

the graphos

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Sophomoric behavior analyzed



Busrides, lunch pails and lots of books characterize the plight of the unsophisticated sophomore. (Photo by Jim Blackstad)

by Cathy Blomquist
Graphos Reporter

High School, that special time in our lives when we become "adults." Mature enough to make our own decisions and intelligent enough to make the right ones. High school is an adjustment for everybody. It's scary for the naive, young sophomores but especially fun for the mature, sophisticated seniors. Being thought of as a peon by upperclassmen is in-

evitable, but there are some simple suggestions sophomores can follow to improve, as much as possible, their reputations for being the "bottom of the ladder."

Transportation. Getting to and from school is a major part of determining whether you'll fit the true sophomore image or not. Taking the bus is the most common form of sophomore transportation, but it is an absolute no-no for a sophomore with any potential. You need to be more mature than that.

How can you possibly be thought of as an adult when you have to share your bus seat with a Jefferson School kid who has the same lunchbox as you? Bus rides are out. Your next option is getting a ride from mom or dad. Humiliating? You bet. But what other choice do you have? Walking? It's a possibility. But if you are carrying every school book you have, and any typical sophomore would, then walking is out of the question unless, of course, you own a heavy duty backpack. Transportation is an important item to consider when trying to escape the true sophomore mold.

Lockers. Lockers are probably the greatest challenge for most sophomores. The built-in combination locks are so much more advanced than the basic padlocks, and they seem to confuse a number of students. The combinations are sometimes tricky, so you may have to refer to your schedule. It is at this point that sophomores make their first discovery; your schedule is your life. Carry it with you at all times.

"You can say 'hi' to seniors but you should never expect a response."

Before you close your locker, be sure you have the right books. If you're going to math, have **only** your math book. Most sophomores are under the absurd impression that carrying every book they own is necessary. There is no locker limit in the senior high. You can stop at your locker more than once a day.

"...there is always one great thing about being a sophomore — next year you won't be one."

Classes. When heading to class, make sure you know where you're going. Think it through before you start if necessary. Which class, which floor, which teacher? Ask yourself, "Do I have my books, my pencil, my brain?" Every sophomore refuses to believe that three minutes is enough time to get to class, and since running isn't allowed in the halls, most sophomores go at a light jogging pace and make it to class with two minutes and 45 seconds to spare. (Ooh, that was close!)

Upperclassmen. There are many variations of rules when dealing with juniors and seniors, and there are certain things you should and should not do. You **can** say "hi" to seniors but you should never expect a response. Juniors will occasionally say "hi" to you if you are the only person in the hall, or if you're related to each other. The juniors will have some sympathy because they still remember their sophomore year.

It's true that being a sophomore might seem to be a rather humiliating experience for some, but with these simple suggestions you can make your sophomore year enjoyable, crazy as it may sound.

Although it's hard to believe, there is always one great thing about being a sophomore — next year you won't be one.

Seniors given stimulating option

by Mark Martens
Graphos Reporter

Four individuals made an important decision in choosing to go to college as freshmen while continuing to earn credits for high school graduation. These students are involved with what is called the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Program. The students participating in this special program are Maria Erpelding (U of M), Kera Johnson, Amy Metzen and Butch Plagge (MSU).

Students interested in participating in this program need to meet several requirements before they may apply or



Amy Metzen



Butch Plagge

be accepted. The first requirement is that the students must be in the top 30% of their class or have scored in the top 30% on the ACT test (or other similar college entrance exams). Secondly, while involved in the program, the student must maintain at least a "C" average throughout their participation in this program.

This program is not only offered at four-year colleges, it also includes many vocational or technical schools. The school must be an in-state school, however.

These four individuals have chosen to go to college this year full time so

they are taking a normal load of college credits. There are, however, different choices available regarding class load. For example, a student may take a total of three credits in the high school, while also taking 18 college credits per quarter. For every one high school credit students decide not to take, they must take nine college credits to make up for the one that they didn't take. A full time college student must take at least 45 credits in order to fulfill their high school graduation requirements.

Two of the four continue to be involved in extracurricular activities at

NUHS. Johnson is involved with the Pom Pon squad while Plagge is a member of the Cross Country team while Erpelding and Metzen have decided to live on campus at their respective colleges. College life is generally an enjoyable time, and the education is good, but one of Plagge's classes has "over 200 students in a room the size of the guys locker room."

If you are interested in this opportunity to expand your educational choices, talk with those who are involved. Also, stop in the guidance department for more information.



Kera Johnson



Maria Erpelding

editorial

First-time voter examines issues



by Andrea Pieser
Graphos Editor

"I began with political cartoons and Reader's Digest before graduating to Newsweek and Time magazines..."

As an eighteen year old, I am experiencing many "firsts." In addition to being a first-time co-editor of the Graphos, I will be a first-time voter on November 8, 1988. The presidential election seems to be more pertinent to me now that I will participate in it.

I have watched debates that once were thought of as interruptions to Sunday night TV. I have read various articles about the two candidates, George Bush and Michael Dukakis. From all of the information I gathered, I have come to a conclusion. The debate topics are easy to understand with a little effort. For my own orientation, I began with political cartoons and Reader's Digest before graduating to Newsweek and Time magazines, but it makes little difference how you become informed.

So now I'm ready. It's November 8 and I'm in the booth ready to vote. Who did I choose? Not an easy decision. I weighed each candidate carefully — their causes, views, personalities,

"The economic instability of the United States resulted in my paying \$2 for a Coke and \$5 for a hamburger."

everything except their sex life. (Which is amazing in an age of kiss and tell.)

George Bush — Republican candidate. He states he won't raise taxes, favors military aid to the Contras in Nicaragua, favors prayer in school, and votes yes to a Constitutional ban on abortion.

