

the graphos

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One act play cast performs at state

by Maren Olson
Graphos Reporter

"Of course, it's horrible - it's supposed to be! That's what you get for being crazy!" To a casual listener these lines from "The Insanity of Mary Girard" may seem simple. To the cast of this one-act play, they're a nightmare. Each word is said by a different person - but the line must be smooth, as if said by a single voice. This difficult technique is part of their effort to interpret the story.

The play centers around Mary Girard (**Jen Eyrich**), who has been put into an insane asylum by her husband, Steven Girard (**Peter Schroeder**). She isn't actually crazy - at least not yet.

In the insane asylum are "furies," whose goal is to drive Mary insane. These spirit-like creatures are constantly picking at Mary and playing with her emotions. During the production they each represent someone from Mary's life. Mary speaks to these people, but it's as if she's remembering or dreaming since they aren't actually there. Mr. Phillips (**Eirik Gislason**) is the doctor at the institution. He appears to have good intentions, but Steven Girard's money speaks so loudly that Phillips can't ignore him



The one act play cast posed for a picture prior to performing "The Insanity of Mary Girard" in the Region 2AA contest.

and his wishes. Polly Kenton (**Carrie Braulick**) is Mr. Girard's housekeeper/mistress. She knows that Mr. Girard hates Mary and takes pleasure in informing her of that fact. Mrs. Lum (**Allison Koeckeritz**) is Mary's mother. She and Mary have had little contact since Mary's marriage to Mr. Girard and Mrs. Lum is very bitter towards Mary because of this. The Warder (**Jerod Spilman**)

locked Mary up. She is terrified of what he may do to her because he seems mad too. Mrs. Hatcher (**Lezley Yarger**) is the woman who cares for the baby Mary has while she is in the institution. She seems nice on the outside, but her past is somewhat shady. All of these characters cause the already distraught Mary to become even more upset. The ultimate blow comes when her husband shows up for real and tells her she is

crazy and that he's fixed it so that she'll never get out of the asylum.

Throughout the play, the cast puts forth tremendous effort to make the audience feel as Mary does - extremely uncomfortable. This feeling and other things make the play a very difficult one to do. Koeckeritz said, "The hardest part was trying to act the furies. It's hard because you have to act crazy... the sentences are all cut up and you have to remember which words are yours and when they come." The directors, **Tim Werner** and **Laura Wolf**, commented that although it is a very difficult play, they have a talented cast. They also said the student directors (**Amy Mayer** and **Allison Koeckeritz**) and the cast were very dedicated and have put in many, many hours of practice - more than 20 hours a week.

The one-act play is part of a state-wide high school contest. Each play must be less than 35 minutes, although many schools simply shorten a longer play to fit the requirements. This one-act play recently finished first at the Region 2AA contest. New Ulm's performance topped six other schools in the region. The state appearance marked the first time NUHS has sent a one-act play to the state contest since 1974.

Besse oversees harassment policy

by Jen Eyrich
Graphos Reporter

Unless they have been sleeping for the past few months, everyone is aware of what sexual harassment is and why it should be eliminated. Not many people, however, know what to do if they are being sexually harassed.



Human Rights Officer Nancy Besse says that many students do not take sexual harassment situations seriously.

In a recent presentation to senior high students, attorney, **Susan E. Torgerson** defined sexual harassment as behavior or words of a sexual or gender demeaning nature that are not welcome. This behavior pressures, intimidates, or makes someone uncomfortable at school or work.

Independent School District #88 has had an established sexual harassment policy since 1989. With awareness of the problem increasing, students need to be aware of the policy. All sexual harassment cases are handled by the District Human Rights Officer **Nancy Besse**.

"This policy is a rule, just like no smoking or no drinking in school. We feel that the students have a right to know the rules," said Besse about the policy.

There have been presentations to

students and faculty about their rights concerning sexual harassment. Torgerson met with senior high students earlier this year explaining and discussing sexual harassment.

The junior high enlisted the aid of juniors and seniors to explain sexual harassment and present some role playing situations. Different types of harassment were portrayed, including the difference between flirting and harassing.

If a student feels they have been or are being sexually harassed, they can do something about it. They should tell a counselor, building principal, or Besse. If they do not go directly to Besse, the counselor or principal will submit a written report about the situation to her within 24 hours. There is then a 10-day maximum investigation period.

During the investigation, the victim, offender, and witnesses (if any) will be questioned to determine if harassment has occurred. The report and investigation will be kept strictly confidential.

So how has all this attention to harassment affected student behavior? According to Besse, there has not been an increase in cases. Many students treat harassment as a joke and don't take it seriously. Some harassing behavior may seem trivial, but it can make a person uncomfortable if it is repeated.

The intent of the recent awareness is not to make students feel as though they cannot talk to members of the opposite sex. There is nothing wrong with flirting, but students need to be aware of when it can become harassment.

editorial

Graphos staff cuts spending



by Sarah Schmitz
Graphos Editor

In anticipation of another round of school district budget cuts, everyone is trying to cut corners to save money. The last issue of **The Graphos** was our first attempt to reduce publishing costs.

For decades the Graphos editors have sent all copy to Master Graphics typists who printed the stories, headlines, and captions. If there were any errors or the headlines

didn't fit, they were sent back for revisions. Now all of this typesetting can be done at school on a Macintosh computer. With the help of our staff and several student volunteers, we typed all of the copy of the last Graphos ourselves.

The Macintosh's word processing capabilities enable us to produce body copy, headlines, and captions, and change their size, if necessary, to fit the layout. The laser printer provides us with the same quality results we have had in previous years from a professional printer.

Yearbook funds were used to purchase a Macintosh computer from Jostens for use by the school's publications' staffs. We saved over \$200 by typing the copy of the last Graphos ourselves. The money we save in three issues of the Graphos will more than cover the cost of the computer.

We're off to a slow start, but we hope to become more efficient. But all the extra time and energy spent pays off when we get the bill.

