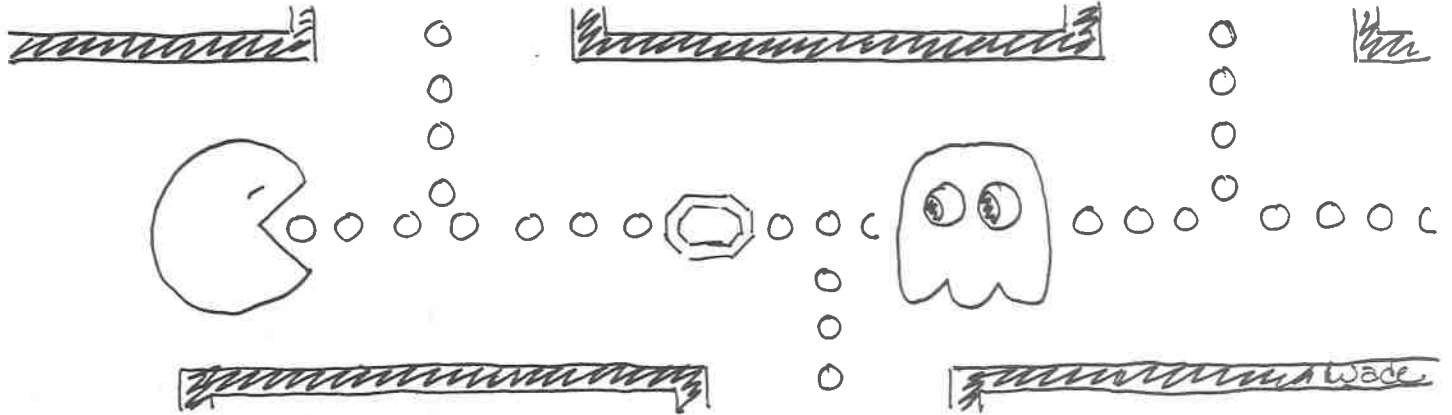


the graphos

April 1982

Volume 65 No. 5

New Ulm, Minnesota 56073



Pac-Man Fever attacks NUHS

AN OBSESSION



by Amy McClellan
Staff Writer

You're heading down the last stretch of maze. A red monster is in hot pursuit. Can you make it to the energizing wafer, which will give you the power to destroy your pursuer? The monster's gaining on you. Oh, no! You've been eaten! You lose again.

Sound familiar? That was a description of the popular video game Pac-Man. Pac-Man and games like it have been taking the country by storm. In fact, according to Aaron Latham, a New York Times Magazine reporter, "An estimated 2.8 billion dollars were

spent on video arcade games in 1981." At a quarter a game, 11.2 billion games were played. That is an average of 50 games for every man, woman, and child in America. Why do we love these games so much and are we better or worse off for sacrificing so much time and so many quarters to these machines?

Nolan K. Bushnell, founder of Atari and creator of the first coin-operated video game, believes "The games are popular because they represent the leading edge of what everyone knows is going to happen. Man is going to be dealing with the computer as much as with any other part of the civilization in the future. But man has a love-hate affair with the computer. The games are a search for mastery — or a sense of mastery — over the computer. This is what people are subliminally dealing with when they play the games."

Mark Gilmore, an employee at the Treasure Island Arcade in New Ulm, believes that people play the games because "It keeps them entertained." Gilmore also believes that competition may add to the popularity of the games. "Kids are always competing against each other trying for the high score."

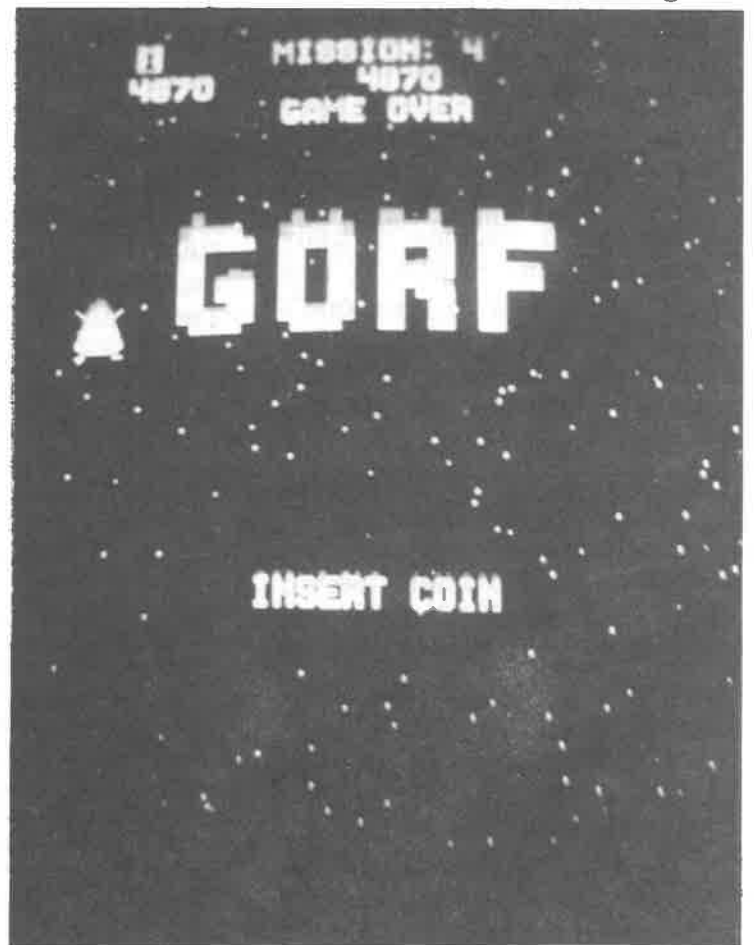
NUHS students have developed their own reasons for playing video games. Junior Erik Kask plays them because "They offer a challenge." Video games appeal to senior Dianne Danforth because "They're mind boggling." "There's usually nothing else to do" says junior Ron Dummer, and according to senior Beth Norman, "It's the only fun thing to do when you go to Chris Bloomer's house."