Michael Dukakis — Democratic nominee. (An obvious statement, but if 14% of the population of the U.S. can't locate the United States on the map, will they know the presidential candidates?)

He is also against raising taxes. He is opposed to prayer in school and aiding the Nicaraguan contras. He does not favor a Constitutional ban on abortion.

I am most concerned, however, about issues that directly affect me, such as education. When I was in Germany this summer, I learned that most issues affect me. The economic instability of the United States resulted in my paying \$2 for a Coke and \$5 for a hamburger. The devalued dollar is very evident in industrialized countries, a symptom of the trade deficit that hurts all Americans. From this experience, I learned the need to be aware of many issues: social security, defense spending, welfare, and foreign aid.

I also learned to be concerned about non-issues. Does it really matter if students recite the Pledge of Allegiance? Do these divisive arguments keep our attention from the important issues?

Back to my selection for President. I have had to make a decision, ignoring the stereotypes, slurs, and sensational headlines. An editorial is an opinion in print. I have chosen a candidate and have an opinion about my choice. For all first-time and soon-to-be voters here is my opinion: I made my choice. You make yours. November 8, 1988. Vote.

Neither candidate decisive

by Heather Newburg
Graphos Reporter

The presidential election is just around the corner, but there is no decisive leader among the candidates. A song adapted to the melody of Bobby McFerrin's "Don't Worry, Be Happy" describes how "sappy" the two candidates are. That feeling seems to be the most common at NUHS as well.

Information based on a recent survey shows that the majority of NUHS seniors have a poor to adequate understanding of the issues in the 1988 campaigns. Is it George Bush or Mike Dukakis who is campaigning for the Pledge of Allegiance? A large number of the twelfth graders could not answer the question! (The answer is Bush.)

"...neither Dukakis nor Bush presented the image of outstanding leadership."

On Sunday, September 25th, cable TV was an appreciated luxury to most seniors because the networks carried the Dukakis/Bush debate. "All that's been happening with the past campaigning has been criticism of the other party, so why sit and watch more," commented a senior. From those who watched at least part of the debate, neither Dukakis nor Bush presented the image of outstanding leadership. It was hard to tell who came out ahead.

At NUHS survey results indicate seniors eligible to vote favor Dukakis by a two to one margin over Bush. Some remain undecided, while others will write in their own candidates such as Jesse Jackson, Gary Hart, and, on the lighter side, Spuds MacKenzie.

Although some students follow the campaign process, most appear to spend their time with social life, homework, and extracurricular activities.



College questions raised

by Kara Olsen
Graphos Editor

I'm Kara Olsen and I'll be writing a column every issue concerning the options open to NUHS seniors. Are you unsure whether college, AVTI, military service or the working world is the right choice for you? I will address these topics and others in upcoming issues.

In this first edition I'll answer some questions that may help you select a college.

Why do you want to go to college? Do your parents expect you to attend college? Are you going to meet new people? To have fun? To broaden your interests and experiences? To develop a special talent? Or are you going to prepare for a career?

Once you are sure of your reasons for wanting to attend college you will be able to move on to the next question.

What have you accomplished during your high school years? Are you a good, average, or below average student? What classes have you taken in high school? What are your strongest and weakest subjects? What extracurricular activities do you enjoy? Have you had a part-time job? What are your hobbies and interests?

After completing this "self-inventory" you can decide what characteristics to look for in a college.

Where should the college you attend be located? Do you want to attend a college far from home or stay close to your friends and family? Would you like to be in a large city, a small town, or a country setting? Which geographic region do you enjoy most?

Are you interested in a small, medium or large college?

What type of college do you want to attend? Do you want to attend a four-



year college, state university, private college, or a two-year college?

How academically intense and competitive should the college you attend be?

What student body characteristics are you interested in? Would you like a single sex or a coed college? Should the college be religiously affiliated? Would you like a campus where students have different backgrounds or one similar to your own?

What kind of campus life are you interested in? Do you want to live in a dorm or off campus? Do you need a campus where there is a lot of activity or do you need a relaxed atmosphere? Are you interested in a fraternity or a sorority? What about college athletics?

The final question to answer about colleges is the cost.

How much can you afford to pay for a college education? Is financial aid available? Are scholarships available?

You now need to match the answers to these questions with a college that's right for you! It may seem like a time-consuming task, but with the help of your parents and guidance counselors, you'll discover there isn't just one but a whole list of colleges to choose from.



NUHS Homecoming Court for 1988 included, front row left to right, Nikki Kragness, Cindy Kokesch, Janel Maurer, Sara Baum, Kim Bowar, Connie Forsberg, and Peggy Rathmann; back row left to right, Jason Eatros, Andy Boehlke, Colin Meier, Mark Martens, Jamie Franta, Brian Braulick, and John Giefer.

Homecoming at NUHS

by Jen Lomax
Graphos Reporter

"NUHS was without a homecoming parade this year for the first time in years."

NUHS is once again surrounded with many events during Homecoming Week, but were we as excited about homecoming as in the past?

What is "homecoming"? Who can define it? Is it just a king and a queen, or is it alumni coming home for the weekend? Homecoming should be a time of school spirit as well as all these other things mentioned.

It may be just my opinion but NUHS

has a lot to be desired when it comes to school spirit. It would have been great to see more people involved in the week's special events. This isn't meant to offend anyone, and I compliment those who did get involved.

Many people were afraid to participate unless their friends did. Many people despise school and would rather not have anything to do with it. But as long as you're here, why not make it as enjoyable as possible.

NUHS was without a homecoming parade this year for the first time in years. Was there a lack of participation in float design and construction? Were there other reasons? There was a petition circling among the students expressing their desire to have the parade

restored. Did we sign this petition even though we were partly to blame for the parade's demise?

Homecoming Week was full of many events in which to participate. The Student Council planned a special event for each day of the week.

