

# The Graphos

New Ulm Senior High School

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Great efforts by Eric Moll, George Beranek, Les Brandes, Scott Zupfer, Jeanette Fischer, Matt Waltz, Jeff Uhde, and Will Klossner allowed the food drive at NUHS to be a huge success.

## March Madness !!!

By Betsy Bianchi  
Graphos Reporter

Typically in conversation March Madness would be referring to college basketball or the final four, but in the case of New Ulm Senior High School students it meant the anticipation of daily drawing results from food drive donations.

Nearly 1,000 pounds of food were collected during the three week drive organized by the high school agriculture department. Thanks to the coordinating efforts of the administration and the co-op work program, the food drive was a great success. The social studies department donated their time and effort by serving as a collection point for donated items. To make it even better, the month of March meant that all donations were matched as part of a state-wide food shelf month. All donations went to the area food shelf.

Students in the work program went out into the community soliciting businesses for donations ranging from pens and pencils to T-shirts to gift certificates. Over 180 prizes were donated in all, with a value in excess of \$1,000. Co-op student Eric Moll complimented everyone for their team work approach and their generosity.

As New Ulm Senior High School continues its pursuit of excellence, community service projects like this one are sure to move it towards the goal of excellence in education.

## Mock Trial Finds Success; State Tourney

By Becky McAninch  
Graphos Editor

The 1996-97 Mock Trial Blue Team of New Ulm argued their way to the state level by winning the Region 6 championship and earning a chance to compete in the Mock Trial State Tournament in St. Cloud.

Both NUHS teams performed well and went far this year, under first-year advisor Ms. Brink. The accomplishments of these teams, however, were only possible after months of grueling practices, late-night meetings, and help from local attorneys. Although this year's educational malpractice case was challenging, lawyers and witnesses alike utilized crafty methods in order to overcome the competition.

Members of the Mock Trial Green Team were Shelise Gieseke, Zach Krzmarzick, Annie Jaeger, Lori Ludewig, Dan O'Brien, Linda Poncin, Jenny Oetken, Brooke Portner, Katie Schmitz, Jennica Date, Rainy Gustafson, and Adam Papierniak. The Blue Team consisted of Andrea Crilly, Char Tuttle, Alex Betzenheimer, Sarah Sjogren, Becky McAninch, Katie Pehrson, Erik Langhoff, Carla Bode, Lori Tauer, Brian Paulson, Jess Janni, and Sara Paulson.



Members of the blue Mock Trial team have much to smile about after winning a trip to the state tournament.

## A Call for Help at NUHS

On Monday, April 7, the office at New Ulm Senior High received a desperate call for help. Within hours, the students willingly answered in order to protect houses on the verge of becoming flooded.

On behalf of the Graphos Staff and the entire community, a great thanks must be extended to all students who offered their time and effort in order to help others in need. The time came for all people, young and old, to work together to reach a common goal. A thank you goes out to all those who worked to reach this goal.



Jen Hines and Nikki Matter are two volunteers for People Reaching Out.

## People Reaching Out

Have you ever heard of People Reaching Out? This volunteer program, called PRO, is essentially a mentoring program for young kids supported by the United Way and Families First, and is always looking for volunteers.

What exactly does this program accomplish? PRO provides positive role models for youth; safe, enjoyable leisure and learning activities; parent education and support groups; and limited counseling and referrals.

Two participants in this program include Nikki Matter and Jen Hines. These two seniors dedicate their time in order to reach out to young children. They enjoy participating in the planned activities and simply spending time with the kids.

Would you like to become a volunteer? PRO offers Pro-Partners, a Youth Activity Program, and Parent Workshops.

As Pro-Partners, a child and a volunteer adult, couple, or family is matched for a specified period. These partners then share interests, hobbies, and fun for approximately 4-6 hours each month. The Youth Activity Program consists of recreational and learning activities provided each month. Volunteers then help as role models and friends. Parent Workshops are also held regarding topics of concern for raising children and teens.

If you would like to reach out to others in your community, give PRO a try. Perhaps you could help guide a young child and gain a friend as well.

## What's Cooking Inside...

- A Post-Season Review of the Winter Eagle Sports Teams
- A Close Look at the Plague inflicted on the Class of 1997
- Wacky and Fun Introductions to the New Faces at NUHS
- An Interesting Viewpoint of Prom Fashions

# Sports

## Eagles End Tough Year

By Matthew Hellendrung  
Graphos Reporter

With a rocky start and an even rockier season, the Eagles' Boys Basketball team tried to pull through. "They had a 'never give up' attitude all season long," stated head coach **Pat Burmeister**.