Home video games are becoming increasingly popular. Richard P. Simons, an analyst at Goldman, Sachs

& Co., says, "9% of all U.S. households with a TV set have a video game attachment." Simons also estimates that by the end of 1982 15% will have attachments. Atari is currently the leader in home video game manufacturing. In order to promote their new Pac-Man game cassette, Atari declared Saturday, April 13, as Atari National Pac-Man Day. In celebration of the event, the Richard Puchner family embarked on

a Pac-Man marathon. The Puchners started playing at 8 a.m. and played for a total of 19 hours to acquire 1 million points in a single game. The Puchners got their Atari for Christmas this year, and NUHS senior Karen Puchner estimated that the game is in use 2-5 hours a day. Sophomore Mike added, "It's used more on weekends." According to their mother, Barb, the Puchners got Atari because "We thought it would be fun to play."

VIDEO games continued on Page 5.



Video games are becoming increasingly popular. "An estimated 2.8 billion dollars were spent on video games in 1981."

editorial

Conversation raises questions



by Meg Hudak
Editor

Sometimes it seems as though everyone is at odds with one another. It becomes increasingly hard to carry on a conversation because at times it appears that nobody can agree with anybody else.

There used to be a time when all one had to do to start a conversation was to mention school athletics, exciting TV programs, or the hottest new couple at school. This device no longer works.

There are, however, a few topics that will undoubtedly bring a response requiring more than a mere shake of the head. One of these is the budget cuts. There has yet to be an instance when budget cuts have been mentioned and someone responded by saying, "So What?" Although this topic is beginning to become a daily subject of conversation, it is a topic guaranteed to raise one's blood pressure when discussing the possible activities to be cut. And even though nobody can agree on what should be cut, everyone agrees that his activity should be the one spared.

Another discussion topic is the weather. However, due to this year's weather, this topic should be treated lightly. Everyone agrees that this winter seemed to last forever and shares the hope that the snow will melt before graduation. Again treat this topic with care or you will be awakened by a slap in the face or a stream of tears.

"Everything is boring" is an

ailment that people love to discuss. One could be held at gunpoint and still feel as though he needed some excitement in his life. It's like a chain reaction. One person says, "I'm bored," and the others have to agree and tell why they are more bored and worse off than anybody else. It's not that they really are bored but are actually afraid to say they are enjoying themselves.

"How's it going" used to be a pretty easy way to ease into a conversation. That is, until everyone started conversations with those words. It was then that people became less friendly. Someone would casually say, "How's it going?" and be received by a person who feverishly yelled "TERRIBLE!" The only reason he replied so hysterically was an attempt to scare the person away so he wouldn't ask again.

"What ya up to" followed along the same pattern. A once courteous question turned sour by flat responses ranging from "Nothing" to "Last time I checked I was 5'6."

And, if all else fails, a plain and simple "Have a good day" is the easiest way to start some conversation. As with other similar phrases, many people are beginning to question the sincerity attached to these words. Just the other day I heard someone say "Have a good day" and was answered by, "What kind of crack is that? There aren't any good days left!"

I've decided to be daring. Have a good day!

the graphos

The Graphos is produced every month by the students of New Ulm Senior High School; New Ulm, Minnesota 56073; and printed by Master Graphics, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073.

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Devious tactics needed to survive AP



by Beth Norman
Staff Columnist

Well, the end of the year is drawing near. Thus I feel it is time to evaluate the AP program in NUHS.

I am sure that a lot of the students haven't the slightest idea what AP means. Contrary to rumor, AP does not stand for Associated Press, and we do not learn how to write for the Graphos. AP also doesn't stand for A & P Food Stores, and we don't learn how to choose the freshest grapefruit. Truthfully, AP stands for Advanced Placement, which stands for hard work, home work, and sleepless nights.

This column is aimed at informing everyone what AP classes are all about. This year there are two senior AP classes. AP English is third hour with Carol Ackerson and AP Social Studies is fifth hour with Richard LaPatka. In these two classes the students are exposed to more difficult topics in English and social studies. They are also expected to take part in discussions, write analysis of novels, and take exams and quizzes.

Although LaPatka and Ackerson have a planned curriculum for their classes, they probably don't realize the valuable unplanned lessons the AP students are learning every day. For instance, besides learning all about existentialism, fate, and poetry, AP English has also taught us how to write a paper analyzing a book that we didn't read. Don't misunderstand me, we were supposed to read the books. Actually, AP English has taught me

one valuable lesson. Don't ever waste time reading those big, fat, huge books that Ackerson assigns. Just go down to the Book Nook and buy the appropriate Cliff's Notes instead. For those of you who don't know, Cliff's Notes are 40-page summaries of 800-page novels.

Although we don't have any tests in AP English, LaPatka makes up for that by giving us plenty in AP Social Studies. I personally have learned one important lesson from AP social — always leave studying for a big test until the last night. In that way you don't have to waste time studying when you'd rather watch Julia Child's cooking class. Another advantage to this tactic is that you can do all your studying in one sitting — from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. And you don't have to worry about forgetting everything when you go to bed. By the way, this method also works for papers in AP English.

Probably the most important thing the AP students have learned this year is how to get excused from these classes. The following is a list of the most effective ways to get out of class:

1. Schedule your choir lesson during the class.
2. Schedule your band lesson during the class. (Mary Moriarty schedules her band AND choir lessons during the class.)
3. Schedule your orthodontist appointment during the class.
4. Go to the counselor for some major problem like your avocado plant died when you talked to it.
5. Get on the Dollars for Scholars committee.
6. Speak to the Rotary Club because they eat lunch during fifth hour.
7. Be on Project Soar because those students can leave any time.
8. Finally, you can visit a college representative in the guidance office. This excuse never fails. Ask Steve Baum who visited such prestigious schools as Lowthian Fashion School and St. Cloud School of Beauty.



