

New Ulm Senior High School

the graphos

December 1982

Volume 66 No. 3

New Ulm, Minnesota 56073



The Chem II students are excited about the success of a recent experiment.

Tour of NUHS reveals cultural cliques

by Brett Olsen
Graphos Columnist

Today, students of NUHS, we are going to take a walking tour of our school and notice all of the cultures that thrive here.

We begin our tour out-of-doors on the residential side of Payne Street. The first group we encounter is of the hardy variety. These people sit on the sidewalk through rain, sleet, and snow guarding the school with their lives. You will notice that they are engaging in an intellectual conversation and other "stimulants."

Now we will pass through the hallowed doors of our school and enter into the computer room. Here we meet the followers of the Reverend Trapp. These people eat and sleep computers. When asked "How do you like them APPLIES?" one computerfanatic replied "SYNTAX ERROR."

As we ascend the stairs, notice the hockey group lined up on the floor by Sylvia Aufderheide's room. According to Craig Wilfahrt "this group knows how to work hard, but they also know how to have a good time." Most people find it amazing how a person like Jeff Berdan can turn into someone like Wilfahrt in just a few years.

Next on our tour is the library and its inhabitants. The all-around athletes reside here. Don't try and converse with this group; they have developed their own highly sophisticated language. Their vocabulary includes stud, Bob, HBO, backstab, Duck, and variations of these words. Sports terms often enter into their conversations.

We will leave the library and travel along the hall encountering many small groups. On the right is the "chicks," an exclusive group. Notice how jovial they are. I've got a hunch they are planning another pizza party.

Our rural New Ulmites are next. Notice the workshoes that have never seen any field action. Status symbols of this group include cycles, pickups, and number of grapefruits sold for FFA.

Notice the people in the cafeteria as we pass. This was the hang out for couples last year, but, alas, only Mark and Kathy remain.

The last leg of our trip is the choir room. Watch your step as we enter. As many as 60 choir members have been known to

lounge on this stairway at one time. Upon entering the choir room you might see something moving in the back with strange sounds coming from it. Take no notice, Lance and Sara are just practicing their duet. The choir has many sub groups. Some of these include Company 83, Company 84, Payne St., Con-

cert Choir, and Choiraleres. Each of these groups has its own personality. Of course, many people think Mike Finstad has no personality and should have a group all to himself.

I hope you've enjoyed this tour of our school and the cliques that reside here.



The hockey pucks supervise hallway action. (Photo by Kate Hiza)

editorial

Student Council changes image



by Ann Schmid
Graphos Editor

Contrary to what many believe, the student council does something. They not only attend meetings but are responsible for many of the activities that go on at NUHS.

Most of us at one time or another have joked about the fact that the Student Council is a do nothing organization. But this year's student council is working to put a stop to these jokes. The 1982-83 Student Council is headed by President Mike Donnelly and Advisor Dick LaPatka. The Vice President is Laurie Altmann and Secretary/Treasurer is Karen Bruns. The Senior Representatives are Connie Bastian, Michelle Deopere, Ron Dummer, Jim Mielke, Darla Olson, and Jenifer Peterson. The Junior Representatives are Jodie Alwin, Karen Bruns, Dave Kunz, Anne LeGare, Erich Martens, and Scott Walston. The Sophomore Representatives are Jolene Ahlstrand, Chris Jenson, Cathy Kretsch, Aimee Maidl, Doreen Schmidt, and Nancy Wills. Class presidents Peter Martens, Kathy Dummer,

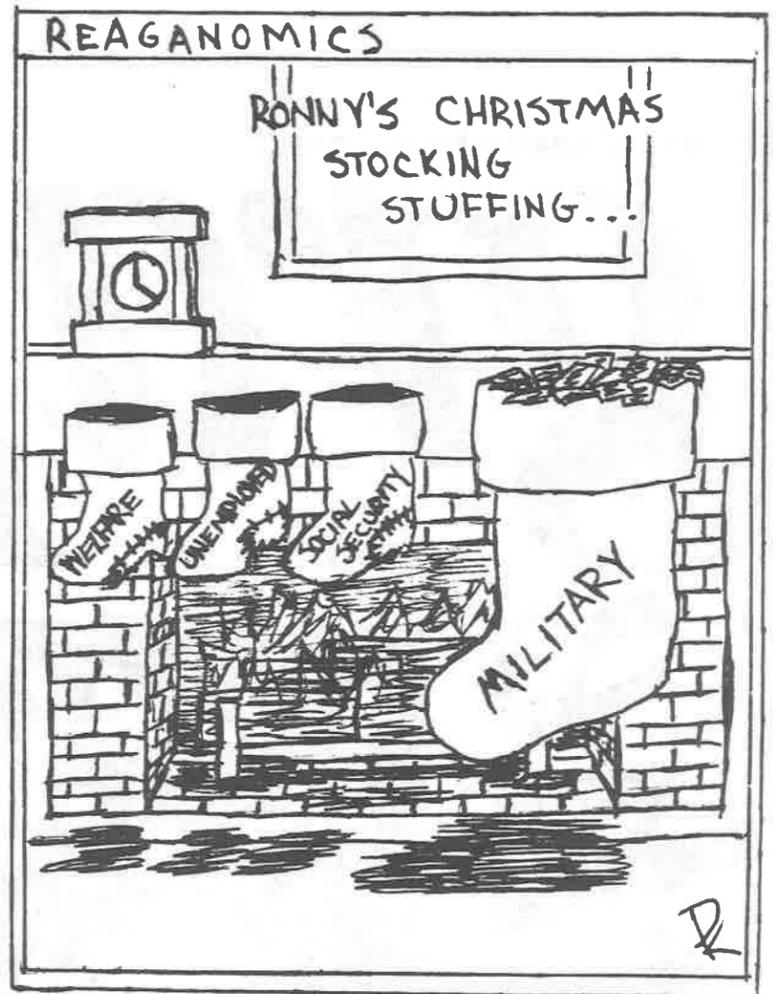
and Lanette Larson also attend the council meetings.

Last April four student council members were sent on a student council exchange to Waseca. Mike Donnelly, Scott Becker, Kris Nelson, and John Hoggatt observed how that student organization operated. They concluded that Waseca's Student Council was much more active than ours. What they saw at Waseca made them want to change their ways. Donnelly stated, "We wanted to get more involved with our school." The council began the year with the attitude that their image must change.

