

The Graphos

New Ulm Senior High School

New Ulm Minnesota 56073

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One Act Play participants from left: Heather Larson, Carl Wachholz, Amy Hildebrandt, Kelly Neidecker, Jessica Schoper, Dan O'Brien, Jenni Brown, & Sara Brigger.

The Neighbors - with sugar coating and peppermint stripes

Kelly Neidecker
One Act Play Member

Nervousness. Fear. Exhilaration. Confidence. These are simply a few words that can be used to describe the emotions that flow throughout the body of an actor or actress prior to a performance. Those of you who have ever performed on stage can surely relate. Acting is an art of performance - a delicate display of one's ability to be someone other than themself. Performing presents the actor or actress with an opportunity to escape all the pressures of the outside world. Portraying a character, whether it be fictional or real, allows the performer to experience the emotions, thoughts, and visible physical aspects of another being. Acting is the ability to transform one's self. It is the power to feel the soul of another and to perform that skill for an audience. Seven students from NUHS did just that slightly over a month ago when they participated in the annual One Act Play.

The One Act Play is an activity open to all students through audition. This year, auditions were held in the beginning of December. Auditions consisted of reading various parts from many diverse plays. Once the cast was selected, Director Al Alvig and co-director Wendy Tuttle chose the actual play to be performed. This year, the play chosen was The Neighbors by Zona Gale. A roller coaster ride of emotions, the play presented its audience with

tears, laughter, anger, frustration, and sympathy. Based in the South in the early 1940's, The Neighbors is about a group of neighbors, who together in mind and spirit, prepare for the coming of a child to one of their dearest friends. Throughout the day the neighbors realize the importance of helping a true friend. Sadly at the end of the play, it is learned by all that the woman awaiting the coming of a young boy will be denied him. It teaches a lesson in true friendship and what it means to stand by those you care about.

The cast of The Neighbors consisted of the following NUHS students: **Jenni Brown**, a sophomore, portrayed the role of Mis' Dianthy Abel, a middle aged widow and mother of one. **Jessica Schoper**, a junior, portrayed the role of Mis' Elmira Moran, a humorous hypochondriac in her late 60's. In her first acting experience ever, sophomore **Amy Hildebrandt** showed off her skills as Mis' Carry Ellsworth, the depressed and lonely, who is denied her first hopes of ever raising a child. Possibly the most memorable character of the play was portrayed by **Sara Brigger**, a senior. Mis' Trot, the town's busybody who talks a mile a minute and is always gossiping about someone, was enjoyable for Sara because she is what Sara calls, "a great gal." **Dan O'Brien**, a senior, began to understand what it is like to be a dark and angry man when he played the character Ezra Williams, a middle aged man

who's personality is quite bitter, a result of the death of his infant son a few years back. **Carl Wachholz**, a junior, had an enjoyable time portraying the role of young Peter, a stuttering, nervous and clumsy teenager who center his every thought around the object of his affections, Inez, an indecisive and emotional 16 year old played by **Kelly Neidecker**. The final icing on the cake was Grama', played by junior **Heather Larson**. Heather brought life to an old soul by making her character humorous and caring.

The cast of The Neighbors presented their work to the public in a free performance in late January with the help of Chris Davis, who worked the lights and music, and the cast's student director, Katie Schroepfer. The Neighbors was an excellent showing at the competition in Prior Lake, the day after the public performance in New Ulm.

Nervousness. Fear. Exhilaration. Confidence. The emotions felt by an actor or actress. The wonderful sensation of escaping who you are and transforming into someone else. We members of this year's One Act Play cast strongly encourage all students to audition in the years to come. In a school where sports are so powerful and dominating, the beauty of fine arts often times comes and goes without being either seen or heard.

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What's up with Art?