McBaggies send McBurgers out to lunch.

Connoisseur gets taste of New Ulm eateries

by John Schuetzle
Staff Writer

We've all seen it before...the dreaded restaurant reviewer! You know, the snobbish looking person who tells us how bad the food is in a restaurant we can't afford to go to in the first place. Anyway, he is becoming as publicized as Brooke Shields...mm...jeans! They're read in papers, heard on the radio, and seen every evening on the TV news. Not to be outdone, the Graphos has asked this reporter to use his culinary experience to evaluate New Ulm's finest. One point I'd like to make is that the restaurants in this article are purely fictitious. Any resemblance to an actual restaurant is purely coincidental. In other words, it's all in fun, so no phone calls.

There are basically four types of restaurants. The first is a fast food restaurant. New Ulm has one of the best known chains in the world. Where else can you be greeted by Mr. McClown, be seated in a McBooth, order a McBurger, McFries, a large McCoke, and listen to a little McJagger and the Stones. On the other end of town is "Hardlee's," an appropriate name because since the opening of the previous restaurant it's been "Hardlee" doing any business.

Next on the list of restaurants is the

Pizzajoint, New Ulm. Downtown there is Joke's Pizza, where the pizza fits the name. Also, there is On Hold Pizza Inn, where your pizza is always "on hold." Good thing it's an Inn because you just might have to spend the night! On the south end, specializing in seafood pizza, is the Codfather's Pizza. Lastly, comes my personal favorite, "Happy Schmoes." I liked it because I got a free sundae on my birthday.

The third type of restaurant is a cross between the fine dining and the fast food meal. Unfortunately, one gets the worst of both styles, the availability of fast food and the prices of an elite restaurant. Not wanting to ruin their business, I will withhold the name of one such establishment that begins with a P, ends with an S, and sounds like a coffee pot.

Finally, with the approach of prom, I'm sure you are interested in fine dining restaurants where you can take your date. The oldest of these establishments, Kaiserhoofda Mouth Disease, has in the past tried to entice the customer with famous stars, like Joe Senser. Notice, I didn't mention the Viking's front four because, like I said, they want "famous stars."

I was going to evaluate the Holiday Inn, but no one would tell me what the heck a Heidelberg was.

Project 120 projects government in action

by Pam Weicherding
Staff Writer

Project 120 is not a new program at NUHS this year. No, it originally began about five years ago as an opportunity for minority groups to learn more about the government and how it is run. Gradually it began to include guys or girls who are juniors or seniors in high school.

To be eligible to attend Project 120, one must write a short essay on why

he/she wants to attend and also include an autobiography. The applications are reviewed and 25 to 35 people from different towns are chosen to attend. Two juniors from NUHS participated in Project 120. Sue Ryberg attended February 7-12 and Annette Franta went February 14-19.

"The most impressive part of the program," says Franta, "was being able to see the House of Representatives and Senate in session preparing bills to be passed. "It was

fascinating to actually see a bill become a law." Important events Ryberg remembers include visiting the Omnitheatre and attending a meeting with Dick Gregory, who wrote *Nigger*. Also, each of the participants had the opportunity to meet individually with the senator and representative from his district. Franta and Ryberg had a friendly chat with Representative Terry Dempsey and Senator Dennis Fredrickson. They even had their picture taken with Governor Al Quie.

Both girls felt the thing they enjoyed most was being able to spend time with students from other towns and learn about the activities at their school. They also said that they had to have a

lot of energy to attend the many activities available. They felt that Project 120 was worthwhile and advised others to attend if they have any interest in government activities. One of the observations was that students from other schools knew more about state government than students from New Ulm.

Project 120 gives students a chance to learn more about government in a manner that cannot be achieved in a normal high school setting. The NUHS participants feel that the program is an enjoyable way of learning about government in action. They hope that more people will get involved in the program.

Fairmont students human NUHS pupil reverses role for a day



by Lisa Walston
Staff Writer

Believe it or not, Fairmont High School students are real human beings. In fact, they are remarkably similar to students at New Ulm High School. This amazing fact was discovered after spending a day as a student at Fairmont High School.

Students at FHS begin their day in homerooms. At this time a student council member — a reluctant one on this particular day — reads the daily announcements over the P.A. system.

The next experience to be dealt with is walking down the hall. Met by two young men clothed in mini-dresses and carrying purses, this reporter was relieved to learn of a special day in school: Reversal Day featured girls dressing like boys and vice versa.

First hour was spent in sociology class, which consisted of a lecture on the nervous system.

Concert choir is held second hour. It was in this class that a few familiar (maybe too familiar) faces appeared: Tim Hested, Peter Goodfellow...The list goes on, but let's spare the New Ulm basketball players.

Third hour was an English literature class in which students gave presentations on the history of English kings and queens and the English theatre.

Photography class is something unheard of in NUHS. However, it is a

daily class at Fairmont High School, which has all the necessary equipment for the class and a dark room.

Cafeteria food is much the same at FHS as it is at New Ulm High School. Fairmont students, however, are provided with an open lunch system. They may leave the school during their lunch period if they so desire. This reporter found it a little difficult to digest the food. No, the food wasn't that bad, but our table was surrounded by a group of young men who seemed to enjoy staring at people who are eating.

Fifth hour was spent in chemistry class. The chemistry instructor must be related to Wes Podolske because of his great sense of humor. The students in the class had a sense of humor also as they provided entertainment by having a Chinese fire drill in honor of Reversal Day.

Sixth hour was a free hour spent in the commons (cafeteria). One interesting incident during this time included being sworn to secrecy after a few girls weighed themselves to determine whether or not they should drink a glass of pop.

The final class of the day was speech. Several persuasive speeches were given, concincing this reporter that the one guy who claimed he wasn't finished with his speech had a topic entitled, "Be a Procrastinator."