Monday — Dress-up day
Tuesday — T-Shirt Signing Day
Wednesday — Hawaiian Day
Thursday — Favorite Sport Day
Friday — Purple & White Day

"It would be great to see more people involved in the week's special events."

Friday concluded with a variety show/pepfest/coronation. The variety

show included the tug-of-war finals, a gong show (you weren't required to have talent), and a teacher obstacle course.

The cheerleaders, Pom Pon, and the band also performed. At the end of the school day the Homecoming King Andy Boehlke Queen Janel Maurer were crowned. The Eagles took on Waseca at the football game that evening. The Homecoming Dance followed the game with DB Sound once again hired to entertain.

the graphos

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

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Don't worry, be comfy

by Jodi Deopere
Graphos Reporter

It's getting late. It's already after 7:30 a.m. and you still haven't decided what to wear to school. You better get moving. Let's check your closet.

You open the door to your over-stocked closet. Carefully, you go through your complete stock of clothing. Nothing. (Actually you know that you have much more than "nothing." Heck, you must have close to a hundred different outfits you could possibly wear. I guess you're just not in the mood to wear them, huh?)

Why not try your brother's (or sister's) room? After getting the door open enough to squeeze through, (don't you wish he would clean that mess up once in a while!) you go through his closet. Less than nothing! It's nearly time to go — what are you going to do? Maybe you'll try your parents' room.

Let's see, what can you find in here? Just be certain that you do not move anything in their bedroom unnecessarily — your mother and father would have a fit if they knew that you were snooping around in their room! After

carefully searching their closet, you decide against wearing any of their clothing — it's all too "parent-like." Now what?

OK. This is your last possible stop — the laundry room. Heaven only knows what you are going to find in here! Well, let's see. Oh, wow! There is your absolutely favorite old sweatshirt. Jump back!! Your ancient, faded jeans are here too! Here you had assumed that your mother had either given them to the Salvation Army, torn them up for rags, or burned them. You never expected to see them again — much less be able to wear them!

Great! Now you have found something to wear to school. You better get dressed. You should have left a long time ago. You better hustle!

In this day and age, don't worry what to wear to school. Just wear something comfortable. This year most people are choosing to wear comfortable clothing such as jeans, t-shirts, sweaters, and sweatshirts. Of course, if you want to dress up a little more, go right ahead. That's fine too. Remember — wear whatever you feel comfortable in.

What will it cost per year?

The increase in school taxes based on current assessed valuation if taxes had been levied in 1987, payable 1988, are as follows:

House with Homestead		
Market Value	Assessed Value	6 Mills
\$40,000	\$ 6,800	\$ 18.77
60,000	10,200	50.83
90,000	17,500	105.00

160 Acre Farm, Cottonwood Township		
Market Value:	Assessed Value	6 Mills
\$160,000		
Homestead	\$26,160	\$100.46
Non-Homestead	28,800	127.87

The above figures were supplied by Marlin Helget, Brown County Auditor.

people



Superintendent Patricia Hanauer does not look pleased while reviewing the financial situation of the school district.

Hanauer's role vital in students' lives

by Jennifer Freiheit
Graphos Editor

Patricia Hanauer plays an important role in every student's life even though many students may not realize what the superintendent's job entails. Hanauer, the new superintendent, is ultimately responsible for running the school district, overseeing the managing of buildings and staff, and working directly with the budget.

She has seen many strengths within the school system in the relatively short time she's been here. "We have a hard-working and concerned staff of teachers, and our academic programs have given us a strong reputation in educational circles throughout the state," commented Hanauer.

"I didn't know they were of this magnitude!"

When Hanauer interviewed for the superintendency last winter, she knew the district was having problems. Asked if the problems were worse than what she had expected, she said, "I didn't know they were of this magnitude!"

The major issue facing the school district at the moment is the excess levy referendum on Tuesday, October 18. Hanauer is thinking positively about

the outcome and hopes that by informing as many people as possible, the referendum will be approved. If it is not passed, then the superintendent and the school board will have to make numerous cuts in staff and programs. Because education is a basic principle of American society, she feels that people are concerned about this situation whether or not their own children are in school.

"...our academic programs have given us a strong reputation in educational circles throughout the state."

As for the future of District 88, Hanauer realizes the need to do some restructuring in the grade schools. There is a bulge in enrollment which is being satisfied by "temporary" classrooms, some of which are 20 years old. Solving the problem might involve creating a middle school or possibly building additional classrooms to accommodate the increased enrollment.

Hanauer observed that whenever she has come in contact with high school students, they have impressed her with their concern for education and their dedication to learning. "I have found a fine, fine district here and you all should be proud of yourselves, your teachers, and other staff members."

Seven AFS students attend NUHS

by Kathy Radloff
Graphos Reporter

"Hola," Graphos fans! Isn't it great to be back in school with all your old friends? Sure it is, but wouldn't it be nice to meet someone new, interesting, and someone who comes from as far away as Europe? Well, you're in luck! NUHS has not one, but seven AFS students this year.

You don't need to speak Spanish to say "hi" to Jorge Varona or Javier Soto from Spain, and you don't have to speak German to have a conversation with Annette Wacker. You can learn all about Holland from Kristel Van De Vondervoot and Carlos Mueller Ortiz will familiarize you with neighboring Mexico. If you want to find out a few facts about Indonesia, then Mira Amir is the person to talk to.

Although New Ulm's night life doesn't quite compare to that of Spain's (according to Varona and Soto), New Ulm is a nice town. Van De

Vondervoot is really enjoying her stay in the United States, and all of the AFS students have made new friends. For these seven world travelers, New Ulm has become their home away from home this school year.

Perhaps some of you already have had the chance to meet one of these exciting people. For those of you who don't know them, the 88-89 school year will give you the perfect opportunity to get acquainted with students from around the world. The foreign exchange students have come a long way to learn about our country firsthand.