Japanese play international trade game unfairly

by Nick Born
Special Assignment

If the economic relations between the U.S. and Japan were a sports game, the Japanese would be forced to forfeit because of cheating. The Japanese do not play fairly, and I think the U.S. should do something about this unfair competition.

On a monetary level there are many examples of this "unfair play." We import nearly \$50 billion of products from Japan every year while they import only a small fraction of American-made products. In addition, on what American goods they do import, they tack on ungodly high tariffs so the average Japanese worker can't afford to buy them. Besides what we import, the Japanese have \$2.6 billion worth of our average yearly construction market. We buy about \$200 million worth of their \$275 billion a year market. I'd hardly call that fair.

The Japanese also play unfairly in other areas. They wiggle their way around in order to find loopholes in our laws that they then exploit. An example of a loophole situation is a small element of the Japanese furniture industry as it operates in this country. The U.S. considers goods produced beyond a certain coastal boundary as imports. The Japanese log forests in Washington state and load the

trees onto Japanese factory ships where the rough timber is changed into cut timber and then hand-made furniture. This furniture is then shipped to California ports where it can be sold as "hand-made, imported goods" at an inflated price. This furniture is hardly imported; it's made from American lumber only a few miles off the American coast.

Often the Japanese create "stupid" trade barriers, make rules, or interpret their laws in a way to discourage American business persons from investing in Japanese ventures. One example of this action took place in the mid 1980s, when cellular phones were first coming out. Motorola, an American company, tried to get an early start in the Japanese market, but Japanese companies, not yet ready to market their phones, convinced their government to prevent the American companies from selling their products in Japan. The Japanese government told Motorola that there "weren't any frequencies available to them" in the Tokyo airwaves.

Also in this category is the common practice of Japanese bureaucrats to inspect every imported car. Unloading a ship in the U.S. takes several weeks. When a ship filled with foreign cars arrives at one of our ports, we randomly test several

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What's in - what's out Carli's Corner



by Carli Besse
Graphos Columnist

Almost every national magazine has written an in and out list for the new year. Therefore, I thought fashion conscious New Ulm High School needed its own list of what's hot and what's not.

Some of the biggest fashions in 1992 seem to be baggy jeans, Eastland boots, and rugby shirts. College sweatshirts and hockey jerseys are also seen on many senior high students this year.

Name brands fade in and out along with fashions, especially jeans. Girbaud and Z Cavaricci seem to be the big jean brands and have pushed Guess and Lee jeans, which used to be the top brands, to the wayside. Levi's seem as if they are here to stay. Remember when the more holes a person had in their jeans the better they were? No more.

Last year, if a person didn't pin their pants until their circulation was cut off, everyone thought you

were wearing bell-bottoms, the ultra fashion don't. This year pins on jeans are seen less often and people are either rolling their pants or leaving them straight.

B.U.M. Equipment is a fairly new brand name that is seen on a variety of sweatshirts. Esprit and Generra clothes are still as popular as ever.

The saying that if you save something long enough it will come back in style rang true this year with stirrup pants and bib-overalls making a comeback. So hang on to your Coca Cola shirts and your acid washed jeans. Who knows? They might become stylish again.

Girls aren't the only people who are fashion conscious. Even the guys will occasionally throw their flannel shirts and concert t-shirts to the wayside for an occasional Z Cavaricci or Guess shirt.

The way one dresses is an expression of that person's individuality. Some people dress in their own way and don't worry about what is in or out. This person makes the world more interesting because if everyone wore what was "in style" we would all be clones.

the graphos

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Junior criticizes dependent couples

by Jessica Clyne
Graphos Columnist

Almost everyone has a friend who has a boyfriend or a girlfriend, right? Well, how many times have you made plans with your friend, and they went out instead with their boyfriend or girlfriend? I think this has happened to all of us at one time or another: dumped by our friend for someone of the opposite sex.

I always hear people say how much more important friends are than boyfriends, but I really don't think there are many people who actually believe in that. Everyone has broken plans with a friend to go out on a date, right? I know some people who are never seen out unless they're with their boyfriend or girlfriend. I guess that's great for the time being, but what happens when he/she leaves, and all of their friends are no longer your friends?

I don't think people realize that a person can only put up with being ignored for so long, and then they move on to something else. Not all relationships are like this, but many are.

One thing I can't believe are these relationships in which one can't



go out unless he/she gives them permission or they both go together. I've actually heard of couples who go out alone only if the other person knows exactly where he/she is going and then tells that person what time to be home.

I'm writing about this topic because many individuals have talked to me about these kinds of relationships this year. Maybe people need to realize that friends should always come before boyfriends and girlfriends. Even though people think relationships will last forever, they usually don't. But chances are that your friends will always be there when you need them, right?

Stress factor causes students to crack

by Becky Retka
Graphos Reporter

By taking a good look around school, one can see many worried faces caused by too many problems. Stress may be a big factor; stress from the pressures of school, homework, parents, friends, jobs, relationships, decisions, and sports. With all these things going on at once, life can be quite a mess.

The pressures of school and homework are always able to be seen somewhere. Certain classes may require more time than others, and more work may be necessary if one class is neglected because of the work required for another. Tests are stressful for many students. Tests are often a large portion of the grade and studying for them sometimes takes time, which is something that some students can never find enough of. Time management is probably one of the best things that students learn in high school.

Parents, of course, are a great cause of stress. Some parents have certain expectations that may be difficult to meet. Grades, curfews, rules, driving, and money always seem to be good arguments between students and their parents. Sometimes, however, parents may be good relievers of stress. They may listen to problems, give advice, and help make decisions. Even though young adults want independence from their parents, sometimes it may

be comforting to know that parents are there to help.

Many students have part-time jobs that require time away from school or friends. Some employers require late hours, even on school nights. Consequently, some students find themselves too tired to study when they get home or even too tired to stay awake in class the next day. The solution is not to quit the job, as some teachers suggest, because the money is needed.