Heather Kokesch
Graphos Reporter

How many of you stop to admire the art work in our school? I feel that students do not appreciate art enough. While talking with **Mrs. Stewart**, I too realized that I didn't know enough about art, or what it's about. I feel the many students at New Ulm Senior High with great artistic talent need to be honored just as much as the students who are academically gifted. I believe the art department should be better acknowledged, so here is a little more information:

A person can learn a lot from a work of art. There is an upcoming art show at the Kiesling House, an art gallery, during March 7-8 and 14-15, at 220 N. Minnesota St., here in New Ulm. At the art show 30 pieces from New Ulm high school students will be displayed.

I asked Mrs. Stewart if there were any people we could recognize for their artistic talent, but she said, "Even for the kids that aren't that good, everyone can get better and get comfortable with art." So, what is going on in the art classes? Well the first year students are learning to manipulate colors to create certain effects. The pottery class was working on humble pots, they are large pots with the design from ancient civilizations. They are now starting on face masks. The commercial arts class was working on animation videos which were showed on registration night.

I also asked Mrs. Stewart if there were any goals for the art classes, she replied, "Oh Yeah! Students gain a better understanding of the difficulty of making art and to know the meaning of what different art forms are." Other goals for students are to look at a piece of art and improve their skills as a consumer and be able to better judge the art work.

Each chapter in the art classes introduces a new objective and a new goal. Throughout the class it is taught that art is important for everybody. Art can affect life in so many different ways and applies to so many aspects of life. The class also focuses on the different careers that can be pursued with an interest in art. The heart of the

Story continues on page 3 with picture.

Feature

Exchange Students

Jennie Taylor
Kimberly Enck
Graphos Reporters

Now that it's March, I'm sure everyone has noticed some new faces roaming the halls. Each year NUHS has the opportunity to host a few AFS students. This year we are extremely fortunate to have **Ellen Madsen** from Greenland, **Wagner Fernandez** from Brazil, **Johannes Becker** from Germany, and **Fernanda Gesta** from Brazil.

Miss Madsen, 17, comes to us from Nanortalik, the southern-most town in Greenland. Actually Nanortalik is located on an island about 300 meters from the mainland. If you think New Ulm is small, try visiting Nanortalik a town of 1200. The entire population of Greenland is only 58,000. Ellen says there are 18 towns in her country and numerous tiny villages. The people of Greenland speak two languages, Danish and Greenlandic. The majority speak Greenlandic, but in Ellen's house both languages can be heard.

Ellen was adopted by her grandparents. She has two younger sisters and three uncles. Ellen's interests and hobbies include traveling, going to movies, dances and parties, boys, girlscouts, nature and listening to music. In Greenland she played soccer for three years and she misses it dearly.

Like every person away from home, Ellen misses common things about Greenland. She

said that in Greenland the people don't drive everywhere. She misses walking or riding her bike to go places. In Greenland one has to be 18 to get a driver's license. However, Ellen is glad to escape frikadellers. They look like hamburgers, are made of pig meat and "taste awful!". Ellen is being hosted by Duane and Kris Anderson.

Another new face is Wagner Fernandes. Wagner took a year off from his life in Brazil to live in New Ulm. He is staying with Scott and Gigi Rysdahl and enjoying his experience in the "American Family." He said the family life is basically the same, but in Brazil they have a tea time in the evening when family, friends and relatives get together.

Wagner said that in Brazil they think of the U.S. as California, surfing and the laid-back lifestyle. Wagner has come to realize that life here is very different than that image. He now realizes that Americans live and think more traditionally and conservatively than he thought.

Mr. Fernandez also longs for some of the Brazilian customs and at the same time is trying to learn more about American customs.

The thing Wagner misses the most about Brazil is that the people are more affectionate and personal. One thing Wagner doesn't miss is the traditional music of Brazil. According to him, "It's really boring. You can't listen two minutes without wanting to stop."

While at NUHS Wagner has participated in choir and the First United Methodist youth group. He also enjoys travelling, talking, entering chat rooms on the internet, watching soccer games, going to movies and reading.

Johannes Becker is our exchange student from Germany. He was born there in 1980.