All in all, Fairmont High School is a normal high school, and the students are friendly and courteous. They are dedicated young people with a lot of spirit and enthusiasm.

So, FHS students are real people, not barbarians as some NUHS students believe. In the words of one anonymous Fairmont basketball player, "We aren't violent. We may be crude sometimes, but we're not violent!" This reporter returned to New Ulm in one piece and with a new perspective on other high schools after this one-day visit 50 miles down the road.

people

LaPatka gets last words

by Kristy Paulson
Staff Writer

I'm sure most of you have met, or encountered at one time or another, the infamous Richard LaPatka. This diligent and somewhat serious social studies teacher is most widely known for his intimidating qualities. If you happen to be one of the lucky students whose company he especially enjoys, count your blessings! The worst you will be forced to endure is a light and easy bantering during classtime. But if by some chance you don't happen to classify for this group, prepare yourself!

LaPatka seems to enjoy making sure you — along with the rest of the class — realize that he is displeased in some way. Oftentimes, an embarrassing situation for the student arises. Strangely enough, he seldom uses a large number of words to achieve this effect. A word of warning to the inexperienced: be sure to discover which category you fall into **BEFORE** you become too daring and push your luck.

LaPatka is also widely known for his strong views and opinions on nearly **ANY** topic. Most of his argumentative students learn the hard way that he is seldom wrong. A "discussion" with

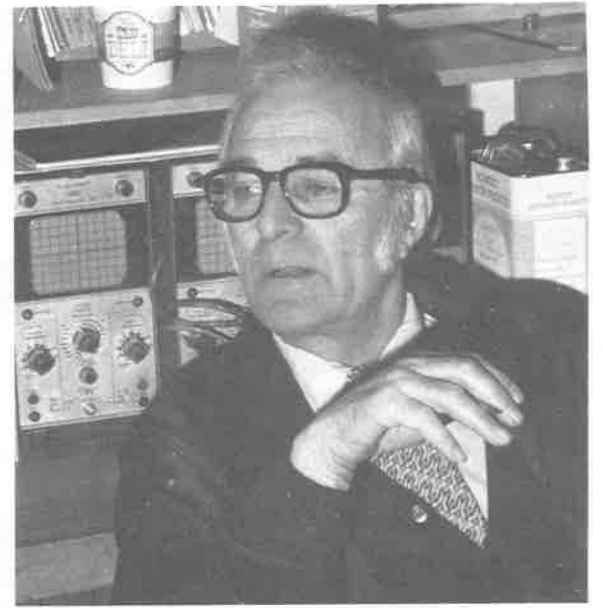
LaPatka is always stimulating and educational but only if he comes out ahead. He almost always manages to have the last words.

Although he may often appear to be stubborn and unmoving, he is actually trying to draw his students into a discussion. Controversial topics force students to generate their own ideas and thoughts. Also, he doesn't actually pick his favorite students in his classes. All that is needed for a student to make a favorable impression on LaPatka is for him to follow these few precepts: (1) act like a young lady or gentleman; (2) accept the responsibility of being a student; (3) and work up to your individual capabilities.

Another point to remember is that although "LaPatka classes" are supposedly the hardest and the most often avoided, they are generally the most interesting and worthwhile. If you don't watch out, you might even learn something! Oh, and by the way, for those of you wondering how LaPatka received his popular nickname, ("Dick the rat"), you'll probably be surprised. He was the originator of the Rat Pak, a winter sports cheering section that was popular in the early 70's. Well, at least the name started with good intentions.



Although Richard LaPatka may often appear to be stubborn and opinionated, he is actually trying to draw students into a discussion.



Henry Epp is being forced to leave his 34 year career as an electronics teacher due to a heart problem. He hopes that somehow he can regain his health and return to teaching.

Henry "Epps and leaves"

by Paula Burdorf
Staff Writer

Henry Epp has been teaching electronics for 34 years and 30 of those years have been spent right here in New Ulm. After all those years of teaching, Epp had to call it quits when he suffered a heart attack and his doctor advised him to "take it easy" for a while.

While many students knew him as the "guy who teaches electronics," there is certainly more to him than his teaching career. From the very beginning, it seemed he was destined to live an interesting life.

During the depression years in his hometown of Mountain Lake, Epp was ten years old when he was orphaned, along with his brothers and sisters. They were left to make it on their own. Epp worked at odd jobs in grocery stores, newspaper routes, and the telephone company. The money he earned went with that from his brothers and sisters to pay for their essentials: food, clothing, and shelter. The life they led was not luxurious. He never viewed it as a hardship, however. "Back in the depression years, everyone was in bad shape. No one was better off than anybody else," he said.

Despite the depression, Epp was able to get a college education. He did this through a basketball scholarship. In his junior year in high school, his team made it to the Minnesota State Basketball Tournament. He played basketball for two years after high school at Mankato State University.

After two years at Mankato State, he went into the Navy. World War II was going on at the time, and Epp was assigned as an airplane pilot on a carrier. His job was to cover the invasions when the Americans were island hopping in the Pacific. They'd fly ahead and bomb the Japanese positions so that the U.S. troops would have less difficulty landing on the island. He also did a lot of search and rescue work finding lost or shipwrecked sailors after battles.

After the war Epp returned to college, playing basketball and studying to become an electronics teacher. He wound up teaching electronics, first for four years in Tracy before coming to New Ulm.

During the time he spent in New Ulm, Epp remained active in and out of the classroom. He was in the National Guard for a while, where this reporter's father drove jeep for him. (Epp was a commanding officer there.) He spent 20 years in the United States military. He also served the community as a member of the hospital board. In fact, for a while, he was president of the Union Hospital board and was heavily involved in the merger of the two New Ulm hospitals.

Still, after all he's been through, Henry Epp's first love is electronics. "Electronics has been my hobby since I was a little kid," he said proudly. "I started the electronics program at New Ulm." Before he came to New Ulm, there was no electronics program. "I was fortunate," he smiled. "The administration and the school board have backed me well. Without the facilities, this program couldn't be possible."