Their first assignment was planning homecoming. They were responsible for the buttons, programs, parade, coronation, and dance. The homecoming coronation ceremony and the idea of having a homecoming king came from Stillwater High School several years ago.

The student council is currently working on a food drive, Snow Princess Coronation, Variety Show, and a Christmas dance. This year is a first for these events. If these activities are successful, there will be more projects planned for later in the year. Donnelly put it this way: "We have to do it right."

After all these activities are over, the student council will evaluate their success. If student participation is not great, they will not be continued. We urge students to support these activities. The student council is changing their image so maybe NUHS students should also change their attitude toward student government. A more enthusiastic student body is definitely needed at NUHS.



Schuetzle's School of Con Arts



by John Schuetzle
Graphos Columnist

CHRISTMAS TIME. The time of Christ's birth, the time to be with friends and family, and the time to give and receive gifts! Now Schuetzle knows what you're thinking! You're thinking that this is another boring article on how to do your Christmas shopping so you're going to turn to something much more exciting like "Donnelly's Duckblind." What a name, huh? Well, being the greedy self-centered person that I am, I've decided that things are not as the old adage says. It is far better to receive than to give in my book so this article will be devoted to giving out a few of my well-kept secrets on getting just the Christmas gifts you want. However, these tips are not for piddly items like clothes or albums. We're talking mega bucks...like cars or stereos.

The first tip is for those who are into blowing quarters. It's called the Pac-man theory and is for those who like to play video games but don't have a key to Bloomer's house. The first step is to hum the Pac-man and Donkey Kong songs every time you're near your parents. However, if this doesn't work, set up a row of peas single file on your knife during dinner. Make sure the folks are watching and then proceed to

eat them one at a time making a beep after each one.

Should an Atari Christmas not be on your list, perhaps the next item will. If you have a stereo in mind as the ideal gift, here's what you have to do. Find a radio or stereo without a head phone jack and crank the volume as high as it goes. After the screaming stops, explain to your parents that if you had a new stereo, you could listen to your tunes on head phones. If this technique fails, turn on any radio to KNUJ AM in time for the farm reports. Explain that if you don't get a stereo, you'll listen to that lady with the obnoxious voice. Remember that this idea is in the "Pioneer" stages "Sanyo(u)" better take things slowly.

The final item on my list should be tried only by graduates of the Schuetzle School of Con Arts. If you'd like to be driving a new Porsche (or even an old Porsche) to school on January 3rd, then here is all you have to do:

- (1) find a rich uncle,
- (2) marry into a rich family within the next week,
- (3) rob a bank.

Columnist's warning: These ideas have not been tried outside of laboratory conditions so the reader should be satisfied with whatever he gets. Take condolence in the fact that after my parents find out how I conned them out of a home-video game, stereo, and Porsche last Christmas, I'll probably get nothing this year except kicked out of the house!

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.

Editors: Ann Schmid, Pam Weicherding
Art: Dan Baker, Dave Kunz, and Don Stadick
Photography: Mr. John Olson, Mr. Phil Davis, and Anne Sholtz
Advisor: Mr. Ed Weber

Resolutions are recaptured



by Jenifer Peterson
Graphos Columnist

With the closing of the year the dawning of 1983 brings a time of both reflection and reckoning. We all tend to look back over the outgoing year and, at the same time, question what the new year will bring.

Surely, 1982 brought everyone days we'd just as soon forget. Like the day you arrived at school only to realize the assignment you'd slaved away at all night was still sitting at home. Or the time the big evening with Mr. Wonderful turned into a disaster because he claimed Rex, the family dog, had suddenly been struck with a severe case of neglect. Then there was the football strikes that scared the lives of all football fans. 1982 will also be long remembered as the year of the great tampering scare that began with the Tylenol capsules.

Hopefully the passing year also brought everyone his share of good cheer. E.T. won the hearts of millions and in doing so had his adorable face printed on everything from bicycles to buttons. New Ulm's addition of a Chinese restaurant, of course, greatly enhanced everyone's culture. Oh, and it was also the year Lady Diane gave birth to a "royal" baby boy and area radio stations guessed what name would be given to the child. Assistant Principal Ed Donahue took on a new identity in 1982 when he grew his beard and developed the urban cowboy look.

Now that we have reflected over 1982, the time has come to focus on 1983. Unfortunately no one can foretell the future, but we can all start the year out right by making a few personal resolutions. There are always things a person procrastinates, for examples, simple tasks like writing letters, sending in college applications, or making a long overdue check-up with dentist. Then there's the more complicated feats like losing weight, stopping yourself from devouring your nails, or making an appointment to have your dentures fitted.

It's important to remember none of us have the magical touch; therefore making resolutions tends to be much simpler than carrying them through. By keeping goals in perspective to abilities one can better insure success in completing a resolution.

Enjoy the last days of 1982 because time can never be recaptured. But remember 1983 may very well be the best yet!



The 1982 Snow Princess Candidates are (left to right, front) Regina Kurfess, Carolyn Altmann, Denise Kamm, and Jenny Zetah; (back) Beth Schmiesing, Laurie Voges, Michelle Deopere, Ann Schmid, and Anne LeGare.

Conquer "Winter Blahs"

by Tina Frederickson
Graphos Reporter

Winter is a monotonous time of the school year. Going to basketball and hockey games every Friday night can get kind of dull.

Student Council noticed this lack and decided to relieve the "Winter Blahs." But what they needed was ideas. They wanted something different, not a replay of Homecoming Week. So what they did was visit some southern Minnesota schools to get ideas. They also discovered that other schools were more involved in community affairs than our school district. They came back and discussed what could be done to cure the blahs. Snow Week was the result of those discussions.

A lot had to be done though. Candidates for Snow Princess was just one item. Should it be limited to just the senior class or should all three classes get involved? Too many girls could be candidates. The decision was to let school organizations select a candidate. They are Carolyn Altmann, drama; Michelle Deopere, OEA; Denise Kamm, FFA; Regina Kurfess, AFS; Anne LeGare, Student Council; Ann Schmid, Graphos and Yearbook; Beth Schmiesing, Choir; Laurie Voges, FHA; and Jenny Zetah, Band. The girls appeared at the hockey game on December 7, the wrestling meet on the 9th, the girls' basketball game on the

14th, and the boys' basketball game on the 17th. The voting for the princess will be held during lunch periods on December 17.