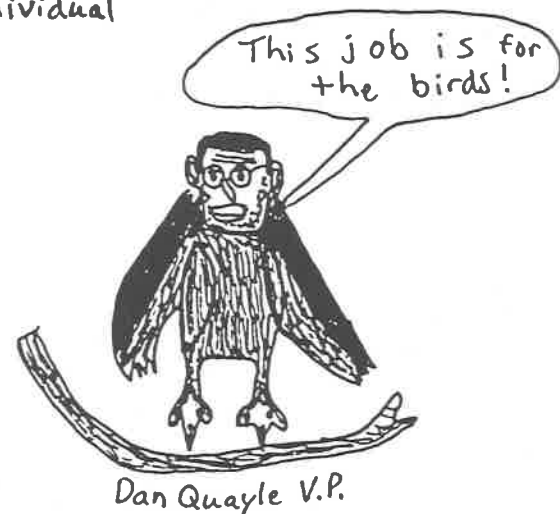
One of the reasons students need money is to save for college or school after graduation, another stressful problem. It is about this time of the year when seniors are making decisions about their futures. Am I going to college? Where? When? How am I going to get the money I need? Am I going to get a job instead of going to school? Where am I going to live? The questions seem endless. These decisions have to be made, but the choices that are made today affect the future.

Friends, relationships, sports, and extracurricular activities have much to do with high school. These are the things that many people say are the most enjoyable parts of high school. But there may be too many things going on at once to enjoy any of them.

Sometimes high school can be a wicked place. Boyfriends, girlfriends, and just plain old

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Unknown
Individual



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cars on the ship for safety and emissions standards. The Japanese, however, frequently inspect every car. As a result, unloading a ship in a Japanese port can take up to several months, not weeks. No business can afford the loss associated with this deliberate process so they often decide not to do business with a Japanese company. Another example of a "stupid trade barrier" involved several American and European ski manufacturers who wanted to sell their products in Japan. Citing the "fact" that 'Japanese snow is dif-

ferent from American snow," the Japanese government refused.

As you can see, the Japanese hardly play a fair game. As Americans, the easiest action for us is to buy American-made products whenever possible. I'm not asking anyone to boycott Japanese products, but if all things are equal, I'd buy the one manufactured by an American company because even if the product is not American-made, at least the profits will go to an American company.

Student questions thrills of drinking

To the editor:

Is it really necessary to drink to have a good time? Many times I have asked myself why people drink, and, for the most part, they don't even know why they drink. Maybe it's just to evade the law. When you were a kid, your mom told you not to touch the stove so what did you do? Touch the stove. Sounds childish to me. "Let's go drink, and see if we can get away with it." The first good reason not to drink is obvious. It's illegal if you're under 21.

Sometimes people start drinking because of peer pressure. I think it's time you made some of your own decisions. If you can't decide what you want for yourself, when can you make your own decisions?

Do you really need alcohol to have a good time? If you do, you must have some serious problems. Could you have just as much fun with a keg of 1919 root beer or some other kind of soft drink? If not, something is definitely wrong.

Beer costs twice as much as pop. If you're into hard liquor, the cost difference is even greater. I don't have a lot of money, and if I did, I'd find something better to spend it on than alcohol.

When I have a good time with my friends, it's nice to remember

what we did. If you were drunk, how often do you remember what you did, and how much fun did you really have? Also, if you're really drunk, you do things you wouldn't normally do. This may be a little extreme, but you might also die in a car accident. Do you think you could live in peace if you are the one who killed someone else because you were driving drunk?

I've never woke up with a hangover, but I've heard they're not much fun. Waking up in the morning feeling sick and puking all over is not my idea of having fun.

I still wonder why teenagers drink. I think the non-alcoholics have a better case, but you're big enough to decide that for yourself, aren't you?

Letter signed but name withheld upon request

Letters

The Graphos welcomes the opinions of our readers in letters addressed "To the Editors." Each letter must be signed by the writer. It should be short and to the point in order to ensure their publication without condensation.

people

Russian family seeks freedom in New Ulm

by Allison Koeckeritz
Graphos Editor

In the 1690's John Locke suggested that everyone has the right to life, liberty, and property. Locke's idea inspired the writers of the Constitution, and now it can be seen in the form of the Bill on Rights.

In November 1990, a little over a year ago, a family from Brest, U.S.S.R., came to the United States.

Their reasons for coming were to escape religious persecution and seek economic freedom. They were looking for a better way of life here in New Ulm.

The Parkomchuk family is sponsored by two local churches, Our Saviors Lutheran and Christ the King. When they arrived, the sponsor churches set them up with the basic necessities of housing, furniture, rides to and from work, and various other things. It was a program supported by Lutheran Social Services.

They are a family of eight. The mother and her six children, one who has a child of her own, all live together in an apartment in the city. There is still one married sister and her family who remain in Russia.

Four of them are currently working at Dittrich Specialties. They

have a great desire to be independent. One of them is presently taking behind the wheel. He has his driver's permit and is hoping to get his license soon.

The youngest, who is the daughter of Natalya, is named Lesya, a first grader at Jefferson Elementary. She is an outgoing little girl full of fun. She speaks English fairly well because she has been exposed to it in school.

Recently most of the Parkomchuks have begun taking language programs available to them. For awhile they had people coming to their home to teach them.

They are used to the cold Minnesota weather. When they were asked if they were cold during the Halloween Blizzard, they answered with a confident "No."

The Parkomchuk family is a fun bunch of people. You may find some of them dancing and singing while others are playing the accordion.

They are planning on staying in New Ulm and hope to get other friends and family to join them. This may take some time because it is getting harder to leave their country. Hopefully the deterioration of the Soviet Union will bring about positive changes that will make their wish a reality



Al Hawkins and Arlene Stewart are co-chairs of the CAPP committee that will evaluate the school district's art curriculum.