If you are in one of Epp's electronic classes, you would do much of the work on your own. If you ran into trouble, you'd ask him for help. You'd also be trusted not to vandalize the property. Epp claims that since he's started teaching in New Ulm, he's never had a problem with vandalism. And if you want to have a sense of school pride, it should boost your spirit to know that "we have the biggest electronics program outside the Twin Cities."

Epp leaves his program behind him now at the age of 60. He is on the new "miracle drugs" from Europe for his heart condition, and he hopes that somehow he could regain his health and return to teaching. Even if he doesn't return, though, he plans to be around for a while yet. With a grin, he says, "If I take care of myself like the doctor says, the odds of my being healthy at the age of 70 are pretty good."

Moriarty's activities include fun with friends

by Kris Moelter
Staff Writer

Most of us feel we've had a hectic day if we receive an hour's worth of homework a night. Well, what about someone who is in band, choir, three sports, writes for the Graphos, and is in the top five per cent of her class? For these reasons Mary Moriarty is this month's BWOC.

Having lettered in band, Moriarty has also received a variety of pins and medals for both band and choir achievements. As a trumpeter, she plays in concert and swing band and various ensemble groups. In choir, Moriarty is involved in Payne Street and the Caroliers. Although she enjoys music, like most band and choir members, she would like to see a full credit given for participation in music activities.

With anyone involved in girls' athletics, Moriarty has become a household name. Ten of her 11 letters have been awarded in athletics: three in volleyball, four in basketball, and three in softball. In basketball especially, the girls' program has shown marked improvement during the past few years. Moriarty has played a significant role in turning these programs around. She has been selected the basketball team's MVP the past two years.



Moriarty believes that her success in sports is due to the fact that she received little pressure from home. She says that "My parents have always been very supportive of me."

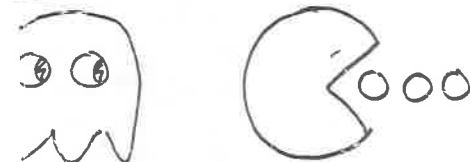
As for her start in athletics, Moriarty had no sibling competition. Her two older stepsisters weren't interested in sports and neither were her parents. In fact, Moriarty really doesn't know how she started in sports. "My mom says I was very hyperactive as a child so maybe that has something to do with it," stated Moriarty. According to Moriarty, her success in sports is due in part to the fact that she has received very little pressure from home. "My parents," Moriarty stated, "have always been very supportive of me, and they have attended every one of my games."

With all of her activities, Moriarty claims none take precedence over the other. Moriarty feels that although academics are important, her extra-curriculars are equally important. However, she did say choir is "my favorite CURRICULAR activity."

According to Moriarty, high school is a time to try new things and have fun because "next year I'll have to study." Next year Moriarty will be attending Macalester College in St. Paul. Although she isn't sure what her major will be, she will be playing basketball and softball.

As for NUHS, Moriarty has mixed feelings about school. She enjoys the wide and varified curriculum but feels that some of the students at NUHS tend to be "fair weather fans" where athletics are concerned. "People only support the teams when they are winning." This, according to Moriarty, pertains to both girls' and boys' athletic teams.

When asked how she finds time for all of her activities, Moriarty stated, "I'd be bored if I didn't have anything to do after school. Besides, I relax on weekends." Busy as she is, Moriarty is living by the philosophy she invented for her senior year. "I'll have to study and work hard next year so right now I'm going to have fun with my friends because I won't be with them much longer."



VIDEO GAMES continued from Page 1.

Most NUHS students agree that video games are fun, but some feel that they are a waste of time and money. Junior Craig Berdan summed up the feelings of many when he said, "The games are fun to play, but when I'm done, I feel a quarter short and I've accomplished nothing." Thomas Malone, member of the Dept. of Psychology at Stanford University, believes that you are accomplishing something by playing video games. "The fantasies in computer games allow people to fill emotional needs, not filled otherwise, or resolve conflicts. If you are a victim in life, you could resolve some conflicts by aggression in a fantasy game. If you are a teen-ager who feels out of control, you could resolve conflicts about control."

It is a common psychological belief that "as the real world gets more confusing and out of control, there is a need to escape into a microworld." Senior Chap Hiza believes "Video games can provide people with a release of anxiety and tension." Latham states, "As we move into an intimidating future that will be dominated by the machine, the machine provides the perfect escape from the world."

There are some important qualities needed to become a good video game player. You must have fast reflexes, a sense of strategy, and the stamina needed to go against the computer, but most importantly, according to Gilmore, "It all depends on how much you practice." There is no doubt that the computer will become increasingly important to our generation. Latham states, "Perhaps these machines are so popular with the generation of the future because they allow them to practice the future. And a well-rehearsed future is a less frightening one."

Korenchen travels far

by Leigh Ann Thompson
Staff Writer

If you ever wonder how the other side lives, George Korenchen is the man you should see. He is the sole owner of the New Ulm Travel Service and president, part owner and director of KNUJ. He is also part-owner and director of Mickleson Media Cables. George Korenchen grew up in Aurora, Minnesota, and graduated from Aurora High School. Throughout high school Korenchen's ambition was to become a writer. As a freshman, he was sports editor of the school newspaper. In his sophomore, junior, and senior years he was editor and correspondent. Korenchen felt that there was nothing more important than writing. Following high school he attended the University of Minnesota and majored in journalism. Upon graduation Korenchen joined the Air Force and served from 1941-1945. He worked for the Minneapolis Star Journal after he returned from the service.

On December 31, 1946, Korenchen became circulation manager of the New Ulm Journal. In May of 1949, KNUJ started broadcasting and Korenchen became Sales Representative and Sports Director. In 1954 he became General Manager of

KNUJ; a post he held for 19 years. Korenchen organized the first exchange program from Ulm, Germany, to New Ulm in 1954. The two towns exchanged delegations.