To get more involved in the community, the school district sponsored a food drive. Students were asked to bring a can of food to school during December 13-15. The food was then given to the New Ulm Jaycees who are going to add the canned foods to their Christmas baskets.

Another activity of the week is the Variety Show, which is being advised by Bob Jenson and Steve Pederson. Anyone who had any talent was encouraged to try out. Pederson feels that "This can become a good tradition, but we need the cooperation of the faculty members in the skits." He hopes that more faculty members become involved in the future. At the end of the talent show, the Snow Princess will be crowned.

The week will be concluded with a dance on Saturday night. Admission is \$3.50 but if you have a coupon from the food drive, it's only \$2.50, which isn't a bad price considering Image from Brookings, South Dakota, is the band. The dance is from 8 to 12 P.M.

Enjoy yourself this week, get rid of those "Winter Blahs," and prepare yourself for a well needed Christmas vacation.



Beth Madsen enjoys working with the computer.
(Photo by Kate Hiza)

BASIC info to READ

by Diane Podolske
Graphos Reporter

The computer craze that has RUN across the nation is coming to its peak during the Christmas season. There have been LOADS of television commercials and Christmas CATALOGS to READ so there is no reason to make an ERROR about computers from lack of DATA. Not surprisingly, the kids of America have ranked receiving a computer high on their "Wish Lists" or their "I absolutely cannot do without these items" lists for Christmas.

There are many subtle ways to LET the people at HOME know that you need a computer for Christmas: by cutting out pictures of computers and making a collage on the family pet, by

playing the record "Pac-Man Fever" at decibels loud enough to shatter glass, or by singing your favorite "Computer Carol." My favorite carol is "The Twelve Days of a Computer Christmas": "On the twelfth day of Christmas my parents gave to me, an Apple II in a pear tree."

BASICally, the computer craze has been most evident by the increased enrollment in Computer Science classes. Three of Santa's CHARACTERS Jeff Khrose, Con Trapp, and Ed Heille — have been kept "busy as elves" serving up a MENU of programs for students who have been BITten by the computer BUT. However, if you have any QUESTions, GO to the computer teachers and LET them give you NEW INPUT on computers! END



The computer room is a popular place to play games. (Photo by Kate Hiza)

people

Styles form fashionable news



Mike Liesenfeld's easy going, humorous personality seems to be the key to his popularity. (Photo by Kate Hiza)

by Pam Weicherding
Graphos Editor

People need to wear clothes that comfortably identifies with their image. Everyone has his own style. Fashion adds a spark of visual interest that allows one to feel that there is something new to his look. It can be fun and expressive and, like everything else, is constantly changing.

More people are choosing clothes according to comfort, fit, and quality. "Roughing it" is the look that describes these qualities exactly. Trendies are now wearing headbands, bandanas around the neck, and Indian jewelry along with flannels and denims in new colors and new patterns. Plaids, checks, and stripes are subjects of interest in this year's fall scene. It's a comfortable style giving America credibility. Popular for winter are spruced-up down vests with warm and wooly pullovers, cuddly flannel shirts, and corduroys. Typically called roughwear, this look represents the rugged, survival look. Flannels are worn layered with turtlenecks, blouses, other flannels, or plainly belted.

Sweat-shirts are now better than ever and range in color from the brightest blue to the palest pink. Not only worn for sport, they are seen jacketed with another zip-up sweat, paired up shoulder tied over another, worn with vests, or with a preppy polo underneath. Bright colors and accessories add a whole new dimension to this look for fun, flashy styling.

Often paired with the sweat-shirt is the miniskirt which is making a great comeback. Skirt lengths have been liberated and are constantly changing. Lengths now range from above the knees to the ruffled prairie look length near the ankles. The varieties of style are endless. They range from straight leather styles to sporty sweat outfits to soft cotton minis with ruffled layers. Probably the most popular is the hip

yoked mini, side buttoned, and softly gathered. Minis are also cut full and often styled as a divided skirt so they are comfortable to wear. Legs are a main attraction with minis, so are layered with patterned tights and legwarmers.

Look out, guys! This year you may be outdressed by the new women's movement to menswear. The tuxedo shirt is the best investment to make. These tailored shirts feature tiny collars with ribbing, tucks, or ruffles up the front and, of course, striped, polka dot, or paisley bowties. Full-cut trousers, striped jeans or corduroy suspender pants, double-breasted blazers, or a silk cummerbund also add class to this look.

New detailing and accessories add the finishing touches for the punk look. Cropped pants, oversized blazers, or miniskirts with colored tights and leg warmers are the major pieces for this look. Loosely knotted, square-ended ties, feather pins, earrings, or hair accessories, brass beaded necklaces, and rings pull together the punk look. Belts are also big in the fashion scene as are vests and felt fedoras.

Boots are big and very stylish this year. The newest boot shape is short with flat heels and roll-down cuffs in leather, suede, or even corduroy. The short boot is perfect to pair with miniskirts or tucked-in pants for a put-together look. The western boot is still a popular classic paired with a flounced skirt and ruffled blouse. Hiking boots have always been popular with faded jeans during the winter, but more so with the roughwear styles. Leg warmers are also worn with them.

Of course, the traditionals such as faded jeans and pullovers will never be unstylish. But individual moods and tastes can be visually expressed through fashion. Clothes are an expression of oneself. Fashion is fun!

Mikey likes it

by Suzanne Clark
Graphos Reporter

When someone mentions a team manager, people tend to think of a meek and mild guy who gets pushed around by team members. An exception is Mike Liesenfeld, hockey manager. He is exactly the opposite. Instead of being pushed around, Liesenfeld is treated like one of the players. Sure, there is a lot of joking and fooling around, but the jokes and pranks are not aimed at him.

Liesenfeld gets along well with the hockey players. When asked if he knew why his relationship was so good, he replied, "I'm not sure. I try to get along with everybody. I don't try to get people mad at me." Liesenfeld's easygoing, humorous personality seems to be the key to his popularity. One hockey player remarked, "He gets his job done. He takes all the kidding he gets."

