Biernacki, Steve Murray, Ed Solar, and Glenn Sebold. Smith is the best short sprint man on the team, while Esposito is an excellent distance runner. Werner is an improving hurdler, and both Biernacki and Murray are solid shot putters and consistent runners. Lipnick is a necessary runner in the 880 yard team; he is a

steady runner in the 300 yard dash. These runners have made a contender out of the track team.

The team has had many highlights, even in a losing season. Both Dave Brush and Paolo Palladino have been the backbone of the team's distance runners, finishing first and second in all dual meets. The distance medley relay team of Richard Meister, Dave Brush, Joe Esposito, and Paolo Palladino placed second in the Conference Relay Championship. Craig Werner placed third running the 60 Yard Novice High Hurdles in the Long Island Coaches Meet held on February 11. In that same meet Joe Cravero ran an excellent 1000 yards and placed sixth. Also Katie Dunn ran excellently in the 60 Yard Dash. In addition, Pia Palladino and Binky Long have helped the girls in long distances.

The track team is looking optimistically for the upcoming Conference Championship and the Nassau Coaches Meet in Nassau Coliseum.

Update

Earlier this week the Central Islip Musketeers came into Huntington to battle the Blue Devils for first place. The Musketeers came away with the win, 52-42, and now hold first place in League Three with an 8-1 record.

The game was even through the first three quarters, with Central Islip holding a 34-33 lead. Brett Hill, who had a Devil-high 14 point night, and Jon Rhodes, who popped in 13, led the

Devils scoring attack.

Central Islip, led by Greg Ffolkes with 17 points, did most of its scoring from outside. In the fourth quarter the Devils couldn't get untracked and C.I.'s Chris Domenech came off the bench to sink seven free throws to sink the Devils.

This past Monday coach Lou Boccia's protest of the Commack South loss was denied by the protest committee. The committee ruled that Boccia's protest of

the Commack South loss was denied by the protest committee. The committee ruled that Boccia didn't file the protest at the appropriate time, although Boccia contends that the referees didn't give him the chance.

The Devils travel to Centereach tonight and face Central Islip away on Monday, February 20. The Suffolk County playoffs begin on February 24.

Fencers Rebuild Under New Coach

by John O'Rourke

Because of the loss of many of its star varsity fencers from last year's very successful squad, the Huntington High School Fencing Team had a disappointing season. At the time of this article, the varsity's record was 0-8-2 with one more meet to go.

Last year's team was undefeated during the regular season and ended up placing fourth in the counties. Two years ago, the varsity fencers finished first in the counties. This year's team, however, has been more of a rebuilding year, because of the acquisition of a new coach, John Strasser, and an almost totally new starting varsity lineup. Fencing epee, male only because it is considered a contact sport, are #1-Bob Malleck, #2-Jon Goldman, and #3-Steve Magnus and Joe Lee. In foil, a totally co-ed

sport, the starters are #1-Tim Walker, #2-Denise Lee, and #3-Jessica Bausch and Erica Greenfeld.

Fencing may seem to the unknowledgeable spectator to be a game of touchee, touchee, touchee. In reality, however, fencing is a grueling, frustrating sport which demands the concentration and discipline of moves and countermoves rather than the swash-buckling technique displayed by pirates. Each meet has eighteen varsity bouts, three by each of the six varsity fencers, of three minutes apiece. Fencers use what is called a five point system of five touches. That is, the first fencer to score five hits on the opponent's upper torso is the winner.

The most recent competition has been the counties. After being seeded

seventh out of nine teams, the HHS varsity fencers ended up sixth out of the nine teams. In the actual competition, Bob Malleck, Jon Goldman, and Steve Magnus all missed the finals by only one bout. Denise Lee and Erica Greenfeld were two of four girls in the county co-ed foil competition.

What about JV and the future? In an all new women's tournament of five teams, girls who are not as yet good enough to play as varsity get an excellent chance to improve themselves. Participating in this competition were Jessica Bausch, Laura Seigel, Jennifer Kelly, and Diane Pfadenhauer. The Junior varsity, the team's hope for the future, finished strong behind the fencing of Tom Kissinger, Mike O'Rourke, Matt Brown, and Jennifer Kelly.