There are numerous opportunities to meet these people in and out of school. NUHS has an AFS Club that meets regularly and everyone is welcome to join! You also have the opportunity to study a foreign language, either Spanish or German. So what are you waiting for? Let's reach out and broaden our points of view and make their stay in New Ulm a memorable year at the same time.



Editors Andrea Pieser, Kara Olsen, and Jen Freiheit are looking forward to publishing the Graphos and Eagle.

Editors expect busy year

by Ann Wisniewski
Graphos Reporter

It's going to be a busy year for Kara Olsen, Andrea Pieser, and Jen Freiheit as the Graphos and Eagle editors. This year the same staff is working on both school publications, and in addition to their editorial responsibilities the student editors will double as reporters and feature writers. A minimum of six issues are planned for this year. They also want to have some articles about individuals active in the community.

The editors feel that having a school paper gives students an opportunity to express their ideas and improve their writing skills. They hope to increase student interest with more issues and appealing articles.

Pieser, Olsen, and Freiheit accepted the editorship because they enjoy working on school publications and wanted the experience for their future.

They intend to portray all the student groups who represent NUHS. If you have any ideas for future issues, contact one of these editors.

¡Adios Colombia, hola America!

by Brad Heilman
Graphos Reporter

"There were a lot of people who couldn't make a living wage, but there were also a lot of people who flew to Miami on the weekends."

Whenever Colombia is brought up, the first thing that comes to mind for many people is, "Hey, that's where drugs come from!" However, Spanish teacher Al Hoffman who was on a Fulbright Teacher Exchange to

Abraham Lincoln High School in Bogota, Colombia, last year, can tell you a different story.

"I really miss a lot of the things about it. Many people asked me why I would ever want to go to a country like that, yet there's so much positive about it," Hoffman said. Such positive things include the people of Colombia, who commonly have the attitude of people are more important than things. He described how common it was to see people talking to each other everywhere. Many Americans would call these conversations wasting time, but wasting time, according to Hoffman, may be one thing America needs.

"There was incredible poverty and incredible wealth. There were a lot of people who couldn't make a living wage, but there were also a lot of people who flew to Miami on the weekends," observed Hoffman.

Many Americans use "indicators" of wealth such as expensive cars and big houses. The middle class members of Colombia, however, have no cars, instead they have two or three kids in small apartments. Their wealth is their families whom they love. "It's a tradition of needs versus wants."

Of course, the big questions for many people is drugs. However much the people protest, probably the entire

Colombian army couldn't stop the drug traffic. These traffickers are constantly being supported by American money from American drug addicts. In turn, the traffickers are murdering judges and terrorizing the country. They have unimaginable amounts of American money to buy power and influence to control the innocent yet helpless Colombian citizens.

"...there's a whole other world out there that they didn't know existed before."

"It wasn't easy to take a whole family, but my children were very adaptable and I think they gained a lot of confidence." His children had new friends and new teachers who spoke a different language. "They are now more open-minded to differences, and there's a whole other world out there that they didn't know existed before." There were vast differences in the school system, where Hoffman spent most of his time as an English teacher. One-half of the schools are private, and the tuition varies according to the students' wealth. The public schools charge minimal tuition, but approximately a third of all Colombian youth receive no education at all.

In the more expensive private schools, there was a great lack of interest. "They knew where they were going in life, whether to the University or wherever, and they had their connections established." The public schools were the opposite. "The ones who suffered (financially) had a great reverence for education. One of the other Fulbright teachers in Bogota taught at a public school, and the students were in awe of him, they were respectful."

Colombia is an extremely beautiful and incredibly rich country, culturally. It simply receives a "bad press" from some of the things that go on there. The hope that a greater understanding can be attained between other countries and the United States is one of the purposes of the Fulbright Teacher Exchange program.



Third year Spanish student Stacy Halvorson listens closely while Al Hoffman introduces new material.

Strange faces become familiar

by Lanae Larson
Graphos Reporter

On September 6, 1988, all of the members of the sophomore class, my class, were in the same boat. We were drifting into "the first day of the rest of our lives." Some encountered rough waters, while for others, it was smooth sailing.

We spent one year at the top of the ladder at the junior high. We were the oldest, the wisest, the class in control. Hey! We were "big" freshmen! In one day that all changed. We became sophomores. We're the youngest, at the bottom the ladder once again. We'll make the best of it, though.

"She also mentioned something about good-looking guys."

"I think it's a lot better than the junior high. You're more independent," Jen Gluth said.

Eric Bushee added, "The first weeks were easy."

"I thought the first weeks were exciting and new," Julie Beck stated. She also mentioned something about good-looking guys.

Dave Schiltz had the same idea, "Everything was new, but I'm getting used to it. The senior girls aren't bad looking."

Some found the first couple of weeks to be a challenge, but they have quickly gotten adjusted.

"They were nerve-racking and hard to get used to," Sheila Wendinger said.

"And these strange faces have become friendly, familiar faces."

Nicole Degner nodded in agreement, "I wasn't too crazy about the first few weeks, but it's getting a lot better."

As for me, well, I'll be honest. The first few weeks of school were difficult. I knew everyone at the junior high, but when I came here, I found a whole bunch of new faces. "I'm an underclassman; I'm a sophomore."

I have since adjusted and discovered that being a sophomore isn't that bad. "You're only a sophomore in high school once, right?" And those strange faces have become friendly, familiar faces. In fact, I'm looking forward to the next two years at NUHS.



Sophomores Travis Roth and Marrett Grund check out this year's senior material.

Budget cuts loom

by Mike O'Connor
Graphos Reporter

Independent School District #88 is short of money. Because of this shortage, cuts have to be made. On October 18, voters in the district will be asked to approve an Excess Levy Referendum in order to prevent further cuts.