His duties as the hockey manager include getting cones set up for practice

drills, getting other equipment out, and making sure all equipment is put away after practice. During a game Liesenfeld gets out equipment and often does some taping. He frequently skates on his free time during practice.

Liesenfeld enjoys hockey and feels that being manager is a good way to get directly involved in the game. He likes being a part of the team.

A personal reward Liesenfeld receives from managing the hockey team is "the good feeling it is to be part of the team." Liesenfeld was happy about receiving a letter at the end of last season. He likes the satisfaction of being a manager. "It's a good time. It's fun to joke around with the players."

Liesenfeld feels that he gets along with the hockey team because he does his job. "I think the coach feels I'm on the ball. I have a friendly attitude towards the players. I try not to make enemies with team members or with the coach." One player said, "He's just easy to get along with, that's all."

LaPlante surprised to be BWOC

by Kelly Gruenhagen
Graphos Reporter

Sharon LaPlante was chosen this month's BWOC for several reasons.

She has been on the volleyball team for five years. This year has been extra special for LaPlante because she received several honors. She was voted the Most Valuable Player by her teammates, and she was selected to the All Conference Team and the Journal All Area Team. She was also picked as one of Nicklasson's Athletes of the Week.

LaPlante lives one mile out of town, along the KC Road by the Beussman Bridge. Although it isn't a farm, the LaPlante's own a dog named Bandit

and several cats. She comes from a family of six, her parents and four girls. She is the second eldest following her sister Teresa. Her two younger sisters, Lisa and Cathy, attend Cathedral High School.

LaPlante said, "I like the school and enjoy coming; the cuts have changed it a little, but otherwise it's not too bad." She also stated that "Everybody is really friendly. The teachers are easy to get along with and so are the janitors."

Other activities LaPlante has been involved in include basketball for four years and track. She enjoys eating and says it's her favorite pastime, especially if she's nervous. She plays the piano, likes to go camping, and drives a motorcycle. She is also an active fan of

both the boys' and girls' basketball teams.

Her plans for the future include attending Alexandria Vocational School, where she has already been accepted. She wants to major in law enforcement and some day would enjoy doing policework or becoming an officer of the highway patrol.

When asked about being selected as this issue's BWOC LaPlante says, "Yes, I'm surprised; I was shocked! Why did they pick me? I never did anything!"

LaPlante is a pleasant person who has many talents and experiences. The Graphos staff congratulates Sharon LaPlante and wishes her the best of luck.



Sharon LaPlante received many honors for her participation in volleyball this fall.

Dreams come true in far away land

by Barb Bianchi
Graphos Reporter

During this past summer three high school students from New Ulm had an unforgettable experience. They traveled to Europe for their summer fun and vacation. The three were Duane Burdorf, Monica Gulden, and Dawn Kaping. Burdorf and Kaping went through AFS and Monica went on her own. The general reaction from all was, "It was so much fun and I really want to go back in the near future."

This was a dream come true! I have always wanted to do this," remarked Burdorf. He stayed with a family of five. His two host parents were Inde and Hans-Dieter Otten. His host brothers and sisters were Olaf 14, Bennoll 11, and Boris 6. His host father was an electrician and his host mother was a housewife.

He went to school for three months. "It was not as hard as I thought it was going to be. If I had to stay longer, I think that I could've handled it." According to Burdorf school was basically the same as over here. School hours are from 8-1 p.m. Burdorf became familiar with the German language in about three weeks.

Although he was a guest at the Otten's home, he still had to do work. His main chores were to help all the neighboring farmers bail hay and straw. He said that he really didn't mind working.

Burdorf got to do something that others seldom get to do; he lived in a castle for 4 days. "It was really exciting! What more could a person ask for?" remarked Burdorf. The castle was built in 1399 by a duke.

He returned home on September 1. "I really didn't want to yet even though I missed everyone at home." He is planning on returning to Germany in 1984 and plans to make a permanent home there.

Gulden lived with a family of four in West Berlin, Germany. Her host father was Greg Dreykluft, a doctor; her host mother, Gisela Dreykluft, was a school doctor. Other members of the family were Claudia 16 and Gregor 13. "I got along with my family very well. They made me feel as one of the family," commented Gulden. She said the only time she felt left out as one of the family was when it came time to do work. Her host family refused to let her help because she was a guest in their home.

She said that things are pretty much the same over there as it is here. Many students wore punk clothing to school. She thought the meat was better over there, but most of the other foods were basically the same. "One nice thing about Germany is that you don't have to worry about what you wear or what you look like," commented Gulden.



Duane Burdorf enjoyed Germany so well that he plans to return there in 1984 and make it a permanent home. (Photo by Kate Hiza)



Monica Gulden and Dawn Kaping traveled to Europe for a summer of fun and unforgettable experiences.

During her free time the family would go touring, dancing, or eating out. She and her family got along well together. She said that her best friend was her host brother Gregor. "It was hard to leave him and my host family after I had lived there for over two months. I really enjoyed myself, and I am already planning to go back to Germany in the near future. I hope that I can go back for a visit in the summer of 1984."

She urged any person who has the desire to go to Germany to go because travel broadens one's knowledge of the world.

Kaping left on June 22 and returned on August 22. She stayed in a small farming village of about 20 families in Berdetscheag, Austria. It was situated in the Bohemian Forest among wooded hills, a very scenic area.

She lived with a family of five. They were Helmut and Stephanie Fisher and their three children: Andrea 17, Klemens 16, and Judith 12. Her host father is a farmer who raised dairy cattle. He was also a brick layer. Her host mother was a housewife.

Even though Kaping was on a vacation far away from home, she was still involved in doing chores. She did anything from feeding cows and working in the fields to doing dishes and hanging up clothing.

"Everything was basically the same as here. Their food was excellent. The best food was their bread; it's so good. Their clothing is like ours."

During Kaping's free time, she read, wrote letters, or went to a soccer game with her host family. Swimming, visiting other American students, and sightseeing were popular pastimes.

"The hardest thing was trying to understand the German dialect. The most frustrating thing was when you know someone was talking about you and you couldn't understand what they were saying," remembered Kaping.