The team always had high hopes. This was evident to non-players as well. As statistician **Chris Davis** put it in a late-in-the-season interview, "They have a lot of potential if they keep working." And with the Pep Band helping to rouse the home crowd and the team, they worked hard. "The team has improved since the beginning of the season," **Coach Burmeister** said. "The games were a lot closer than they looked. Their main problem was that they dug holes for themselves that they couldn't get out of in scoring."

The team had a similar outlook on the season as a whole: They felt they needed to work more as a team. In a late-season interview, co-captain **Jeff Hauge** said that "the entire team is trying to improve and are doing their best." **Jake Landsteiner** said that the team was "hustling all year but just couldn't seem to get a full game together. Some parts are good, and some are bad." Co-captain **Cory Ranweiler** said, "We need to practice harder, but we are starting to improve. The coaches were a big help, too."

With a new coach on the scene, **Coach Ray Hassing**, the team tried its best throughout the season. "We needed to keep working hard and put a few wins together so the team can play up to its potential," stated junior **Eric Schmidt**. The team's final record was four and nineteen. That may sound bad, but with a team working as hard as these guys were, it was a great season anyway. After all, the most important part of sports is to have fun. Great job, guys!



David Armstrong (2) looks to score with Aaron Heitzman (16) close behind.

## Skaters Beat the Odds

By Jeff Yaeger  
Graphos Reporter

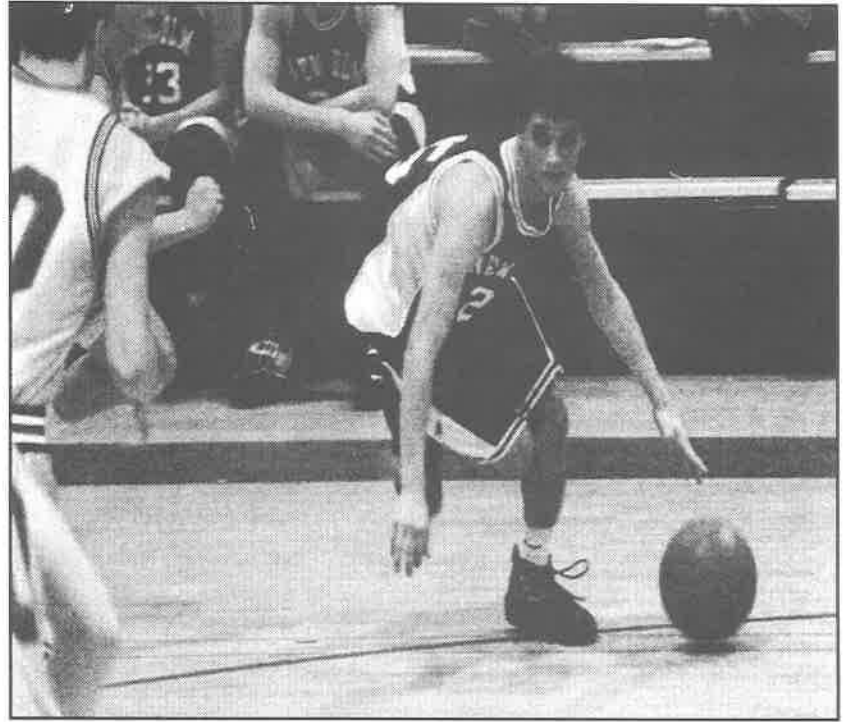
The Boys Varsity Hockey Team turned a few heads this season. They came out of a year that many people thought that they wouldn't be competitive with a 13-11 record. **Head Coach Tom Macho** was pleased with how the season went.

The Eagles started the season off slowly, but they picked up their play in a holiday tournament in LeSeuer. They placed second in the tournament only after losing in an overtime game to Winona. Winona put an empty netter in with only three seconds left to win. The Eagles had to pull their goalie because a tie would not have won them the tournament since Winona had beat them on tie-breakers.

The Eagles took an early exit from the playoffs this year when they were sent to LeSeuer to play their first game. The Eagles would have run into a brick

wall, though, had they continued in the playoffs, as Red Wing proved themselves the team to beat with a perfect record and mopped up their competition all the way to the championship game of the state tournament.

Many critics of the team did not believe that they could get as far as they did. But they proved them wrong with determination, leadership, and a great team work ethic. This year the team had many obstacles which they had to overcome. First of all, injuries to **Seniors T.J. Otto and Josh Bruderie** and **Freshmen David Sellner** had a major impact. Lines were constantly being shuffled to compensate for these losses. Also, while many students were rejoicing when school got called off, the hockey players were getting annoyed because that meant lost practices. This could hurt many teams, but the Eagles took advantage of the open ice at the Vogel Arena and held captain practices nearly everyday to keep their skills sharp.



Co-Captain **Jeff Hauge** eyes the lane, looking to beat his defender to the hoop.