Johannes is staying with the Jutz family in the country outside of Klossner. He has two older siblings in his American family, which Johannes has never had and says "it is quite an experience, but it helps me a lot to overcome some problems." His American sister has stayed in Europe and Johannes says that she understands him a bit better because of it. Johannes has a younger brother back home in Germany that he misses a lot, but says that his siblings here "do a really good job to replace him".

Besides missing his brother, Johannes misses beer with honey on cold winter days. (The legal drinking age is 16 in Germany.) He doesn't miss the "dirty, toxic city air" or other aspects of big city life such as crime and traffic noise.

When Johannes first came to the United States he thought that every American was proud to be an American and was surprised to find out otherwise.

The one advantage to living in Europe in Johannes' eyes. It is the fact that it is not far from the ocean. "I love the beach in summer..surfing, beach volleyball and bonfires, that's the thing I look forward to when I go back to Europe."

The last exchange student is Fernanda Gesta, 15, who is staying with the Kersten family in New Ulm. She is from Manaus, Brazil. Her mother is a business woman and her father

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Speech

Stephanie Schmitz
Graphos Reporter

This year the Speech team has virtually doubled in size. Each of the thirty members have the opportunity to choose the event they wish to participate in. There are thirteen events, and these events include: Informative Speaking, Original Oratory, Serious Prose, Serious Drama, Dramatic Duo, Storytelling, Humorous, Discussion, Great Speeches, Poetry, Extemp Speaking, Extemp Reading, and Creative Expression. Most of these events are individual events while Dramatic Duo uses a partner to compete.

Participating in Speech gives people the opportunity to meet others and to gain self confidence. The Speech coach, Miss Twait, is looking forward to this year. Miss Twait is looking forward to the enthusiasm and interest of the new members combined with the experience of the members returning for another year on the team. All in all, this year should be a year of fun and new experiences for all involved.

Psychology Club Begins

Shannon DeCramer
Michelle Hillesheim

1998 marks the first year that the New Ulm Senior High School has activated a Psychology Club for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Although the club is comprised of mainly upper classman, there is an applications process for all students. So what exactly is the Psychology Club?

The Psychology Club, a student led organization, is founded with the purpose to, "Allow students to gain further knowledge in the field of Psychology. The club will work closely with the Psychology teacher to provide a variety of activities and experiences for members. We hope to provide members with a better understanding of themselves and the behavior of others," states **Mr. Bute**.

The club's year long goals include possible outside field trips for Psychology classes, guest speakers, volunteer programs, fund raisers, several interesting experiments, random acts of kindness days, and a possible Mental Health week later on in the year. So far, the Psychology club has already helped to sponsor the

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Members of the Psychology Club pose for a picture with their advisor Mr. Bute.

Opinion

Are you willing to pay the price?

Stephanie Schmitz
Graphos Reporter

As we fast approach the month of May, there is a constant chatter of prom night all through the halls. Most people look forward to a night of dressing up, dancing, and all night partying. However, with this long, eventful evening comes a price tag. For some people, this price tag seems like an awful lot of money to pay for one night of supposed "magic." Hundreds of people attend prom, and some even look forward to prom all school-year long.

The question is, would as many people attend prom if the price tag increased? There has been talk that tickets to attend this wonderful evening will cost more than we paid last year. Are you willing to pay more to attend an evening that already costs so much? I want to know what you think. Are you willing to pay more for a prom ticket? Please leave your responses in the Graphos drop box in the office. You are not required to leave your name with your response, but you can if you'd

Continued from One Act Play, page 1

Deep down in the heart of it all we are all actors and the earth is our stage. Acting is a power that will teach probably the most important lesson one could ever learn, and that lesson is this: By the time we human beings reach the young age of 5, we begin to learn how to read. From then on, we all possess the ability to read and speak the lines of a play script without difficulty. The irony exists in the fact that, despite the numerous roles we may play, the character whom we will always prove to be the most challenging will be that of our own selves. Acting shows that being other people is fun and exciting, but in the end, we always come back to who we really are, and that is of higher importance than any other character we may at one time pretend to be.