Costs of running the school district, such as insurance rates, utilities, and maintenance costs, have increased. In addition, educational costs have increased faster than state aids and local taxes, and the formula used to determine the revenue we receive has changed.

The school district has already made cuts in the budget to reduce deficit spending (\$585,500 has been cut from the budget, \$300,000 this year and \$285,000 dollars for the 1989-90 school year).

Most students don't really have a good idea of how these cuts affect them. Unfortunately, they affect all of us in one way or another. A few of the cuts this year included nursing staff, Viking vocational staff, 2.5 teaching positions at the junior and senior high, reduction of summer programs in agriculture, music, custodial services.

Next year withdrawal from the Viking Vocational Center will occur along with cuts in education and extra-curricular offerings, both athletic and

non-athletic: elimination of JV Hockey, JV Boys' Basketball, Drama Club, and Academic Decathlon are scheduled. An increase in participation fees will also take place.

All of these cuts occur whether or not the excess levy is successful. **If it is not successful more cuts will have to be made.** One position that could be cut would be the Student Council supervisor. If he would be cut, that could result in the end of the Student Council. That would also mean the end of all the activities that the Student Council supports like homecoming, dances, and special days.

A committee has been formed to help with the excess levy. They are CUBE (Citizens United for Better Education). Their job is to inform the public of the district's financial problems and support the need for an excess levy.

NUHS has also formed a group called KUBE (Kids United for Better Education). They are working with CUBE to inform the students of the problems. A student rally has been planned for October 17 to show the public how concerned the student body is about the cuts that are going to be made.

October 18 is a big day for Independent School District 88. If the excess levy referendum doesn't pass, more cuts will have to be made. KUBE hopes it passes.

How much would the referendum cost me?

The 6 mill levy would cost an average homeowner in New Ulm \$21.44 per year. (The average market value of a homesteaded home in New Ulm is \$45,709, with an assessed value of \$7,771.)

It would cost an average homeowner in the City of Hanska \$9.91 per year. (The average market value of a homesteaded home in Hanska is \$21,128, with an assessed value of \$3,592.) The average market value of a home in the City of Lafayette was unavailable from Nicollet County. However, the tax rate is the same as the rest of the school district.

The levy would cost a Cottonwood Township landowner with 160 acres of homesteaded land \$100.46 per year, for a farm with an assessed value of \$26,160. Without Homestead Credit, the levy would cost \$127.87 per year for a 160 acre farm with a market value of \$160,000 and an assessed value of \$28,800.

These figures were supplied by the Brown County Auditor on the 1987 levy, payable in 1988.

Flandrau is local hot spot

by Josh Crabtree
Graphos Reporter

If keeping your cool has anything to do with beating the heat, this summer was the time to keep your cool.

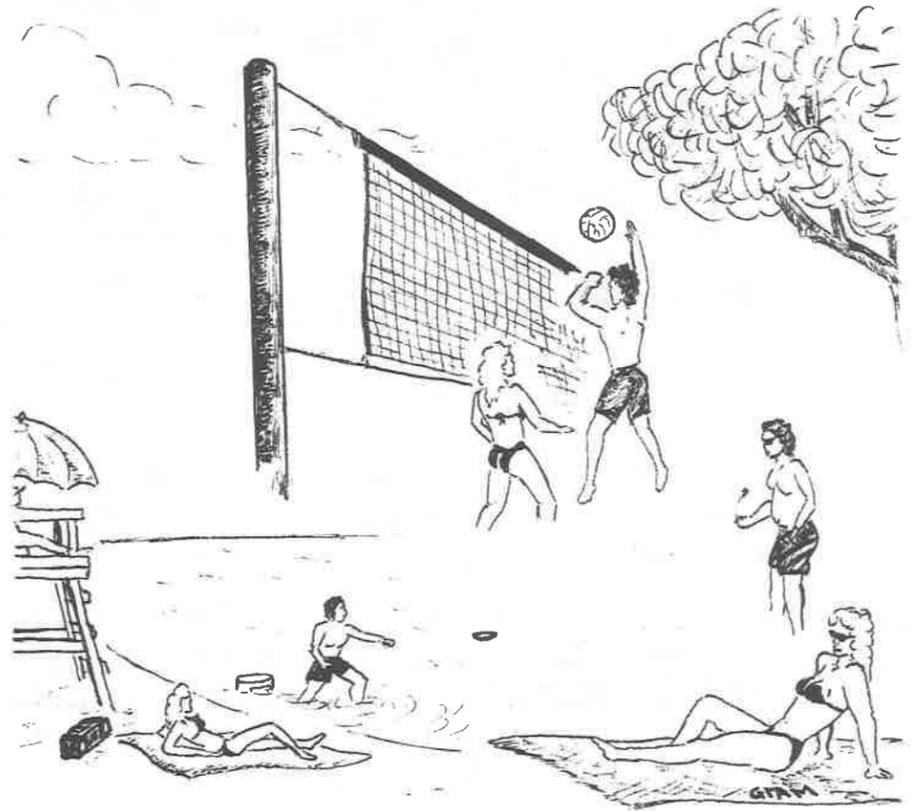
The summer of 1988 was one of the hottest on record. Many a time the mercury read in the high 90s and even in 100 degree plus range. So how did the students and faculty of District 88 beat the heat this summer?

Many people went to Flandrau State Park to refresh themselves in the pool. "They sure picked the right summer to open the pool," commented Chad Schmidt who was a frequent attendee at the pool. For many of us the lovely young ladies made the scenery at Flandrau more attractive.

"I didn't do anything. It was too hot!" said Tony Hanten. Others like him preferred to stay in the coolness of their air conditioned houses. It was just too hot to be outside on some of those 100 degree plus days. Places like the Putt-Away Park Mini Golf Course closed during the hottest part of those days.