Stewart and Hawkins develop CAPPS Program

by Heather Besse
Graphos Reporter

"All the arts for the kids is the jist of our mission through the CAPPS Program," said Al Hawkins about goals set for CAPP (Comprehensive Arts Planing Program) within the next few years. Arlene Stewart and Al Hawkins are co-chairs of the CAPP committee for Independent School District #88.

CAPP is a state program involving grants given to each accepted school district. In order to receive this grant, an application must first be submitted. Out of 42 applicants 30 were accepted into the program. ISD #88's application was ranked fifth of those 30 recipients. The grant involves a two-year total of \$2500, \$1250 each year. This money is just "seed money," said Hawkins. It will only pay for the initial planning of the program.

The CAPP committee consists of a variety of people, including librarians, elementary classroom and music teachers, English teachers, business people, art teachers, community artists, and administrators.

Evaluating the art curriculum of the district is one of the plans of the committee. All art forms will be explored. They will be looking for both strengths and weaknesses in the district's curriculum.

Hawkins and Stewart plan to keep the school board current on CAPP's progress. They are currently showing some form of the arts in the district to the board each month. In December the Payne Street Singers performed; in January pottery and drawings

of senior high students were displayed. In February elementary students read their literary compositions to the board.

The initial purpose of CAPP is making people in the community aware of the school's arts program. Eventually more well rounded arts curriculum for students will result from CAPP. Stewart said, "I'd like to see kids at all different grade levels have a chance to experience all art forms on a more hit than miss basis. All the arts for all the kids."

Kowazu notices differences between Japan and U.S.

by Scott Varland
Graphos Reporter

AFS foreign exchange student Tomoko Kawazu, who lives with John and Loretta Monson of New Ulm, has noticed several differences between the Japanese and American people.



AFS foreign exchange student Tomoko Kawazu has noticed several differences in life style between the U.S. and Japan.

Kawazu, a senior, is from Kumamoto, Japan, which is located on a south island and is the second largest city on the island. New Ulm, Kawazu says, "seems more crowded," however. She also says that the transportation is better in Kumamoto. She is able to ride a tram or subway to wherever she wants to go on the island. It is not difficult to get a car in Japan, but one cannot get a driver's license until they are 18 years old.

Noticing differences in life styles has also been obvious to Kawazu. "The clothes are brighter here." Getting used to American food is

Bubble Bath

I'm crazy, you're crazy.
no wait, it's crazy
feelings are crazy
actions are crazy
But mind over matter never counts
fighting the fear of fear
braving the insanity, until,
Wait, I hear them,
Quite soft at first

Calling me,
Calling me to them
What are they I cannot tell

I reach out

I see them as they disappear
As my hand emerges in
I feel a cool, airy feeling
then a burning, flaming feeling
Yell in pain
break the trance
For bubbles and hot water are what they are

by Ashley Ahl

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IDS financial planner Tim Schultz recently completed teaching an applied economics class through a Junior Achievement program associated with the Social Studies 12 class.



Schultz talks economics with social studies students

by Dawn Arlandson
Graphos Reporter

A volunteer is a special person who takes their time, talents, and abilities to help someone else. **Tim Schultz** is one of those volunteers.

Schultz took time during a busy work schedule at IDS Financial Services to teach Applied Economics once a week in Social Studies 12. Every Wednesday for about eight weeks Schultz took over the class for Ed Weber and talked about economics, financial services, and local business practices.

A graduate of NUHS, Schultz received his teaching degree from Mankato State University and taught for three years until his job was eliminated because of budget cuts. For the last seven years he has been a successful financial planner with State Bond and more recently with IDS.

Schultz has returned to the classroom through Junior Achievement, a program designed to introduce students to economics and the nation's economic system. "It's fun to get back in the classroom again, and I know the kids enjoy the day off." Schultz recognized a

change in students' attitudes: "It's good to see students thinking and using their knowledge."

Schultz' professional schedule varies greatly from day to day according to his clients' needs. "The favorite part of my job is the people and the satisfaction I get from solving their problems and knowing I've met their long-term objectives." Because of the many investment options available today, his approach depends solely on the client's individual situation.

The slowdown in the economy has resulted in a change in people's attitudes towards investments. "People actually are more aggressive in the recession. With interest rates so low, traditional savings accounts aren't producing enough return. This has resulted in clients taking more chances with stocks or mutual funds."

When Schultz isn't busy providing investment advice to his clients or volunteering his time to economics students at NUHS, he enjoys golf. During the winter he plays basketball and runs to keep fit.

predetermined curriculum with little opportunity for electives. She has a class before school starts and two classes after school, totalling nine classes a day. She goes to school every day of the week. Her schedule is not the same for every day, but she has some classes at certain hours on certain days of the week. The classes are difficult with homework every night.

After school students are allowed to belong to clubs or participate in sports; however, only one club or sport per year is permitted. The activity lasts for the entire year. Last year she belonged to an art club.

Kawazu hopes to go to college next year just like many seniors at NUHS. In Japan there are different colleges for different specialties. The college she wants to attend is in Tokyo.

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another aspect of Kawazu's experience. Japanese eat more fish than Americans, for example, and they usually eat toast and rice for breakfast. "I've never had potato chips with a meal before," she said, "just for snacks."

For entertainment she goes to concerts, especially pop music. Japanese and American music are similar, and on many occasions, she can listen to both. She can also catch American and other foreign-made films at the cinema as well. Japanese television includes sitcoms, drama, cartoons, sports, and music, pretty much what is shown in the U.S.

The differences in the schools are the things Kawazu notices the most. She attends the public high school in Kumamoto, which has a

Student teachers build schools of the future

by Jerod Spilman
Graphos Reporter

Have you ever wondered what going to high school in the year 2000 will be like? A possible answer can be found by talking to today's student teachers. NUHS has three student teachers working in social studies and physical education.

Duane Wilson is a 1981 graduate of Fox Valley Lutheran High School in Appleton, Wisconsin. After graduation Wilson served in the Navy for four years before attending DMLC to get a teaching degree in the Wisconsin Synod school system.