The New Ulm High School Concert Choir under the direction of Mr. Hawkins performed at the Minnesota Music Educators' Association convention on February 13th. Here they are performing "Gloria". Jennica Date, one of the solosits, is pictured on the left. Band members Shari Wendinger and Katie Hoffman accompanied the group.



Members of the One Act Play act out a scene.



Catching a glance.... Art students paint away

Do you have an opinion on anything happening in school or life in general? We need opinion writers. If you have any creative ideas or suggestions, see one of the editors. (Kimberly or Heather) Thanks!

A Message From FLA

Anne Erickson
FLA Leader

The FLA, (Future Leaders of America), would like to extend a sincere thank you to all who donated to our Santa's Closet project. All donations went towards the purchase of Christmas gifts for children of families in need. Our grand total was \$1600. We doubled our goal of \$800! So, on Thursday, February 12, school was dismissed after 4th hour. It is our hope, though, that the student body found a greater reward in knowing they helped more than 580 local children have a merrier Christmas!

Psychology Club

Continued from Page 2

basement paint project, along with the help of the Student Council, in hopes to brighten up the school. The Psychology club is a new organization, with the future hopes to interact with the upcoming student body.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

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is a doctor.

Fernanda likes to listen to music ("all kinds of music"), watch movies, meet new people and go out with her friends.

This is not the first time that Fernanda has been here. "I like the country and the people too. Everything is very new and different to me."

Fernanda misses her family and her friends, as anyone does who is away from home for a long time. However, she does not miss her school in Brazil.

NUHS wouldn't be the same without its AFS students. They provide a fresh perspective on their native countries and America, but more than that are just fun to hang-out with.

Continued from page 1 (ART).

program in intro to design, according to Mrs. Stewart, is in the beginning. So for those students who don't think that art is a significant part of life, think again. And if you are interested in art, I suggest you check out what our school has to offer. The art classes are a diverse program that people should experience.

News In Pictures

After much anticipation from both teachers and students, the new addition is almost complete. The first and second floor additions were finished in February. When the new rooms in the basement level are completed then the new wing should be in full swing.



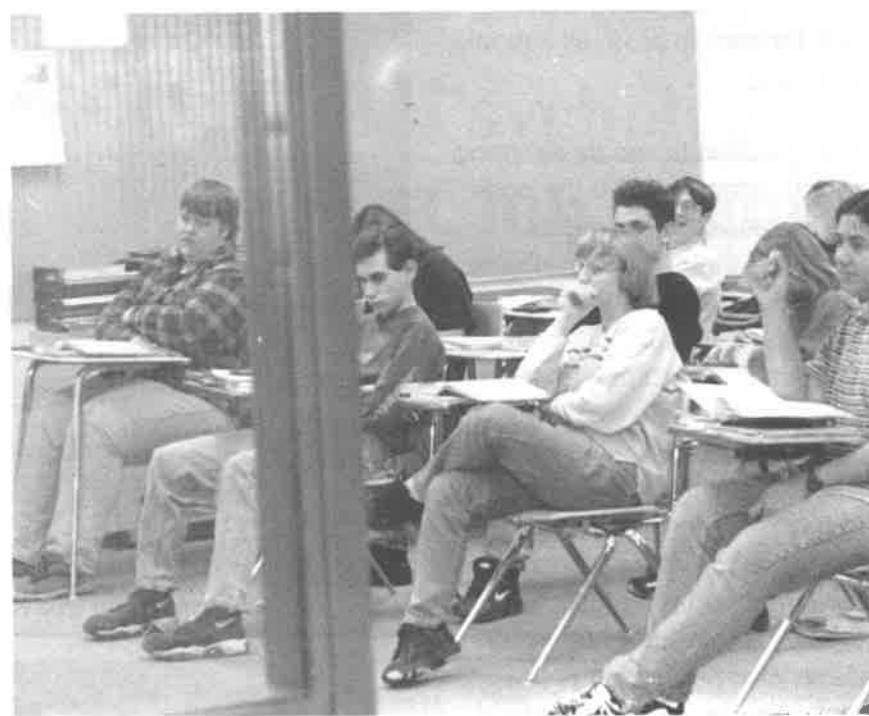
When this picture was taken this section of the new wing was not quite finished.