"I have always been interested in travel," stated Korenchen, and that is why in 1963 he decided to devote his fulltime to the Travel Service and Fun Tours. There are 13 people employed and have taken 18,000 people on tours to every continent except Antarctica.

Korenchen has traveled everywhere but Antarctica and has totaled about 8,000,000 miles. He has been to Europe approximately 100 times, Africa five times, South America four times and the Orient seven times. When asked what place was his favorite, Korenchen said New Ulm. He likes the atmosphere — the clean streets, close friends, and friendly people. "One would really appreciate living in New Ulm, if they had traveled as much as I have."

Korenchen feels that "traveling is very educational. It makes me aware of the precious things we have in our community, such as the freedom we have that people in Russia don't. People should travel to see how others live. Traveling is a living education."

"People should travel to see how others live. Traveling is a living education."



George Korenchen, owner of the New Ulm Travel Service, has traveled everywhere but Antarctica. He says that "One would really appreciate living in New Ulm, if they had traveled as much as I have."



An enjoyable way to lose pounds and get in shape is to become a member of Leick's Health Spa which has 300-350 members.

Health spa helps slim students

by Diane Hawkins
Staff Writer

In two months the school year will be over and with summer weather comes swimsuits, shorts, and diets! During the winter months nearly everyone seems to gain a few extra pounds. Spring clothes don't fit anymore so the answer to having nice spring clothes is to lose those excess pounds or buy new clothes. Obviously, most incomes force us to choose dieting. However, anyone who has ever been on a diet knows what a drag losing weight is. So, what's the answer?

An enjoyable way to lose pounds and get in shape is to become a member of Leick's Health Spa, located at 16½ North Minnesota behind Erickson's Drug Store.

The Health Spa is not a spacious place, but it has everything needed to get in shape in a pleasing atmosphere. Coming to the spa is an escape from the everyday hassles and actually a lot of fun. A member for 1½ years says, "I can't think of a more constructive way to control tension and stress, and at the same time have fun plus stay in shape and feel much better about yourself."

The health spa offers a varied exercise program. Each member at the spa is given a personal card of exercises to do on her own. These exercises include several floor and machine exercises.

The individual exercises on the card take from 30 minutes to an hour to complete. After completing these personal exercises, a member has other opportunities including aerobic dancing, slimnastics, and jazz dancing. After members have had enough exercising, they can spend some time in the sauna and whirlpool or by the sunlamp. Showers and bathrooms are also available for use.

Does it sound like fun? It can be! However, when can one find time to go there? The Health Spa is open anytime Monday and Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Student rates for both high school and college girls are offered. A one month membership is \$22.50 and after one month a six month membership costing \$15.00 a month can be scheduled. Each member is allowed to work out whenever she wishes for as long as she wants to. Free tours and visits can be arranged. A free visit allows one to use all of the equipment. Also, one can accompany a friend who is a member of the spa for \$1.00.

A membership at Leick's Health Spa is a fun way to shape up at any age. Approximately 300-350 members of all ages attend the spa; however, all of these members do not attend at the same time. Depending on what time one attends, she may see from two to 20 members working out at the same time.

Members at the spa have something they enjoy about being a member. The wives and mothers enjoy getting out of the house and relaxing. Making new friends and companions is also possible. Many older women want to look better and build up their self esteem. One member said, "I can't tell you how much better I feel since I have started exercising. I feel younger and better about myself."

We students don't need to feel younger, but the spa can also be a pleasing escape from the hassles of school, work, and home. Also, exercising at the spa can get rid of extra inches and pounds and get one in shape for summer.

Junior Achievement takes stock in business experience

by Suzanne Clark
Staff Writer

Last October three new companies were formed in New Ulm with nothing in their bank accounts. Last fall was also the first time that Junior Achievement Companies were organized in New Ulm.

The companies were started by Dale Johnson, personnel manager at 3M, who had been involved with Junior Achievement (JA) in his previous assignment. Three companies are sponsored by the two 3M plants and Kraft Foods.

Each company is made up of approximately six advisors. Students from Public, Cathedral, and Minnesota Valley Lutheran are involved in the companies. The first several meetings were run by the advisors. During the first meetings officers were elected, stock was sold, and product ideas were being considered.

The first product made by each of the companies was a big hit for Christmas. The lower 3M plant made bows and candleholders, and the upper 3M company produced Yule log candle holders. The waste sawdust made wax/sawdust firestarters. The company at Kraft assembled cheese packages.

In every company there is a president and several vice-presidents. The president and vice-presidents are in charge of the meetings. They have the responsibility of getting everything running and keeping books for the various departments.

The main purpose of JA is to teach high school students responsibility and to give them a taste of what working in a company is like. Workers are paid and given ten per cent commission on everything they sell. JA members sold their products door-to-door and at an occasional stand set up in downtown New Ulm.

Jodie Alwin, a member of the lower 3M JA Company, says, "JA was something different for kids in New Ulm to do. It was good for kids and it's something New Ulm hasn't had before."

Rob Mielke, also a member of the lower 3M company, had this to say about his experience: "It's a good experience to make things and sell them. You get to work with people and other students. It's a lot of fun."

Looking at all the enthusiasm that has been demonstrated by JA members this year, it looks as if they will be a prosperous organization giving each member some experience and fun at the same time.

Concert Choir carols to Chicago

by Mary Moriarty
Staff Writer

The Concert Choir's recent tour to Chicago lasted only four days, but those intense few days were filled with a diversity of experiences not soon to be forgotten by anyone involved. Virtually everyone seemed to have his own personal highlights of the tour, but there were several episodes which stand out in everyone's minds.

While on tour last year the choir from Stoughton, Wisconsin, stopped in New Ulm to sing, take part in a picnic, and stay in student homes for the night. So our visit to Stoughton was a reunion of sorts. Staying at Stoughton offered us the opportunity to share our music and friendship with other students and their families as well as give us some feedback on how we compared with an outstanding high school choir.