Kaping had a great time. She is also hoping to return to Europe for a visit during the summer of 1984. "I recommend anyone who wants to go to another country should go to Europe. It is educational and a different change of pace than life in the U.S."

Qvale-fied for life

by Scott Fenske
Graphos Reporter

In every life a variety of changes takes place. Some of these are carefully planned and some are forced upon people for survival. A change, necessary for survival, is what happened to Bob Qvale last spring.

As most students know, cuts have had an effect on our school lives. In early spring Qvale found out that he was going to be one of a number of teachers cut because of spending cuts that are plaguing all units of government. Qvale enjoyed teaching in New Ulm and was well-liked by his psychology students. If it had not been for the cuts, he says that he probably would have "taught all his life" with a change in careers almost unthinkable.

When he does think about the cuts made by the school last spring, he "does not blame anyone." He stresses that the school did the absolute "best that they could" under such conditions. Everyone knew that the cuts were essential and a lot of pressure was felt by everyone involved.

When the cuts officially came, Qvale had to decide what type of future he

wanted. He thought of where he would like to work and what he would like to do. The next thing he had to do was start looking, and with a little help from a few people he knew he became a member of the trust department in the State Bank and Trust Company in downtown New Ulm.

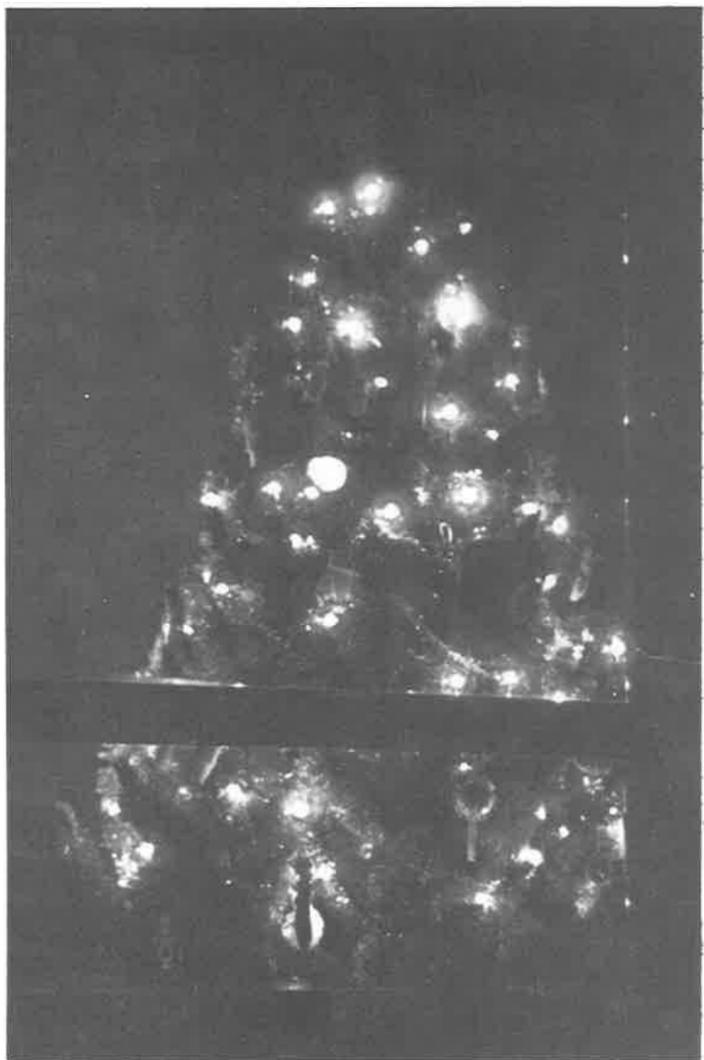
As a member of the trust department, Qvale has a variety of duties. His main responsibility is to manage various investments and assets of customers who seek his services, which include different types of bookkeeping and guidance.

Having gone through a traumatic change in his life, Qvale is happy and grateful for his good fortunes. There are advantages and disadvantages in a career change. He found out that when he was a teacher he had a lot of free time but not a lot of extra money to do things he desired to do. Now that he is not teaching, his spare time is limited, yet his salary is greater now than it was when he taught school.

Qvale is married and has three children. He and his wife Marg have two boys, Matt age 10 and Danial 6. They also have one girl Megan, who is 3.



Bob Qvale left NUHS as a well-liked psychology teacher last spring. Now he is a member of the State Bank and Trust Company. Having gone through a traumatic change in his life, Qvale is grateful for his good fortunes.



The Christmas tree adds sparkle to the holiday season.

Christmas originals

by Paula Burdorf
Graphos Reporter

"...And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord..." (Luke 2:11-12)

For nearly two milleniums, the story of the birth of Christ has been repeated on Christmas, perhaps man's favorite holiday. Every year, on December 25, the ancient holiday is celebrated with lights, Christmas trees, gifts and carols, and feasting. We perhaps think little of these customs, but they are, in fact, rooted deep in history and time.

Even the day that Christmas is celebrated is no accident. In the Dark Ages when Christianity was just beginning to spread, Christians were working hard to get rid of the other "pagan" customs. One big feast then was the Roman feast of Saturnalis. It was especially offensive to the Christians because it had nothing to do with their God, and it was observed right in their midst. So they decided to celebrate the birthday of Christ on that same day in hopes of getting more people to honor the Christian holiday instead of the "pagan" one of Saturnalis.

Ironically, many of the other customs of Christmas have nothing to do with Christianity. For instance, the Christmas tree may have several origins. One is in the medieval German mystery plays in which a tree (called the Paradeisbaum) is used to symbolize the Garden of Eden. Later when there were no longer these plays, trees were set up in homes instead.

Christmas trees may also have originated from the Romans' and Egyptians' tree worship. They were

often used in the Romans' feast of Saturnalis, on which day Christmas was also celebrated.

In northern Europe, the evergreen tree was a symbol of eternal life, and mistletoe was considered sacred and a symbol of peace.

The candles and lights, without which no Christmas would be complete, came about in Ireland. The times were hard for Catholics because they were being heavily prosecuted by the Protestants. In order to be able to observe the Christmas holiday in their own Catholic tradition, they put candles in their windows. On Christmas Eve, a priest would go into the candle-lit houses and hold secret masses with the oppressed Catholic families. The Irish brought this tradition with them when they immigrated to America.