Here is the second floor finished product.



Even though placed in a new room, Mrs. Skunes still keeps students working hard, and pondering questions about mathematics.



Students enjoying their class in the new rooms.

In the next issue of **The Graphos**...

- +We will feature the Job Shadowing program, BPA, and students who have special talents that often go unnoticed.
- +The spring sports will be reported on.
- +We will have the responses to the mailbox issue.

Seniors..

We need your ideas for the Sophmore Slam article. Leave them in the Graphos box in the office. Also, if you have any neat memories or quotes for a seniors memories article leave those in the box in the office as well. You don't need to leave your name unless you want to. (If it is a quote it names would be helpful.)

The Graphos

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Sports



Brian Schmidt (33) dribbles past Waseca's number 24.

Season Of Turmoil

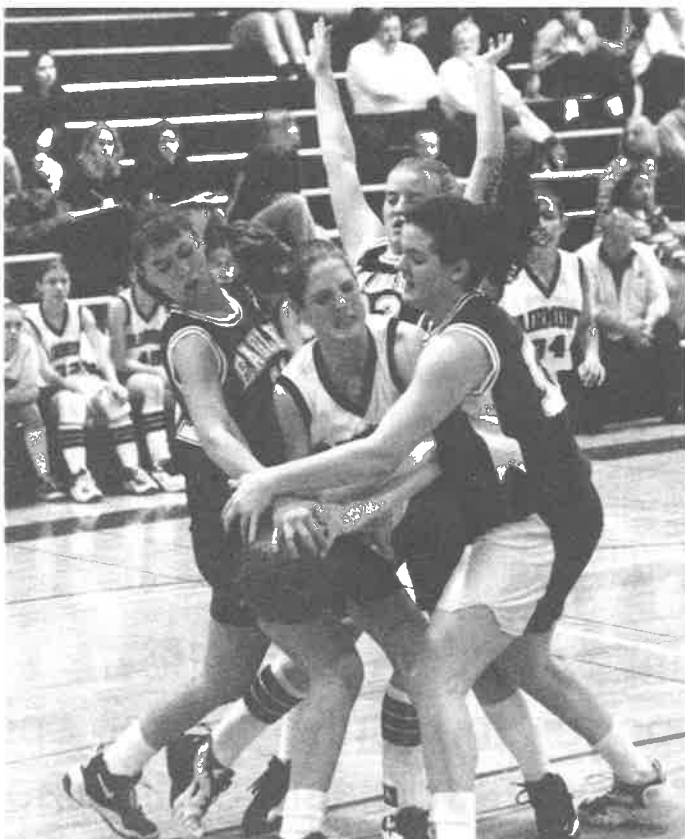
Aaron Sandquist
Chad Rathmann
Graphos Reporters

The New Ulm Boy's Basketball 3-13 record doesn't reflect their hard work or improvement. The team seems to be coming together now towards the end of the season. Any fan watching a game can see their intensity and hard work on the court.

The team has lost several close games, including an overtime and a double-overtime game. The team's wins have come against Blue Earth, St. James, and St. Peter. The Eagles also had a good showing against state-ranked Worthington. The team believes that hard work is the key to a successful season. Senior co-captain **Eric Schmidt**

said, "We work hard everyday in practice, and we need to carry the hard work into the games. Hopefully we can make a run in the playoffs." The other co-captain, senior **Jake Landsteiner**, commented, "We're really starting to come together now at the end of the season. We seem to have more leadership."

Coach Burmeister believes, "We're playing well now and we'd like to win more games before regions. We're probably not going to get a real high seed, but when playing well we can beat anybody." Good luck to the boys basketball team as they near the end of their season and start play-offs.



New Ulm's Marissa Hofmeister, Beth Pehrson, and Sarah Roesch try to get the ball away from a Fairmont player.