## Girls Post Great Season

By Jo Dolly  
Graphos Reporter

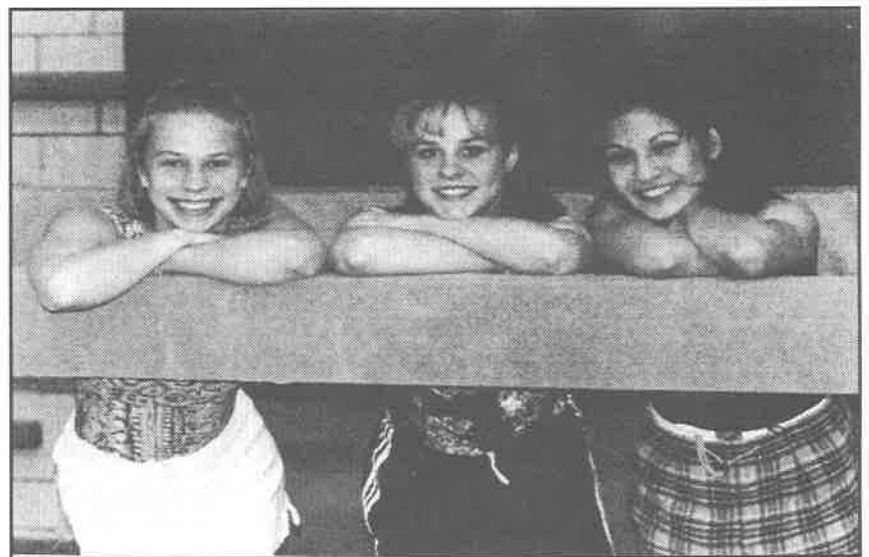
The 1996-97 season ended great for the girls gymnastics team. Led by coaches **Jeanine Backer, Hanz Dykema, and Christine Boettger**, the girls had a very successful season. Even though the team is in the process of rebuilding from a few weaker years in the past, the coaches still had high hopes for the team. The team seemed to end even better than expected, the junior varsity team with seven wins and four losses and the varsity team with six wins and five losses.

The move made from the high school to Turner Halle has proved to be quite beneficial, feels coach Backer. The practices held at Turner Halle don't require the setting up and tearing down of equipment which saves very valuable practice time. The team has a place to call their own and the move has also allowed the other teams of our school to have more time in the gym.

This year's team was generally a little younger than most teams. The team was composed mainly of eight and ninth graders, but Backer feels this was

not a disadvantage in any way. She feels confident when a varsity gymnast is needed and she has to bump up a junior varsity gymnast. All the girls worked very hard and next year she hopes to see even more of an improvement of about six to seven points in the team score. Agreed by coaches and team members is the fact that the uneven bars is the event which needs the most work done. Coach Backer says that the bars are so different from every other event, it's like a whole different world. On floor, beam, and vault the girls tumble; the bars don't require tumbling. With a lot of hard work and dedication, the bars will hopefully become an easier event for the team.

Even though the gymnastics meets aren't at the high school any longer, make sure you still get out and support them. This team is one that seems to be forgotten about a lot and they go through the season with little knowledge. The girls would love to see their classmates out there cheering for them, so get ready for the 1997-98 season!



Senior High gymnasts (L to R) **Anna Otis, Stacy Frederickson, and Sandra Rieger** take a moment to flash a smile for the camera.

**Coach Macho** said that this year's seniors gave the team a lot of needed leadership and instilled a hard work ethic in the undersclassmen. **Captians T.J. Otto, Nick Smasl, and Mike Marti** were great emotional leadership. The scoring punch this year came from **Juniors Andy Skindelien, Aaron Heitzman, and Dave Armstrong** who were the teams scoring leaders with 30, 29, and 23 points respectively. **Armstrong** was also a leader in another category

racking up a total of 40 penalty minutes. The backbone of the team and also named MVP of the team at the end of the season was **Junior Goalie Willie Holm**. He stopped 90% of his shots this season a feat which many NHL goalies can't accomplish.

Please turn to Page 2  
for the rest of the  
Graphos sports coverage

# Feature

## And Now Introducing.....

Three daring Graphos reporters ventured the halls of the Senior High in search of the latest additions to the faculty. Here's what they found.

By **Katie Schmitz**  
Graphos Reporter

The purpose of this article is so the school can really get to know the new teachers. These Graphos reporters believe getting to know a teacher involves more than just knowing their favorite subject, what they do in their spare time, and if they like New Ulm. We have made up some questions that we believe to tell a lot about a person. We would like to remind all students that yes, teachers are real people and they were once young just like you and me.