Christmas carols first began as hymns in the Dark Ages. Unlike today's merry tunes, these first carols were more somber. About the thirteenth century, however, the hymns became more lively and joyous. Such songs as "Silent Night" and "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" were written and are still popular carols today.

But probably everyone's favorite part of Christmas is gift giving which began in the old Roman holiday of Saturnalis when people would give good luck gifts to others. The tradition spread to Christianity's Christmas, and since then St. Nicholas and Santa Claus have evolved to give delight to children to this very day.

Today everyone is eagerly looking forward to Christmas. Most people this reporter interviewed in school open their presents on Christmas Eve and then go either to church or midnight mass. Then there's the Christmas Day get-together with the relatives or friends and an enormous dinner.



Fun-N-Franks open for downtown entertainment

by Joanie Baker
Graphos Reporter

Fun-N-Franks, located on North Minnesota Street, opened on November 2 and is managed by Pat Weber. The arcade serves food and has over 14 different video games.

This reporter had the unusual opportunity to be shown around Fun-N-Franks by senior Mike Finstad, who works at the arcade. One of the jobs he has is to kick kids out if they get out of hand. He calls himself "The Weekend Bouncer."

"It's kind of fun making hot dogs and I sometimes have to show kids how to play games. I like it; it's great!" Finstad commented about his job.

Because this writer is not a whiz at video games, Finstad took the time to demonstrate a few of them. Joust is set in medieval times. You rid an ostrich while trying to battle the shadow lords by keeping your lance higher than the enemy's. Each time you win, the shadow lord you defeat disappears and leaves an egg in its place. You can break the egg for extra points. If any are left, they hatch into knights in shining armor.

Another game is Tron. You are an android that must go through four different mazes to reach the next level. Each phase is harder than the last. The first maze is the light cycles. To win, you must box the other cycle in by a light beam that follows you. The other cycle does the same. You automatically lose if you hit the walls or a light beam.

In the second maze you must reach the transportation hole before the clock runs out of time. But you first must shoot spiders which rapidly multiply.

The third maze is the tanks. You start by shooting at one tank. When

you do that, three more tanks appear, then six tanks, and so on. The catch is that you must hit each tank three times before it blows up while the enemy tanks blow you up with just one shot!

The last maze takes place in the MCP cone. You must hit enough blocks (which rotate) to get into the cone. When you've gone through these mazes successfully, you move to the next level and start all over!

Sound confusing? That's just the beginning! Some of the other games are Centipede, Jungle King, Galaga, Tempest, Asteroids, Donkey Kong, Donkey Kong, Jr., Kangaroo, and of course PacMan and Ms. PacMan. There's also a new kid on the block which some of you may have been waiting for, Super PacMan!

Lookout! You may be surprised! Instead of eating dots you eat apples. Some of these apples are "locked behind doors." To get to them you must first eat keys to unlock the doors. In this version, you may also go into the "Den." When you eat an energy dot at certain times, you grow four times the size you once were. Soon afterwards, you return to your original size. The maze is also changed!

Hungry while you play? Although I didn't try it, the food at Fun-N-Franks is said to be great! The menu features "Famous Chicago Hot Dogs" along with polish sausage and brats that come with your choice of three toppings: cheese, chili, or sauerkraut. Pop, milk, coffee, and a variety of chips are also served.

The responses about Fun-N-Franks from the students I talk to in school have been great! Most of them said, "It's neat" and a "fun place to go when there's not much to do." If you haven't had a chance yet, make sure you check out Fun-N-Franks soon.



Mike Finstad demonstrates one of the many games at Fun-N-Franks. He is employed there as "The Weekend Bouncer." (Photo by Kate Hiza)

sports

Donnelly's Duck Blind



by Mike Donnelly
Graphos Columnist

Well, here it is, another Sunday night before deadline. And, of course, being my usual procrastinating self, I haven't written my column. I'm watching the Lakers-76'ers game on ESPN instead. There's no way I'm going to finish my article while I'm watching T.V.

ESPN is my favorite TV channel. For those of you who don't have cable, ESPN stands for the "Entertainment and Sports Programming Network." If you don't enjoy sports programming, then ESPN is not very entertaining. But if you like watching sports as much as I do, this station is gravy. Twenty-four hours of sports each day is enough to satisfy any sports junkie's addiction.

ESPN introduces you to a wide variety of sports. Of course, they have the "normal" sports like college football, pro and college basketball, golf, tennis, and (if you consider it a sport) boxing. But then there are your "not so normal" sports. My favorite is Canadian League Football. It's nuts. With a 110 yard field, three downs to make 10 yards, and 12 players on a team, you gotta know that it's wild. Then there's PKA Full-Contact Karate, which is a combination of box-

ing and karate. Now the guy gets to pummel his opponent with his feet as well as with his hands. To give viewers some international culture, ESPN brings us Australian Rules Football and soccer from Wembly, England. But for the true red, white and blue-blooded American who won't stand for this "pansy British stuff," ESPN presents "Pro Rodeo, Live from Mesquite, Texas."

Another thing I love about ESPN is their re-runs. The ESPN policy is that if an event is good enough to show a first time, it is even better to show a second, third, and even a fourth time. It's not that I mind these re-runs, but at times they can be ill-timed. Consider this situation: It's the middle of December, 12:00 midnight, two degrees below zero outside, and you are in your basement watching TV. Now, no matter how hard he tries, there is no way that the announcer is going to convince me that the Florida State-Florida game is coming to me live from the Sunshine State.

ESPN has no news as such; rather, it has the "Sports-center." Three hour-long shows and three half-hour shows each day are devoted to reporting the important sports news of the day. Although these "Sportscenters" are nice, they tend to blow the importance of sports out of proportion. I have a hard time believing that Herschel Walker's broken thumb is as important as a broken-down economy.

Perhaps the best aspect of the ESPN channel is the ads that can be found between programs. New Ulm Cable has extended the opportunity for television advertising to New Ulm merchants. TV blurbs for business such as Nicklasson Athletic, New Ulm Building Center, New Ulm Tire, Hottman's Furniture, and Margaret's More Woman can be seen. These ads are entertaining, to say the least. The best of these commercials rivals the Plywood Minnesota ads with those dynamic Boschwitz brothers.