Eagles Advance to Playoffs

Michelle Hillesheim
Graphos Reporter

After winning a 6-0 shut-out against the Albert Lea Tigers, the New Ulm Eagles girls hockey team advanced to playoffs in Rochester. Although the team's overall record does not show the hard work and dedication the 23 players have put forth throughout the season, the team felt confident and eager to face the #1 seed, Rochester Mayo on February 7th.

Through their second season of hockey, the 13 returning players have led the way for the 10 new Eagle players.

Under the guidance of head coach, Andy Shriver and assistant coach Kurt Cook, the team's captains **Amber Leonard**, Beth Janni, and **Billie Jo Shoen**, have shown great leadership abilities throughout the season. Juniors **Kate Anderson**, **Liz Skindeliem**, and 7th grader Ashley Dietz are among the top Eagle scorers. While goalie, **Angie Weisensel**, led the team to two shut-out victories.

While still gaining the much needed experience, the Eagles players have learned the sport of hockey, and have found success on the ice as well as off the ice. It was a great and memorable season!



Who's got the puck? Girls hockey action with Mankato.

Season of Diversity for Girls Basketball

Bridgett Lacher
Graphos Reporter

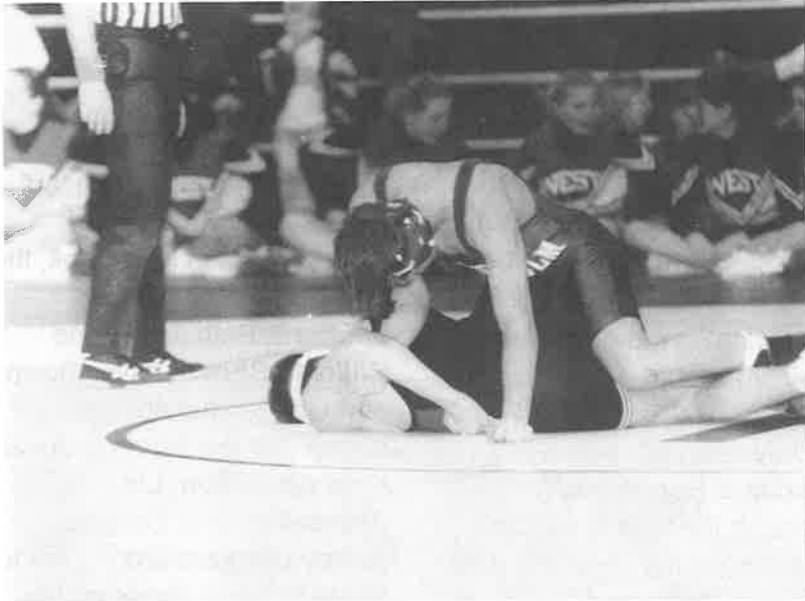
The 1998 basketball season has come to the end for the girls basketball team. They have won one game in their season and as post season play starts they continue to work hard, keep their spirits up and hopes high. The varsity coach, **Mr. Janssen**, said, "I am pleased with the effort that the girls are putting forth this season."

Mr. Janssen also commented that the team has some girls who "show and bring forth strong leadership skills, they are keeping us together as a team." The varsity captains are **Kristi Andersen** and **Sarah Roesch**. The top scorer this season is **Kim Roberts** with over one hundred points. Some of the other top scorers are: **Sarah Roesch**, **Kenzi Schuetzle**, **Amber Fischer**,

Pam Meyer, **Marissa Hofmeister**, and **Beth Pehrson**.

The girls varsity team has much talent and several gifted people. They have players that deserve to be recognized for their strong efforts and natural talent. The team has several exceptional ball handlers and shooters. Their game against Hutchinson was one of the best games I have seen. They played well as a team and drove the ball to the basket. They had a strong defense and played hard.