After two and a half years Wilson transferred to Mankato State University, where he majored in social studies/history and minored in special education.



Duane Wilson has been observing a special education class taught by June Schroepfer.

He began teaching history in the junior high with Wally Sagmoen. In addition to teaching history, he helped Pat Reedy's special education class at Washington Elementary. Currently he is observing June Schroepfer's class in the high school.

Wilson has lived in New Ulm for six years. "I've enjoyed my time here," he said. His main focus will be to find a teaching job in either Minnesota, Iowa, or Wisconsin after he graduates. He has a wife and a two-year old daughter and works at the group home across from the junior high.

Another social studies student teacher is **Kristin Thompson**, a 1986 graduate of Farmington High School. She is obtaining her teaching certificate from Mankato State University after graduating from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Thompson is student teaching with Lowell Liedman and Jim Senske. "They have been really helpful," Thompson said. Aside from an interest in teaching, she likes to water-ski, swim, read, and go camping. She is married and lives

in Redwood Falls with her husband, who owns the Red Owl/Super Value in town. Her future plans include finding a teaching position in the Redwood Falls area.



Kristen Thompson hopes to find a teaching position in the Redwood Falls area after she completes her student teaching at NUHS.

Kyhl Thompson is a 1985 graduate of Tracy High School. He is attending Mankato State University majoring in physical education with a minor in adaptive physical education.

Thompson is assisting Dave Curry and Rich Peterson, who are showing him "the ropes" of high school phys. ed. In addition to teaching, Thompson likes all sports and games. "I was in intramurals at MSU," said Thompson. He also enjoys broom ball, a game played much like hockey except a broom is used instead of a hockey stick.

He is living in Mankato and plans to marry in July. He knows the job market is tight but will try to make himself "as presentable as possible" to schools looking for a phys. ed. teacher.

Although the future is not yet upon us, it is interesting to find out who will be teaching our kids. Tomorrow's schools will be staffed by student teachers very much like the three who are currently practicing their skills at NUHS.



Kyhl Thompson is student teaching under the supervision of physical education teacher Dave Curry and Rich Peterson.



Students in Survival Class busily roll out Valentine cookies. Nate Grant tests the dough.

Love bug bites NUHS students

by Paul Kluge
Graphos Reporter

Valentine's Day is a sign that the "season of love" is once again upon us. Evidence of the time was showing up all over the school. More and more couples were walking hand-in-hand down the halls. Others were flocking to jewelry shops and florists looking for the perfect gift.

The Valentine's Dance was also a big part of many people's plans. It sure was a time for new romances to begin. After all, everyone needs a Valentine on Valentine's Day.

All of these signs signaled the approach of Valentine's Day at NUHS, but the day would not have complete without cookies and carnations? They were sent to "friends" with messages such as "I love you," "Be mine," or "Guess who?" Sometimes the cookies caused surprise or confusion when the recipient wasn't sure who sent the gift.

The cookies were ordered for \$1.50 and decorated with a frosted message for that special someone. Baked and decorated by the home economics students according to a well-guarded, secret recipe, the cookies are delivered during the school day.

Orders were taken during lunch weeks before Valentine's Day by representatives of the home economics classes. Future Leaders of America also sold colored carnations to complement the cookies.

This year the cookies were baked by the members of two Survival classes, an Importance of Foods class, and another advanced cooking class. During the two weeks before Valentine's Day, these classes baked and decorated over 420 cookies. Those who bake got to eat the extra dough or broken cookies at the end of the hour; however, some of the broken cookies weren't entirely the result of accidents.

There were a few changes from the way the cookies were baked last year. For one thing, they were a little smaller in order to reduce breakage. The smaller cookies also benefited those who are watching what they eat.

The Valentine cookie tradition began about 10 years ago when Jill Curry, then a home economics teacher, thought it was a good way to celebrate Valentine's Day. In that first year 50 cookies were sold, but after that the cookie sale really caught on. About 350 cookies were ordered last year and a similar number was expected to be delivered this year.

New Ulm businesses affected by recession

by Kevin Dauer
Graphos Reporter

Although President George Bush avoids admitting the fact that this country is in the midst of an economic recession, the city of New Ulm's business district does not agree with him. A majority of those business owners who were consulted agreed that New Ulm's economic condition has fallen slightly since this time last year.

According to the owners/managers of the clothing stores of the city, the usual Christmas buying spree did not make up for the poor sales of 1991. During the height of the Christmas shopping season, business in New Ulm's downtown Marktplatz Mall was not substantial enough to produce large profits for the mall's retailers. One mall official stated, "People just don't have the money to spend this year."

As national retail chains like Macy's file for bankruptcy protection, the shops and stores of New Ulm face increased property taxes and an overall decrease in customer sales. A brief glance at the southern half of the

Marktplatz Mall and various empty store fronts downtown indicates that New Ulm's economy in the past few years has not stimulated business growth.

As in any economic system, the demand for a food supply has kept the financial condition of New Ulm's grocery stores relatively stable. A number of spokespeople from area eating establishments also commented that the last fiscal year, although not a record year, was financially satisfactory.

New Ulm High School students haven't felt the recession like the business community. With no housing and/or food costs, those students with gainful employment can afford to spend some money. However, the general adult population of New Ulm is struggling at this time just to stay out of debt.

As the recession digs deeper into the pockets of the American public, New Ulm's business community is going to have to buckle down and endure economic hardships or face the possibility of being forced out of business.

Stairways going up and down
Just like my life's a wander
Feelings streaming every way
As the days grow longer
Thinking next day
Will be brighter,
Higher
Instead lower
Stairs lead out
Beyond my sight
Stairs lead in
To eternity
Going crazy
That's what they'll say
Stairs lead in
To a darker day
People wonder who's to blame
Parents, Friends, Drugs, Alcohol
Nothing but blues
Were reaching out
To grasp him
Beyond the land
They took us
Our voices
Eternity Unheard

by Ashley Ahl

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friends often cause the most stress for students. High school friends are one of the most important parts of life, and those relationships are taken very seriously.