Now, if I could only think of something to write for my column.

Boys' basketball shoots from outside

by Scott Kastman
Graphos Reporter

This year's basketball team boasts of their youth, but the outcome of the season will depend on the maturing of its players. Over half of the starting positions are held by juniors who came up with 12 wins and 6 losses last season. With some experience under their belts, this could be a good season for the basketball Eagles. The greatest asset of the team is their quickness. This quality, along with good size, will allow them to play a tight man-to-man defense. The tallest man on the team is Kevin Rueckert, who is a 6'7" junior center. He is the tallest cager to play for New Ulm in years.

Another quality of the team is their

ability to shoot from the outside. Leaders in this category include Dave Wilner, Todd Schaefer, Troy Meyen, and Scott Walston. Junior Dan Reinhart is a strong rebounder and should strengthen New Ulm's defense. If these players mature quickly, New Ulm can be a contender in the South Central Conference. The conference will be strong with Fairmont, Waseca, Blue Earth, and New Ulm expected to be battling for top spots in the conference. New Ulm's first test against Marshall was a 58-53 loss. If the team improves and learns quickly, the Eagles should provide an exciting season well worth watching.

Numerous penalties require special strategy

by Kris Moelter
Graphos Reporter

In hockey, like any other sport, a team is penalized for violating the rules. However, in hockey, unlike other sports, a rule violation means playing with one or two fewer players than the opponent. When a team is playing shorthanded, a special strategy is used.

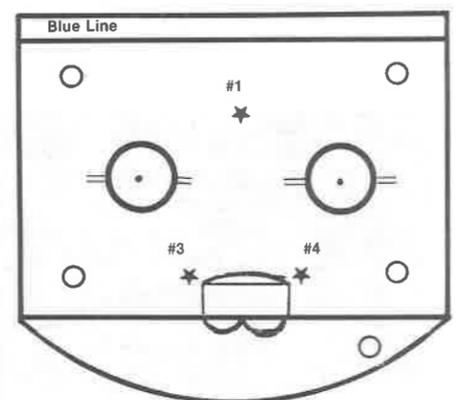
There are several different types of penalties which can be assessed against a team. The 10 minutes misconduct penalty is rarely given. Examples of a misconduct are backtalking to an official and having an illegal curve on the stick. Next is the five minute major penalty which is almost as rare as the misconduct. Intentionally swinging the stick at a player would be a five minute penalty. Whereas receiving a misconduct does not make a team shorthanded (they lose the services of the penalized player for ten minutes), a team must play short-handed if given a five minute major. The most common penalty is the two minute minor. Tripping and elbowing are two penalties which are minors. Like the five minute major, a team is short-handed if given a minor. Since a majority of the penalties require a team to play short-handed, the focus of this article will be on the penalty killing strategy.

According to senior John Hoggatt, the purpose of penalty killing strategy is to "be cautious, but force the other

team to do something." When the Eagles are penalty killing in a five on four situation, they use a strategy similar to that shown in Diagram A. Penalty killers Matt Stroud and Scott Reisdorf occupy the No. 1 and No. 2 positions. Defensemen play the No. 3 and No. 4 positions. The idea of this strategy according to Hoggatt is to "keep the other team out of the box." The box is the area between the penalty killers.

When New Ulm is short-handed in a four on three situation, they employ a strategy like the one in Diagram B. Again, defensemen occupy the No. 3 and No. 4 positions.

Diagram B



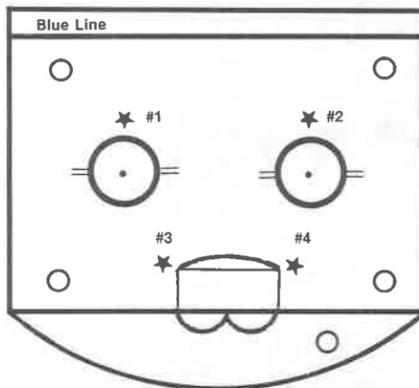
X = New Ulm Penalty Killers
O = Opponents

During the time a penalty is in effect, the Eagles try to change players because the original penalty killers get too tired to play effectively. However, changes are possible only when the Eagles can clear the puck into the opponent's end of the rink. If the opposing team scores during the penalty time, the penalty is over and both sides are back at even strength.

A good penalty killing unit is one that kills about 80% of the penalties. The Eagles, in the words of senior Mike Peterson, "have done fairly well" killing penalties, but "we take too many penalties."

If the Eagles can cut down on their penalties and keep up their penalty killing, perhaps they can reach their seasonal goal, which Peterson says is "to win the conference."

Diagram A



X = New Ulm Penalty Killers
O = Opponents



Eagle Todd Schaefer flies toward the basket during the 58-53 loss to Marshall.

Gymnastic experience determines good outlook

by Scott Walston
Graphos Reporter

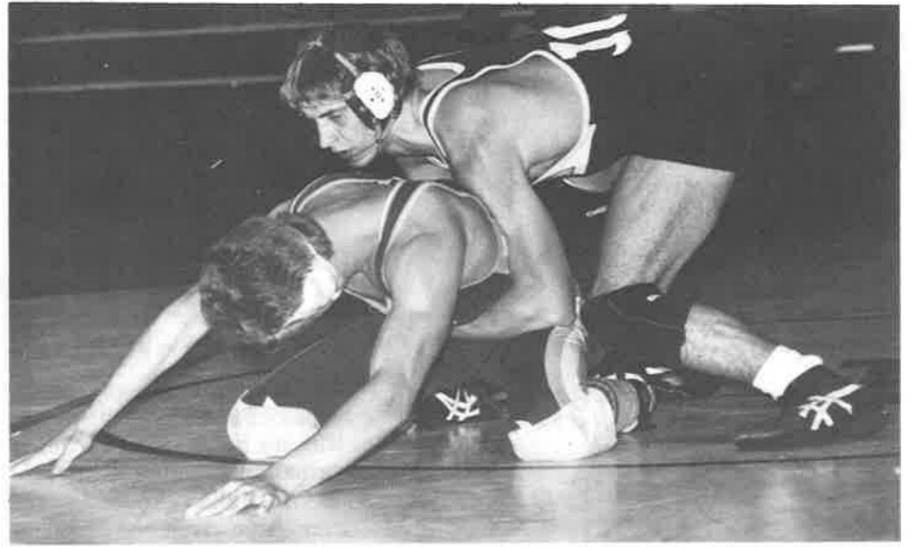
The 1982-1983 girls' gymnastics squad led by head coach Sandi Fritz and assistant coach Jill Curry are looking forward to another successful season. All members of last year's team are back because there were no seniors participating last year. When asked how she thought the team would do this year, sophomore Kris Kneefe said, "I think we should have a good season because we didn't lose anyone to graduation."