The Dairy Queen also had many more people stopping to cool off while they ate. Many customers refreshed themselves with a sundae or a float before facing the heat and humidity again.

But remember this is Minnesota, the land of extremes, so next spring this writer may be reporting on how people stayed warm during one of the coldest winters on record!



Drought affects economy

by Paul Fischer
Graphos Reporter

Nine point eight inches. That was the total rainfall between April and August. The normal amount during the growing season is 15 inches. These are the official statistics compiled by KNUJ. The physical effects of this summer's drought, stunted crops and low yields, can be readily seen throughout the New Ulm area. However, the total economic impact on our community is yet to come.

"It's very obvious that we have been hurt by the drought," said Don Potter, owner of Potter's Incorporated of New Ulm. "Farming is New Ulm's number one industry and 30 to 40 percent of this year's crop has been lost," he said. This loss of farmers' income is "bound to take away purchasing power on Main Street."

Potter pointed out that non-farm industries will also be hurt by the drought. "Farmers still need to repair

"Farming is New Ulm's number one industry and 30 to 40 percent of this year's crop has been lost."

equipment, buy fertilizer, seed, and other items necessary for production." He suggested that farmers will be much less likely to buy non-essential items.

One New Ulm used car business closed its doors on October 1. The owner thought that people would be more likely to buy used cars than new ones. However, many car owners are repainting and repairing the cars they have instead of replacing them.

Despite this year's tragedy, Potter stressed the need for farmers to remain optimistic. "If next year is normal, farmers will be able to recover," he commented. A cool and wet fall could restore soil moisture levels before spring planting.



The results of the drought of '88 were evident in this year's corn crop.

sports

Van Roekel replaces Schmidt

Who says . . .



by Colin Meier
Sports Columnist

"There's more to New Ulm than baseball and beer."

As another Eagle football season began, the team was faced with the typical ridicule by the hometown fans. While preparing for the Eagles opener with Orono, the fans sent the same dull message: "I bet it's another 2 and 6 season." The Journal "experts" picked Orono to win. The coach (at the time Jim Schmidt) later told the team of a radio announcer who called and asked if they were going to Orono to try for a win. "Of course! What do you think we've practiced all week for?" Schmidt exclaimed.

For the first time in six years the Eagles had beaten the Orono Spartans. The thrill of the victory was shortlived, however, when after the game Schmidt told the team that he would no longer be coaching. Rick VanRoekel, the defensive coordinator, would take over.

The next week the Eagles played the Redwood Falls-Morton Cardinals. They felt confident as they prepared for the game. But after the game, the Eagles were left wondering just what had exactly hit them. Though they had beaten Orono, which could defeat most teams in the South Central Conference, they lost to a team which capitalized on a momentary breakdown.

"The coach told the team of a radio announcer who called and asked if they were going to Orono to try for a win."

In their next game the Eagles obliterated Wells-Easton 33-0 in a penalty ridden game. The Eagles then faced the Saint James Saints. It was their homecoming, and the Eagles planned to be "The Grinch Who Stole Homecoming." The Eagles showed the Saints that New Ulm was a power to be reckoned with, for the first quarter at least, by taking a 14-0 lead. Then the second quarter rolled around and the Eagles found themselves at one point with 4th down and 55 yards to go. The Saints came back to win 20-14. Once again the Eagles found themselves wondering what happened.

They shook off the loss and approached the next game with hopes and desires that only people who have experienced athletic competition could understand. The Eagles had to defeat Blue Earth in order to entertain play off possibilities. For the first time in six years New Ulm won a third game and showed their fans that they want to win.

Who says that the football team can't win? There's more to New Ulm than baseball and beer. Go get 'em, Eagles!

Tennis challenges netters

by Jen Nagel
Graphos Reporter

NUHS girls' tennis coach Pat Reedy believes that "some of life's greatest moments come at the height of competition. You can find them in tennis particularly because it is an individual sport."

As this fall's tennis season finishes up this week, Reedy began to wonder out loud. "Why do they (the girls on the tennis team) compete?" Is it for "life's greatest moments"? The reasons a coach competes sometimes will differ from the reasons his players have. Knowing there were differing opinions, Reedy suggested I do the obvious, talk with a few of the players.

Before the interviews with the players began, Reedy observed that most girls join the team initially because their friends do. He thought that as they began playing with the senior high team, they learned to appreciate competition. Some may also play for reasons other than themselves.

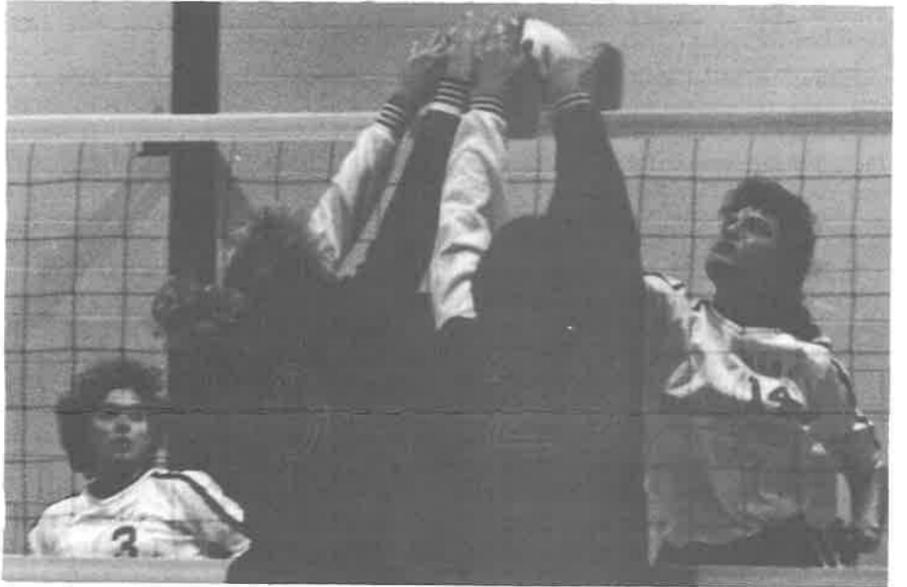
Although I had the opportunity to speak with several players, Kelly Moelter summed up their responses the best. "I compete because I enjoy the game of tennis. I have the excitement of challenging others and playing the



Kelly Moelter returns a shot during a meet.

best that I can." Kellie Johnson put it more simply, "Because it's a challenge."