Sports cause a great deal of stress among athletes. There are expectations set by the coach, the athletes, the team, the parents, and the spectators. How can all these people be pleased at the same time? Competition is a good part

of athletics, but too much competition can cause too much stress so a satisfactory level must be found, even if the game is not won.

If caught up with too many things to do and not enough time to do them, it might be a good idea to slow down the pace and take time to smell the roses. Somewhere there is an answer to the problem, it may just require a long walk before it is found.

Students jam at MADD conference

Teens from NUHS joined with high school students from 87 Minnesota school districts at YOUTHJAM '92, a MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) sponsored empowerment conference designed to electrify teens to action on today's most important issues.

The youth conference drew 1300 participants to the St. Cloud Civic Center on Saturday, Febuauy 1.

YOUTHJAM '92 offered 40 different workshops on such topics as: "Self Defense - MADD & A Commitment to courage," and; "Intimacy vs. Intensity In relationships," a workshop designed to teach young people to be more effective in the grassroots fight against drunk driving. The goal of every workshop was to teach teens new skills to bring back to their respective schools and pass on to their peers.

sports

Referees call for respect



by Alissa Swenson
Graphos Reporter

Some sort of an official is necessary in every organized athletic event. They are supposed to be impartial and judge fairly the game. I have seen all kinds of referees: from college students to those who have been doing officiating for years. They all look at things differently.

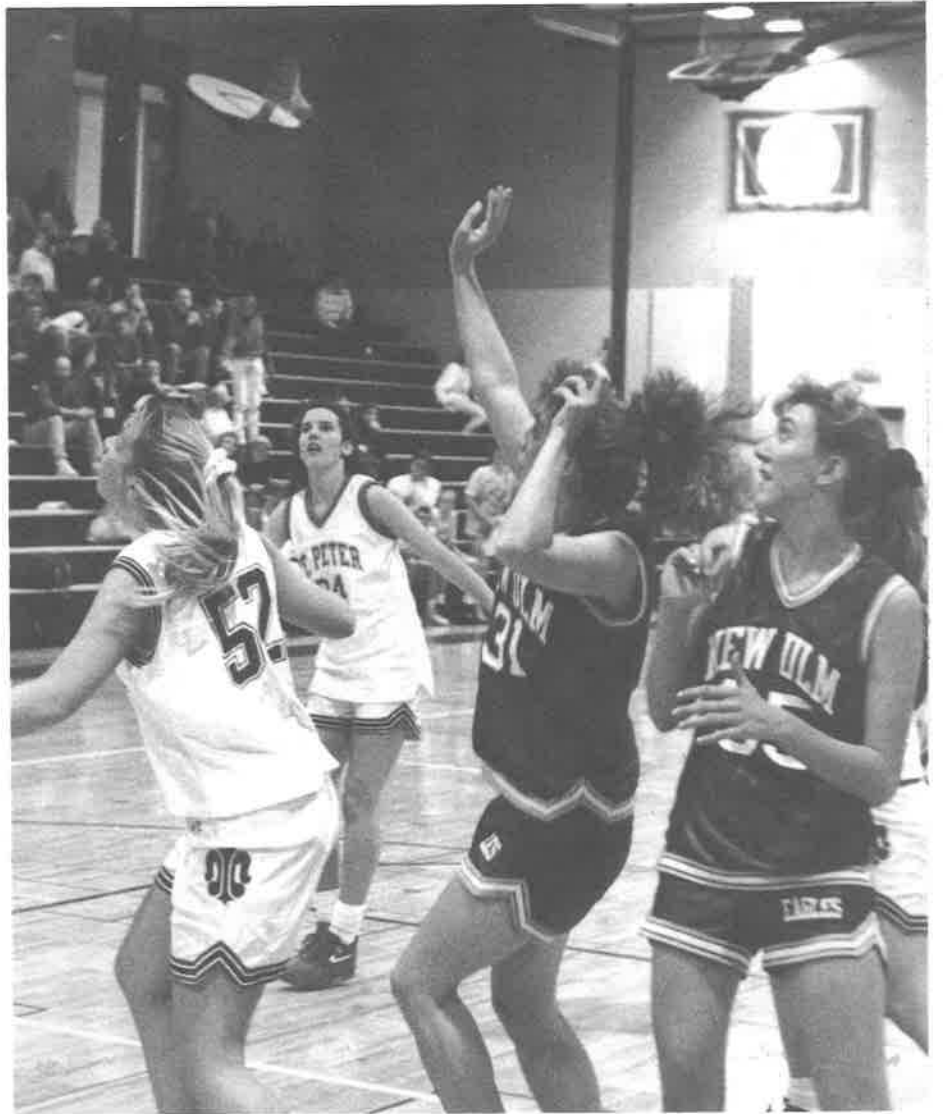
Our basketball game with Worthington was officiated by good ref-

erees. They explained every call so the players knew exactly what they did wrong, and their constant comments were positive reminders.

Last year in a basketball game at Wells, the final number of fouls was 34 for New Ulm and nine for them. There is absolutely no reason to have that many fouls. If I remember correctly, the referees left the game in a hurry.

During a basketball camp I attended last summer one of the speakers talked to us about respecting referees. He said that referees are only human and are bound to make mistakes. I have tried to respect referees, but when they call fouls on us and not on our opponents, I get upset.

Officiating is something I would never want to do because I wouldn't be able to handle the harassment. Maybe we should all give referees a little more respect, but criticizing their calls sure makes the game more enjoyable.



Senior Tricia Reinhart puts up the jumper while teammate Stacy Kirchberg looks on.

Eagles hustle through strenuous practices

by Darin Bunkers
Graphos Reporter

The average fan at a girls' basketball game probably doesn't appreciate the hard work and dedication that goes into putting together a cohesive team.