For the B-Squad, "The season is going good," replies Coach Janke, "They're playing hard and having fun. They have played great against some hard teams." Some of the top scorers for B-Squad are: **Jessica Schaezke**, **Britta Rieke**, **Lynn Kilmister**, **Laura Meier**, **Emily Hamann**, and **Kim Wendinger**.



New Ulm's Nick Ruch wrestles against a wrestler from Mankato West.

Great Grapplers!

Jeff Yager
Graphos Reporter

Hard Work can and will pay off. The New Ulm Varsity Wrestling Team is finding that out this season. Their team record of 11-11 does not do justice to the way they have played. One reason for the record is the injuries to key wrestlers. Senior **Jeff Jamison** is out for four weeks with a cartilage tear in his knee. Jeff's absence from the line-up and other injuries of other members have caused a few losses.

Individuals on the team have been having outstanding seasons. Before his injury, Jamison was undefeated with a record of 14-0, and 5-0 in the conference. Sophomore **Pete Zangl** is 24-1, and sophomore **Josh Luneberg** is 23-1. Josh has been a big surprise this year with a break-through season and some pins in games. **Andy Bernard** has stepped up and proved himself

during Jeff Jamison's injury.

However, **Nick Ruch** has probably been the biggest story of the year. With a win in his match versus Mankato West, Nick set the record for the most wins in a career at New Ulm High School. Jeff Jamison had this to say about Nick, "I don't think he is even close to satisfied with just some number of wins. He wants to be in state and place. For a team it's good because it means the program is improving." The record means a lot to Nick because it was one of his goals for the season.

This team has set their goals high this season. One of their goals was to make it to state. As of now, they will probably be seeded 2nd in Regions. As it looks now, all the hard work during the season and off-season is finally paying off, thanks to the great attitudes and encouragement from all the wrestlers.



Anna Otis performs her routine on the balance beam.

Congratulations....

- * to Pete Zangl, Shane Guldán, Eric Miller, and Nick Ruch on their performances at the State Tournament.
- * to the Boys Hockey Team for making it to Section Play-offs.
- * to all the winter sports for great seasons.

Hard Work of Hockey Team "Plays-Off"

Leah Nielsen
Graphos Reporter

The New Ulm Boy's Hockey Team is working hard as they are preparing to put a close to the 1997-1998 season. This season has proved to be a tough one, but overall successful. They started off the season with a tie against Austin, and on February 5th they gained a 5 to 4 win against Farmington. Farmington is ranked 17th in the state, so it was quite an accomplishment.

Rob Menard said it was definitely the toughest game played all year, but in many ways the most important too. Senior, **Andy Skindelién**, acquired a hat trick during that game. This game at Farmington gave the team a boost of confidence in preparation for their upcoming games.

This twenty man team consists of seniors **Willie Holm, Nate Hauer, Tom Rolloff, Ty Helget, Randy Baker, Aaron Heitzman, Andy Skidelién, Luke Herman, and Dave Armstrong**, juniors **Eric Wilfahrt, Dan Gag, Andy Dietz, and Zack Krzmarzick**, sophomores **Brian Meier, Al Wurtzburger, Ryan Wellman, Rob Menard, Jake Holm, Ryan Neuman, and Dave Sellner**. They have all proven to work well as a team. But over the course of the season have discovered mental preparation is needed to play well as a team.

With Coach Macho, Coach Nelson, and Coach Niemi working the guys hard, the season is sure to end strong. This season's team has worked hard and has much to be proud of.



David Armstrong, number 20, tries to score on Willmar's goalie.

Record-Breaking Gymnasts

Anna Otis
Graphos Reporter

The 1997-98 gymnastics season was a success. At our final meet, the Section 2AA tournament, we broke our school record once again. We waited the whole season for the moment that we shared there in Apple Valley. The standing record was 132.25 and we

scored a 134.75, our high all season by 4 points. Individuals broke records and team scores on an individual apparatus were also broke this season. With a new group of young girls coming in next year, we should see a greater improvement next season. Overall, our season was a success.

Thanks to all the fans who supported the winter season sports. Keep the enthusiasm during the spring season.