The challenges of improving, playing their best and eventually winning seemed to be the backbone behind the tennis team's reasons for competing.



Stacy Earl (3) watches intently as teammate Laurie Koss' (14) hit is blocked.

Spirit, togetherness highlight season

by Amy Dauer
Graphos Reporter

Effort and teamwork are essential fundamentals when striving for a maximum level of potential. That level is exactly what the New Ulm Eagles volleyball team and Head Coach Gayle Bauer are reaching for.

This year's Eagle volleyball team consists of 12 competitive players. DeeAnn Asleson and Gretchen Coyle are the only seniors. The junior members include Lisa Evans, Stacy Earl, Tammy Wittenberg, Peg Kokesch, Gwen Bloedel, Kim Milbrath, Dina Schroepfer, Laurie Koss, and Jenny Lomax. Dawn Hatle is the only sophomore on the varsity team.

There are certain qualities that Coach Bauer looks for when deciding who plays. Effort and attitude definitely play important roles when choosing the team. Physical ability and skill level are also major characteristics.

Lomax and Earl are vital parts of the volleyball team. They have attended several volleyball camps and improved their play tremendously. Bauer commented that Bloedel has been doing a nice job and Kokesch is a real team player.

There are several dominant points that have aided the team's strengths. "I think a strong point of this team is their togetherness and team spirit. They are hard workers. A pretty good

passing and serving team," Bauer commented.

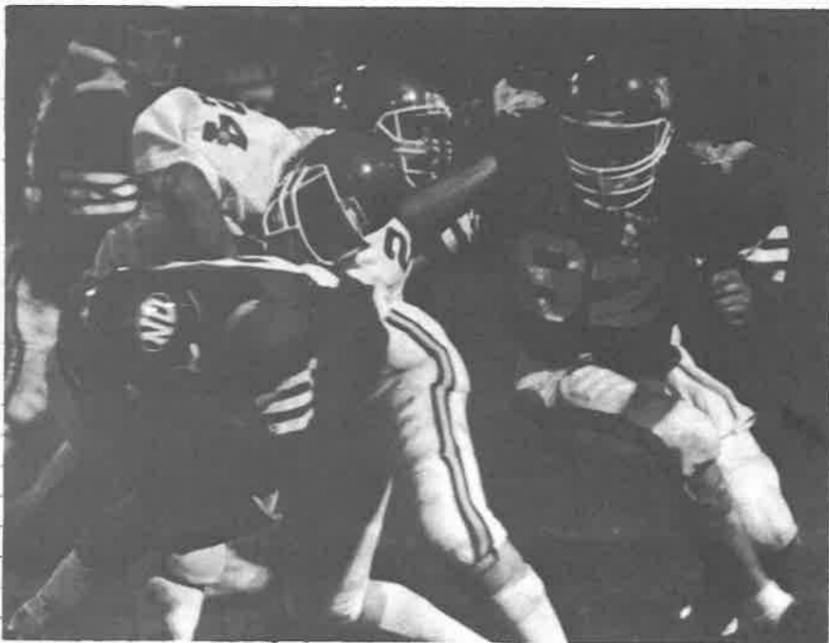
The average daily practice for Bauer's team is two hours. They usually hold drills from 3:30 to 5:30. Practice occasionally lasts longer on nights when the team lifts weights two times a week.

Practice starts out every day with various exercises that stretch out the muscles. These exercises are used to get the blood flowing after a long day of just sitting in school. There are many drills that prepare the players for games. Hitting, passing, and serving are all a part of the drills. These elements are then implemented into other drills based on teamwork.