A typical practice day starts with 10 minutes of free shooting. This time is used for improving each player's shooting skills. After this individual work, the team works together on an "11-man" fast break drill, which consists of a three-on-two fast break situation. The defenders either steal the ball, get the rebound, or take the ball out of bounds after a made shot. They then work on their own fast break with a quick outlet pass to an awaiting third player. The three break up court to meet two new defenders who have stepped on court. This drill is used to improve ball handling and decision-making skills.

About a half an hour into practice the girls start a three-man weave designed to improve ball handling and team conditioning. After approximately 10 minutes of weaving, the girls continue practice with half court and full court offense and defense. They'll review zone coverages and offensive patterns for the upcoming game.

Practice ends with "Killers." Otherwise known as line touches, "Killers" consist of starting at the baseline and running to the free throw line, half court line, opposite free throw line and opposite baseline and returning each time to the starting point. A series of free throws are then shot trying to simulate game situations.

The next time you are watching a basketball game, appreciate the hard work put in by the players of New Ulm High School's teams. The girls go to practice and work hard each day, win or lose.



Becky Schmidt begins her routine on the uneven bars.

Underclassman leap to varsity team

by Jessica Zupfer
Graphos Reporter

Varsity gymnastics isn't just for juniors and seniors any more. Younger competitors such as freshmen **Mandi Miller** and **Chris Boettger** are quickly developing their talents while competing on the varsity level.

Miller said, "It's an honor to be on varsity with the older girls." Performing with the more experi-

enced girls shows them technique and what it takes to win. Boettger's response was similar. "It's harder competition, but it's a great challenge."

Jenny Olson said, "It doesn't matter if freshman are on the team. It really shouldn't matter what a person's age is; it should matter how good they are." Although some teammates are discouraged, the scores of the young gymnasts suggest that they are on the team because of their skill.

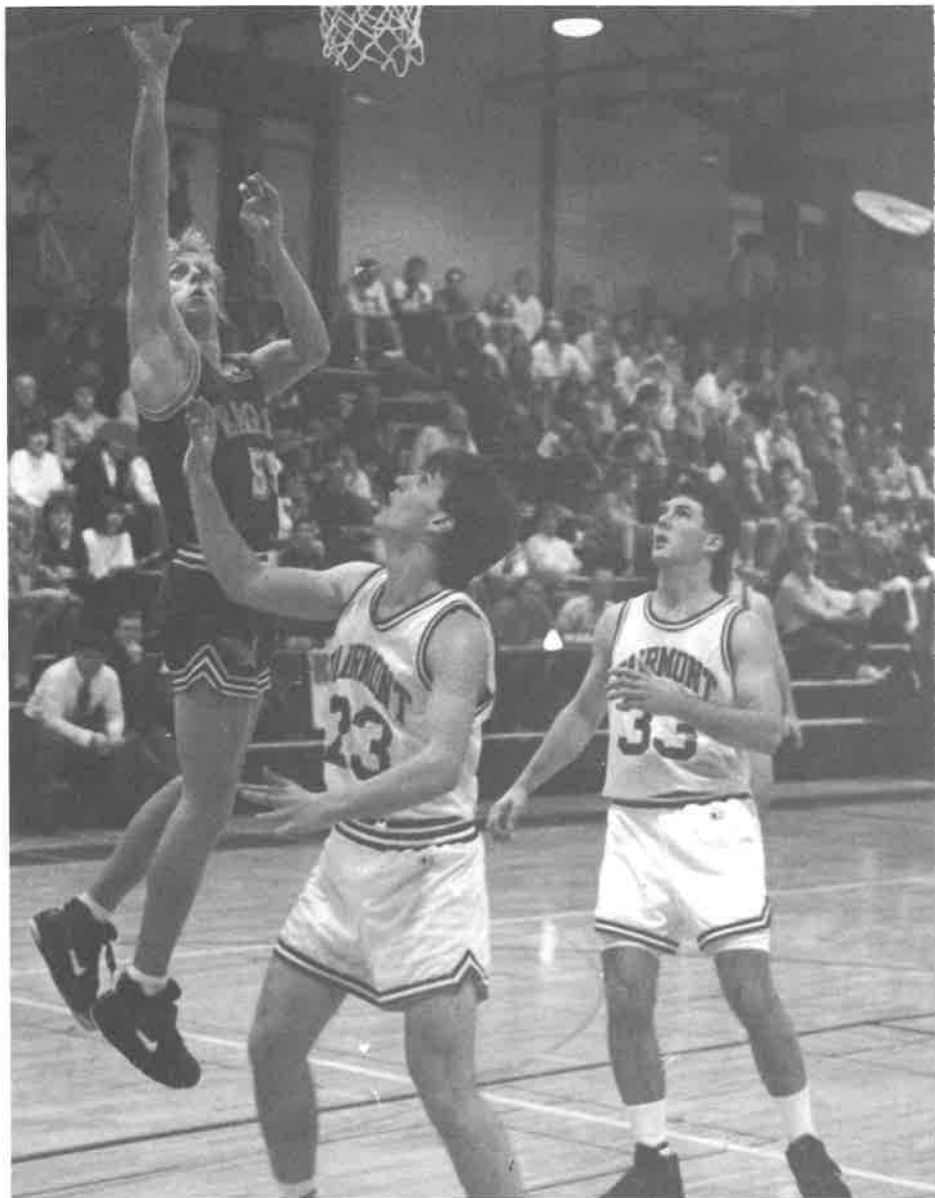
Sarah Nelson's reaction is "If they are good enough to be on the team, then they belong on the team."

Rachel Swantz said, "Next year we should work even better as a team because we won't lose any seniors so now we have the time to improve for next year."

At this writing, however, team success hasn't been so good. **Miller, Jenny Mertz, Heidi Fritz,** and **Denise Keuhn** have all suffered injuries. Miller has back

problems; Mertz sprained her ankle while warming up for a meet; Fritz has problems with her arm and knee, which allows her to compete on only the balance beam; and Keuhn has severe shin splints but still competes. But with the injured sitting out, others get the opportunity to prove they belong on the varsity.