After departing from Stoughton we proceeded to the Wisconsin state capitol in Madison. After singing several songs we gathered around the rotunda, held hands, and sang "Ye

Shall Have A Song." The sound of our voices reverberating throughout the capitol left us with an indescribable feeling of togetherness and excitement.

Saturday night we attended the musical "They're Playing Our Song" at Durury Lane Theater in Chicago. To make the evening extra special many choir members donned dresses and three piece suits. Most of us found our first exposure to a professionally performed musical entertaining. After the musical we ascended the John Hancock Building to view the big city at night. The view from the top of the Hancock Building was spectacular.

Of course, the ten concerts we performed were certainly the most rewarding part of the tour for many of us. Our performances were a culmination of weeks of hard work. Not all of our performances went exactly as we might have wanted them to go, but the togetherness, excitement, and pride was the ultimate reward for me and, I'm sure, many others.

sports

Boys' tennis team is on the ball

by Scott Reisdorf
Sports Writer

This year's boys' tennis team is very experienced. The team only lost three people this year due to graduation. Fourteen people are returning from last year. The tennis team should have one of its finest years this year.

Coach Joe Poncin is expecting leadership from Mike Ballard and Dan Esser, who are both seniors. The team is expecting strong doubles play from Scott Becker and Chap Hiza, who is returning after a year in England. Coach Poncin also says that he is relying on Garth Dietrich and Mike Donnelly to give the team plenty of strength. Paul Ringhofer and John Hoggatt are also part of the "Backbone" of the team. The rest of the team consists of Gerard Schwartz, Dave Kretsch, Duane Burdorf, Kris Woff, John Keyes, Ron Drahota, Al Bastian, Mike Puchner, and Vic Klossen. Of all these players, only three are newcomers.

Even with all of the returning lettermen, it is still going to be hard to beat Blue Earth. Blue Earth has captured the South Central Championship 19 of the past 20 years. Like so many years, Blue Earth will be the team to beat.

The team's first match was in Mankato, Thursday April 15. Although they were expected to win, because of the late snow, the team didn't have much practice time. In fact, at some of the early practices the team was forced to sweep snow and dirt off the courts.

The results of the first match against Mankato was a disaster. Only one of the singles matches was won and all of the doubles matches were lost. With spring finally arriving, the team will be able to practice regularly. The boys cannot look ahead to the Blue Earth match, or they may miss the chance to have a winning season or contend for the conference championships.

Eagles' Eye



by Rick Lietz
Sports Columnist

"Cut, cut, and cut some more!" That's what schools across the state are doing, and New Ulm is no exception.

Schools are being forced to cut back or totally eliminate programs because of decreasing state funds. New Ulm's extra-curricular activity budget has been hit to the tune of an expected \$46,000 in cuts!

Boys' Gymnastics will be eliminated next year. A boys' and girls' coach will be dropped from the senior high. Students participating in track now have to supply their own sweats. There will be no hockey sticks, (three per player), baseball bat, or softball bats that have, up until now, been supplied by the school. There won't be any towel service after this year. Can you imagine how happy mom will be washing those aromatic towels for her athletic youngsters?

Other cuts might not affect you, but they'll possibly affect younger siblings in the Junior High. A coach will be cut in both Golf and Boys Cross Country.

The activity bus has already been cut to three days a week, and might be

eliminated next year. Won't the country folks be delighted to pick up their kids every day after practice?

For those sports that aren't cut, a participation fee will be charged. It will cost \$25 to play football or hockey; all other sports will cost \$20. Even cheerleading and pom-pom will cost \$10. There is a \$100 maximum fee per family. These fees should generate about \$10,000, which may prevent further cuts from being made next year.

At the elementary level there won't be any sports at all! You know, the last couple of years New Ulm has been improving in sports. Things could again reverse themselves with these cuts.

These are just some of the cuts that have been made so far, but athletics at NUHS might be asked to cut more. I hope that doesn't happen! Enough is enough; the sports program has been hurt already!

Clif Anderson, NUHS Athletic Director, said, "Everyone says it's going to be tough for a couple of years. It'll never be as good as it was a few years ago, when we had girls' sports really coming up along with the boys' program."

Things are, and will be, different in our sports program. I only wish the good people of New Ulm would have realized what was at stake when the tax levy vote took place! I have to believe that keeping our high level of education and sports would have been well worth the extra few dollars each would have paid in taxes. Even for those who don't have kids in school! After all, the products of our school are a reflection of our whole community.

Bases loaded for prosperous season



Co-captains Julie Kitzberger left and Chris Portner right are warming up with hopes for a prosperous season.

by Keith Smythe
Sports Writer

This year's varsity girls' softball team is looking forward to a very prosperous season — and they have good reason to. With seven returning lettermen from a team that was 18-2 and conference champions a year ago, and several players up from last year's B-squad that had a 16-0 record, the team is loaded with talent. Coach Jim Pearson says, "This is the most talented team in my four years of coaching."

There are seven seniors on the team and several of them are standouts. For example, senior co-captains, Julie Kitzberger and Chris Portner are both three-year veterans of varsity play. Portner plays third base and is a two-year letterman. Another standout is senior Mary Moriarty who was an all-conference catcher last year. Other seniors on the team are Michelle Breu (first base), Cindy Herzog (outfield),

Kristy Paulson (outfield), and Deb Thill (outfield). With this many seniors on the team, there is a lot of experience which will help to stabilize the team throughout the season.

There are also seven underclassmen on the team. The four juniors include Tracy Steinbach, who is back in the line-up after suffering torn ligaments during the basketball season. She will probably be playing some first base this year, but so far nothing is definite. Audrey Webster, who is up from the C-squad last year, has shown marked improvement and will be a starting pitcher this season. The two other juniors are Sandy Portner, who will be chasing down fly balls in the outfield, and Wendy Zimmerman.