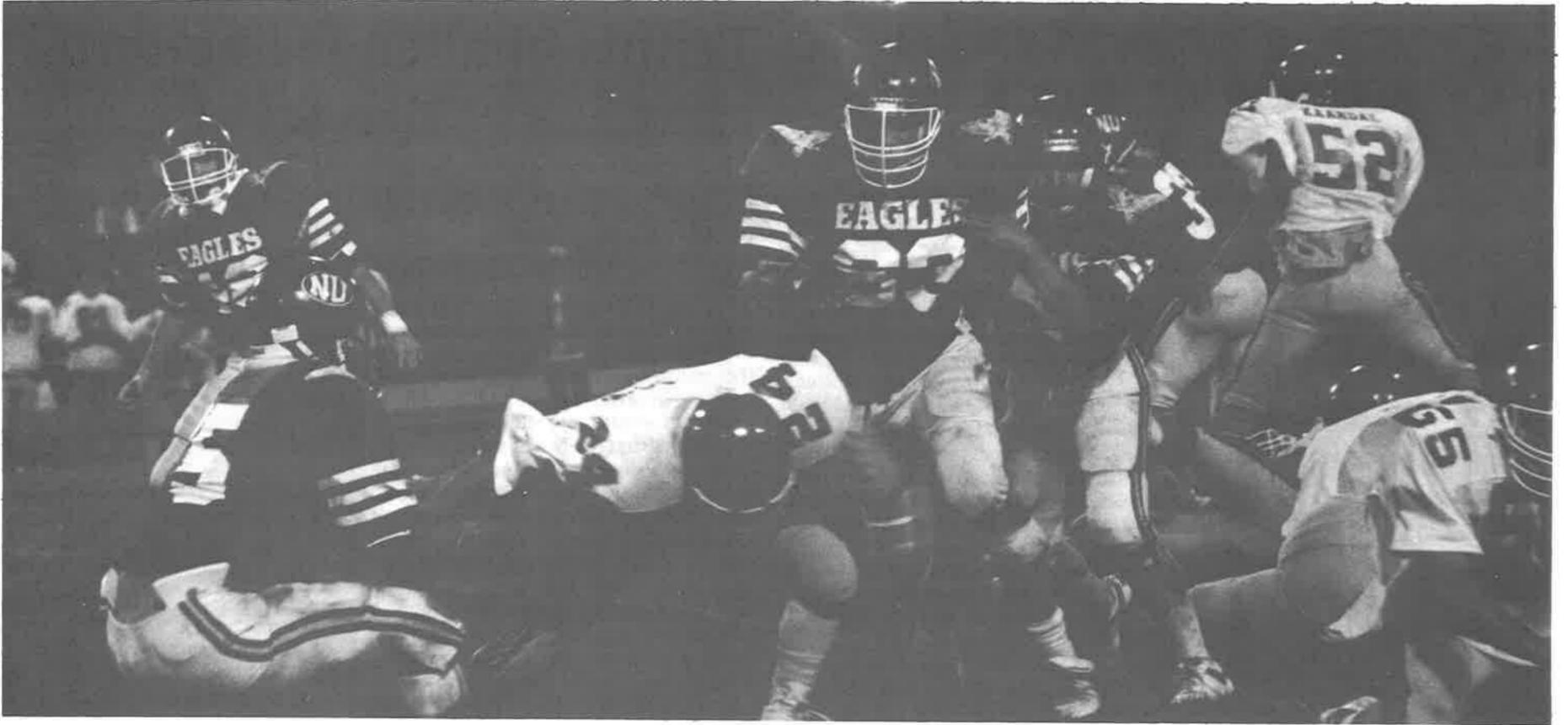
Bauer does not do all of the work herself. She has three assistants. Deb Hogue is a student coach who runs plays at practice and helps out enormously at games. Hogue is like Bauer's "right hand person."

Sharon Janni and Jill Hendricks are this year's varsity managers. They come to practices, just like the team, and keep things running smoothly. At games, their duties include recording and compiling stats and making sure that none of the volleyballs are lost at out-of-town games.

Cooperation and spirit are two words that can be found in every New Ulm Eagles volleyball player's vocabulary. They are two of the reasons for the strong foundation for volleyball at NUHS.



Senior Mark Martens lowers his shoulder to tackle an unidentified ball carrier. Andy Hammerschmidt (92) follows close behind.



Tony Hanten and other Eagle defenders crush the opponents' offensive line.

Van Roekel plans few changes

by Joel Luker
Graphos Reporter

Eagle football fans will be seeing a new face yelling at the officials from the sidelines. Well, maybe not a "new" face, but at least a familiar one in a new role. That face belongs to the new head coach Rick VanRoekel, who took over for Jim Schmidt.

Schmidt resigned because of a new job. He was notified of the job offer the day before the team's opener against Orono. After the 14-12 overtime win, he announced his plans to the team after the game.

Schmidt's new job is in Mankato with a computer software company. He will be teaching people how to use the software the company markets. The job caused conflicts with coaching so he resigned because he didn't have

the time for both.

"It wasn't a choice as to whether or not I should quit coaching. It was a choice as to whether or not I should take the new job. If I accepted, I wouldn't have time to coach. Sometimes you just have to worry about putting bread on the table," Schmidt said.

VanRoekel said it wasn't really a surprise to him that Schmidt resigned. "He (Schmidt) talked to me this summer...and asked me if he moved or got a new job, would I be willing to coach? I said 'yes.'"

Although VanRoekel had an inkling that Schmidt was leaving, he was still hesitant about taking the job. VanRoekel had been offered the head

coaching job before, but he declined feeling that he "didn't know enough and was too inexperienced." He's still not sure he's ready for the job, but he decided to give it a try.

Asked if he would "rock the boat" by making any major changes, VanRoekel replied, "I plan on leaving almost everything the same. Some changes, such as the new offense, were put in by Schmidt before he left. We have made some personnel changes, but if he (Schmidt) were here he could have made those same changes also. He left early in the season, when you're still looking at who will do the best job where."

VanRoekel will continue to call the plays for the defense; Leo Traurig runs

the offense, and Scott Stuckey will remain as line coach.

Both Schmidt and VanRoekel said the change would affect their lifestyles. For Schmidt, he now has more time on weekends (especially Saturdays) to do things he wants; for VanRoekel it's the opposite. Both men commented on the fact that there's more to being a head coach than most people realize. On Saturdays they meet with coaches from other towns to exchange game films; on Sunday they review game films for hours. Then there's the after-practice discussions with assistants regarding player adjustments and answering questions for the media.

"I'm just another exuberant fan now," Schmidt says.

CC presents picturesque scene

by Jason Nado
Graphos Reporter

Fall brings many new people to the various teams at NUHS, but none is as determined as Cross Country. New members, coach Skip Davis, and last year's letterwinners have broken in their sneakers for running across the country.

There is no punching or kicking in cross country. It simply involves long-distance running combining track and

biology. The track part is the running, of course, and biology is the land. Cross country is an enjoyable way to get away from it all.

"I enjoy the different places we go. I like to run in competitions. We run for miles, some days," stated a runner.

Cross country clearly makes winners. You don't have to come in first because the experience of running produces its own "high."



Girls' Cross Country gets off to a running start.



Terri Koop goes the extra mile.



Wade Erickson glides to the finish line.