Coach **Sandy Fritz** said, "I encourage freshman and everyone to work hard individually to earn a place on the varsity."



Darin Bunkers gets a basket off an offensive rebound during the game with Fairmont.

Eagles unite - improve record

by Kevin Dauer
Graphos Reporter

The New Ulm High School boys' basketball team, after a somewhat slow start, has turned their 1991-92 season into a year of improvement. With a combination of a transition offense and a tough, relentless defense, the team has rebounded from last year's 3-17 record to a near .500 mark this year.

The team members attribute the success of the year to a strong feeling of team unity and a goal to end the season with at least an even record.

Junior co-captain Kurt Moelter said, "We've been very pleased with the progress we've made this year. Our performance has improved dramatically, especially the tough defense." The Eagles have held their opponents to an average of fifty-six points per game.

The Eagles' other co-captain,

senior Willy Remmert said, "We had a rough stretch around Christmas when we lost five straight, but since then we've almost gotten back to .500. Now we're just going to play one game at a time and hope for the best."

The biggest problems that the Eagles have faced this year are opposing teams that are much taller and quicker. To make up for this disadvantage, the Eagles have turned to an offensive style that utilizes a running game, combined with an aggressive, pressure defense.

The six seniors, combined with nine juniors and two sophomores, have formed a team that not only will be strong this year but is also gaining positive experience for the future. For now, however, the team is just looking to be in contention in each game that they play. Hopefully with some good team play, lots of hard work, and a little luck, the Eagles will be able to muddy the water at tournament time.

Wrestlers struggle to make weight

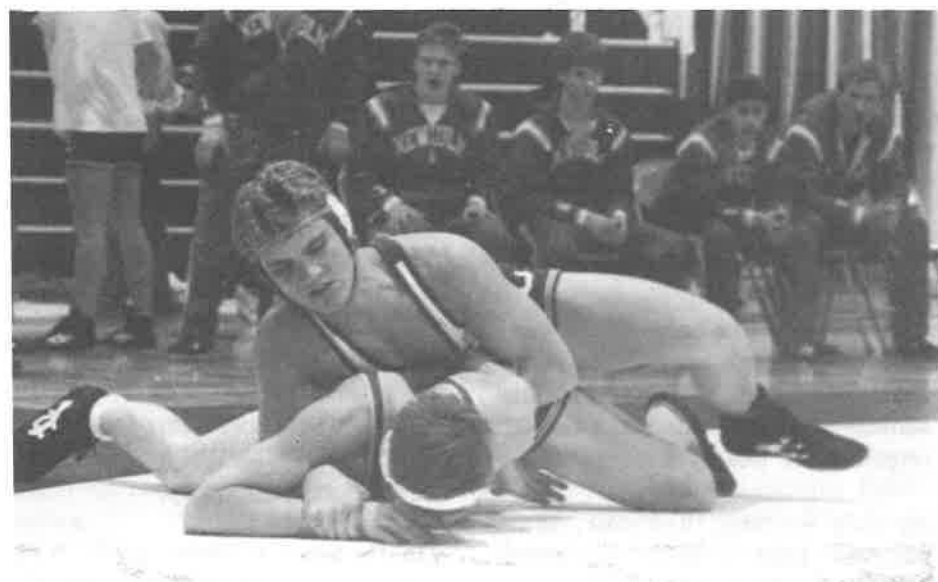
by Rachel Swantz
Graphos Reporter

During the Christmas break most students spent their time off sleeping late, opening presents, watching TV, and eating all those holiday goodies with family, friends, and neighbors. Christmas just wouldn't be the same without those special treats. Some wrestlers, however, avoided the temptations and gave up their spare time to attend wrestling practice. They wanted to stay in shape in order to improve their chances for post season competition.

A few wrestlers though ate a little bit too much during the two-week break and returned to school overweight. Troy Kamm and Brandon Reichel found it difficult to make weight carrying those extra pounds. As a result, they had to diet and put in more time running and

practicing. Their efforts to trim down were eventually successful, but they lost their first meets in the new year because of their weakened physical condition.

Last year Matt Schmidt was the only New Ulm wrestler to go to the state tournament, but this year there are several who have a legitimate shot. At this writing Kamm's record of 13 wins, one loss, and one tie gives him a good chance for post season honors. Chad Hoffmann is another individual in the running because of his 12 wins, two losses, and a tie. Reichel and Brian Zitzmann are also working for a chance at the state meet. The bad news, however, is that Zitzmann will miss the next few weeks because of a broken hand, and Kamm has a pulled tendon in his hand. Both wrestlers hope to return in the time for the region tournament



Junior Chad Wilson dominates his opponent at a recent wrestling meet.



Erik Setterholm, Jason Rewitzer, and Scotty Macho keep the puck out of New Ulm's goal.

Hockey team checked by bad luck

by Ryan Raschke
Graphos Reporter

The Eagle hockey team was checked by bad luck this season when Jason Rewitzer, their senior goal tender, was side lined by a reoccurring knee injury. It is the same knee that was operated on last fall. Rewitzer sat out two games and tried to play the next game, but he is not going to return for the remainder of the season. The injury may require additional surgery, which could shorten his baseball season. Rewitzer's replacements in goal have been juniors Dave Bonnifield and Brian Stolt.

Some of the leading offensive

players this year are sophomores Scott Abraham and juniors Chet Peterson and Lonny Rathmann. Another player having a good season is senior defense man Josh Hemingway, who is back to his normal level of play after suffering a broken leg in football last fall. The two who are surprising most fans are the JV players brought up to the varsity for a game. Freshman Ryan Swenson and Sophomore Ryan Friederich are both good prospects for future seasons.

The Eagles have enjoyed increased fan support this season and have been playing before an almost packed Vogel Arena for most of their home games.