Although juniors and seniors dominate this year's line-up, there is still room for three outstanding sophomores up from last year's B-squad. Shelly Bode and Anne LeGare will be battling it out for the

starting nod at second base, and Lori Roloff will be in the outfield.

It is evident that the team has good depth, and Pearson says that he will "have quality people covering up for someone who may get injured." Depth at every one of the positions is essential in order to have a winning season.

Although New Ulm is not a dynasty in girls' softball, the Eagles have won the conference championship three years in a row, and Pearson thinks that his team will be near the top of the conference standings again.

According to Pearson, this year's team has better, stronger defense than last year's team that had an 18-2 record. The most important part of having good defense is speed, and Pearson says that this year's team is also quicker and faster than last year's. With more quickness, the baserunning should also benefit immensely. Pearson says that the team should be tough to beat.

Baseball is a good catch

by Tom Bruels
Sports Writer

In keeping with tradition the New Ulm Eagles baseball team expects to be in the thick of the South Central conference race. Not only are high expectations traditional, but success in terms of wins is traditional as well.

After tying with Waseca for the South Central Conference title last season, The Eagles expect a tight race for conference crown this year. St. James and St. Peter have strong pitching, and Waseca and Fairmont are looking to be more than competitive. "It'll be a balanced conference, but we can beat anybody in the conference," stated senior Steve Forstner. Landis Froehling added, "We have a decent chance at winning the conference."

The weather this spring has not been conducive to outdoor activities so practice has been confined to the gymnasium for the most part. Since the senior high gym is not quite the Metrodome, practice has been limited. The players can take infield on the hard floor, hit in the batting net, loosen their arms, and the pitchers can

throw, but that's about it.

The Eagles have a lot of lettermen returning, but few of those lettermen have much varsity experience. The team is led by captains Doug Zimmerman and Steve Forstner and seniors Landis Froehling, Dan Backer, Tracy Miklas, Brian Bastian, Kevin Ulrich, and Dan Schneider.

The outfield starters may consist of all seniors while the infield may be comprised of all juniors. The team will rely on good hitting and good defense because at this point their biggest question mark is pitching. After losing aces Eric Wilner and Ray Achman from last year's squad, the Eagles will probably go with Steve Forstner, Kevin Ulrich, Mike Shavlik, and Doug Zimmerman as their top pitchers.

The goal for the team this year is to win the conference championship again. Another goal for the team is to make it to regional play later this spring. Forstner said, "The seniors at least want to go to regions for sure and go on from there, but subregions will be tough."



Pete Martens is ready to hit while Brian Kjelskus watches from behind.

Golf irons out problems

by Mike Donnelly
Sports Writer

This spring's weather has wreaked havoc on NUHS athletic teams. Track teams have been running and lifting indoors, baseball and softball teams have been hitting and throwing indoors, and the tennis team has been sneaking to the indoor confines of Mankato and Vogel Arena to get in some indoor hitting. However, the plight of the golf teams is the worst, as they are forced to practice iron shots against a net backdrop. When you're used to hitting drives 150-200 yards long, the approximately 70-80 foot long auxiliary gym just doesn't cut it. About the closest thing they've had to a real round of golf so far was watching the Masters golf championship on TV.

One consolation, however, is that the golfers can be sure no one is ahead of them in terms of practicing. The bad

weather has undoubtedly forced all teams indoors. The second consolation is the fact that both boys' and girls' teams should be good this year. Particularly promising are the girls. Coach Lowell Liedmann lost not a soul from last year's team that finished 4th in the region. Those vying for varsity spots this year include Mo Kelly, Beth Norman, Laura Anfang, Katie Roberts, Kari Ahlstrand, Lynn Wirebaugh, Sue Blackstad, and Jill Radke. Boys' coach Dick Werdahl, although losing some key boys from last year's team, has a young team with excellent potential. Leading candidates for varsity positions are Matt Stroud, Mark Stolte, John Schuetzle, Bruce Lindemann, Dave Clyne, and John Martinka, all juniors; and Troy Rockvam and Grant Kruckeberg, both freshmen.



Chris Schmitz throws the discus during one of the few outdoor practices.

Track team is a hop, skip, and jump ahead

by Larry Osborne
Sports Writer

The New Ulm High School track teams started their season with two meets at the Mankato State University field house. The first contest was a South Central Conference meet in which the boys finished fourth out of five teams and the girls finished third. Boy's head coach Skip Davis and girl's head coach Ev Steffel both thought their teams accomplished a lot in the first meet.

In the New Ulm Invitational the boys finished third behind first place Redwood Falls and second place Little Falls but ahead of Faribault and Wabasso.

A few of the competitors in the boys' events are sophomore Todd Domine in the pole vault, seniors Dave Jobe throwing the shotput and Rob Mielke hurling the discus. Junior Scott Walden and senior Todd Stock compete in the 100-meter dash while senior Joel Johanson, last year's 1981 State Track meet participant, will be

running the 200-meter dash. Senior John Gag (his first year out for track) will be running in the 400-meter event along with Johanson.

There is one new event this year, the triple jump, which consists of a running start, one hop, a skip, and a jump. The combined distance of all three movements is then measured. The boys trying out for this event are Dean Runck, Mitch Haber, Dave Quiggle, and Phil Wagner.

Some of the girls competing are junior Pam Bloedel and senior Kathy Davis in the shot while Chris Schmitz is hurling the discus. Cindy Fiemeyer will be sprinting in the 200-meter, Leigh Ann Thompson and Krista Bloedel in the low hurdles, and harriers Lisa Block and Sandy Guggisburg will run the 1600-meters.

The boys feel they will be contenders for the South Central Conference crown along with favorites Fairmont and St. Peter. Dash speedster Scott Walden said, "There'll be a lot of good competition this year, but if we work hard we'll have a pretty good chance."



Dick Schultz and Joel Johanson warm up before track practice.