Last year's team boasted a 9-2 overall record and a 4-1 conference record. Perennial power and rival Fairmont and Mankato West were the only teams to defeat the Eagles last season. This year the girls hope to send their team to the regions with the help of

captains Wendy Zimmermann and Sue Ann Davis of Cathedral. These two and sophomore Cathy Kretsch competed in region competition last year and did well but hope to do better this year.

The team consists of 15 girls, including five seniors, and two managers, Amy Wyczawski and Cheryl Benson. The girls have two meets before Christmas, including a tough first meet at Mankato West with West, Mankato East, and St. Peter participating. At these meets they will compete in four different events: the balance beam, the uneven bars, floor exercise, and the vault.

The girls' experience should help a great deal in determining the outcome of their season, but the outlook is good for a conference title for this year's veteran team.



Rod Franta rides his opponent in a recent wrestling meet.

"Take-down" wrestling info

by Katie Gag
Graphos Reporter

Wrestling is much more complicated than it seems to the average person. Wrestlers not only need to be in good physical condition but also must know and be able to perform many skillful moves. They must have their weight completely under control and must be able to think and respond quickly to their opponent's movements while acting defensively and offensively at the same time.

The conditioning part is directed by the coach. Five laps around the foyer are required before practice starts. "We do lots of push-ups," says senior Kevin Fruhwirth. Many stretching exercises are done at the beginning of practice. A wrestler uses almost his entire body to maneuver his opponent. To prevent straining any muscles he must be sure he has warmed up properly. Body control is important also.

New moves are demonstrated by the coach and then practiced by the individual wrestlers. The only way to get better at using any moves is to practice them on other wrestlers. Coach Rich Peterson feels experience is very important in any wrestling situation. Early in the season it is harder to utilize moves because nobody has had much practice time.

There are hundreds of wrestling moves that can be attempted. When these moves are used successfully, a wrestler earns points against his opponent. Points are used in two ways for scoring. At the end of the three 2 minute periods, whoever has the most points wins the match. The winner then contributes 3 points to his team's

score. If the wrestler has pinned his opponent, 6 points go to his team. As soon as a pin has been accomplished, the match between the two opponents is over. Six team points is given if a team forfeits a match.

There are 12 weight categories on a wrestling team. The divisions range from 98 pounds to the unlimited heavyweight level. A wrestler's weight is important. He must be at his meet weight for all of his matches. At the beginning of the season, each person is advised by a doctor as to what weight he should maintain. Many boys will lose weight to make a certain weight. The doctor helps assure that nobody is at an unhealthy weight.

The beginning of the season can be very complicated for the coach. He knows what his returning wrestlers can do at their previous weights from last year, but he needs to consider who can or should move to another level. Peterson will often have matches between two fairly equal wrestlers. Whoever "out-wrestles" the other, earns his spot on the team. The person's performance in front of a crowd is also considered. Peterson explains, "Some kids don't do as well in practice, but when it comes time for the meet, some kids just respond to the crowd and do very well."

With eight returning lettermen the team's outlook is good. Rod Franta, one of the team's top wrestlers, feels "we should have a good squad. We hope to improve our record." With seniors on the team, New Ulm has the experience and talent needed for a good season.



6'0" center Deb Winter tips the ball to an Eagle teammate in their game against Wells.

Girls BB rolls over opponents

by Matt Stroud
Graphos Reporter

The girls' basketball team is back again and the SCC better watch out. The girls are coming off the most successful season in the school's history. Last year the team was 13-7 with one sub-region title to their credit. The team graduated five seniors from last year's squad, but there are only two seniors on this season's edition.

The team has good height with four starters at almost six feet. In the front court the girls have three juniors starting: Deb Winter (6'), Shelly Herzog (5-11), and Karin Olson (5-11). The back court has senior Pam Bloedel (5-8) and sophomore Amy Olson (5-4).

So far this season the team has rolled over their first two opponents with im-

pressive wins. The team combines excellent shooting and a tough defense. The team has been led by the accurate shooting of Shelly Herzog and the strong rebounding of Winter and Karin Olson.

Coach Kathy Goodrich thinks the team can better last year's performance. She feels the team is "as competitive as last year" and "has the desire and dedication to repeat last year's success." The coach has put in a new offense to take advantage of the team height.

In the conference picture the Eagles are favorites along with St. James. Last year the team finished third after being at the top of the pack for much of the season. With this year's squad the Eagles could fly pretty high, possibly to a region tournament berth.

Adults boosting support

by Steve Madsen
Graphos Reporter

A group of adults has been formed to promote and support extracurricular activities at New Ulm Senior High School. The New Ulm High School All Sports Booster Club, which it is called, is now planning ways to raise money to support athletic activities.

The Booster Club is guided by a Steering Committee, a group of officers. The Booster Club is not a school-sponsored organization although many of the coaches are members. About 40-45 people have attended some of the meetings, and the Booster Club hopes to have a couple hundred members after it becomes more established. At this time there are no dues although in the future

memberships may be sold as a way to raise money.

There are no major fund raisers going on at this time although some money has been raised through small fund raisers. One way money was raised was by raffling off the homecoming game ball. Most of this money went to order athletic buttons that are now being sold.

The Booster Club has been trying to get more people to attend athletic events. Increased attendance is an easy way to raise money for the extracurricular activity budget.

If you would like to support athletic activities at New Ulm Senior High or want more information concerning the Booster Club, contact Marty Steffel at 354-4502. Steffel is the chairman of the Steering Committee.