**Mr. Maine** is one of the new math teachers in school. He is also one of the assistant coaches of the track team. Not only that, but the other morning in his classroom Mr. Maine confessed to me that his dream date is Kristie Brinkley. I asked why and I was bewildered to discover it was not because of the pace her brain can calculate 6,543,234 divided by 34,323 in her head. Mr. Maine first fell for Kristie back in 1978 when he was a kid in high school and she was featured in some special edition of sports illustrated. Hmm, I wonder what sport she plays? Speaking of being a kid, Mr. Maine fondly recalls skipping down the hall with his friends singing, "We're off to see the Wizard, the wonderful Wizard of Oz," as a wacky childhood memory. As long as we were on Memory Lane I asked what his favorite T.V. show was when he was a kid. Mr. Maine remembers WKRP in Cincinnati as his favorite. The next subject we moved on to was cartoon characters. Mr. Maine shared that he best identifies himself with Bullwinkle the Moose primarily because of his sense of humor. After Mr. Maine pointed it out, the relation became quite obvious. Next we moved on to the future. If Mr. Maine were to run for president of the United States of America I have a hunch a lot of folks involved in District 88 would vote for him since he says his platform would stress more funding for education.

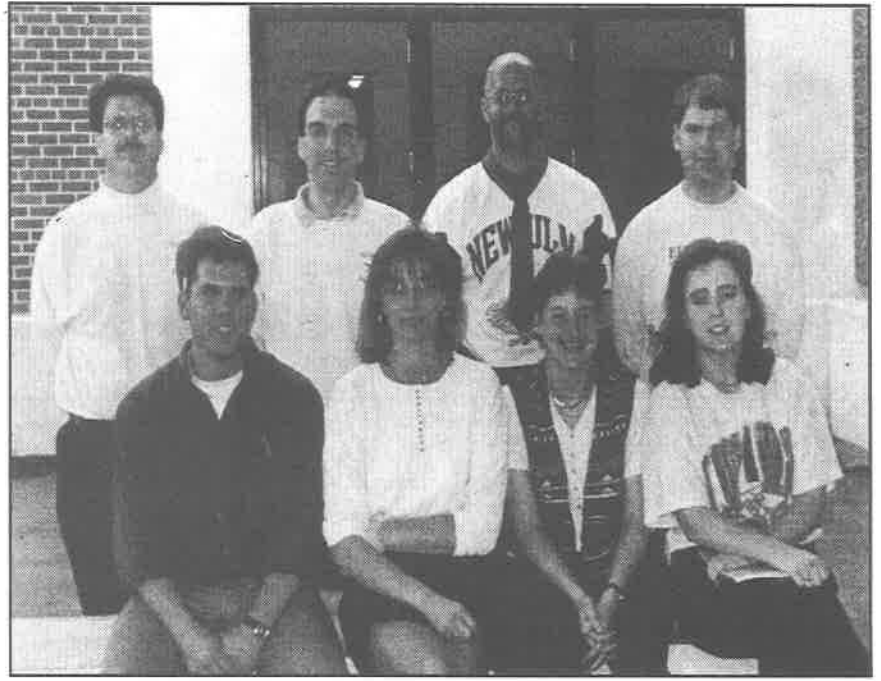
Many of us volleyball, football, and basketball fans have asked ourselves, "Who is that new band director that has brought such enthusiasm and spirit to the band?" The answer to that question is **Ms. Berkley**. When I say new, I mean new. Ms. Berkley recalls 90210 as being one of her favorites when she was a kid all of those years ago. Although she is a fan of 90210, Luke Perry is not her idea of a dream date. Ms. Berkley admitted that her dream date is without a doubt her husband. She states, with a smile, that, "he is my ideal guy." Therefore he must be her Simba since the cartoon character she most identifies herself

with is Nala from The Lion King. Ms. Berkley admires Nala's strength and loyalty. She must have strength like a lion since she competed in a triathlon. She recalls that as being a crazy thing she did in college. While we're on the subject of college, if Ms. Berkley had a large amount of money to spend she would first pay off her college loans and her parents. There is something for us high school seniors going to college to look forward to. The next thing she would spend the money on is new bikes for her husband and her. Since Ms. Berkley feels paying back her debts is important, she would not fit the description of a typical government official, but if she were to run for president she would stress the importance of arts in schools.

**Mr. Wertheimer** is the new teacher in the business department this year. His interest in business could help explain why the cartoon character he most relates to is Mr. Burns, the evil business man on The Simpsons. Unlike Mr. Burns, if Mr. Wertheimer won a million dollars he would give some to charity and set his family up for life. Mr. Burns would probably keep it all for himself. I think Mr. Wertheimer as a college kid could have identified more with Bart when it came to remembering to go to class. Mr. Wertheimer admitted to me that one semester he forgot that he had signed up for a class. He finally remembered after he had already missed a week of the class. When he preaches to his students that missing class can have a negative effect on their grades, he is speaking from experience. A couple more trivial facts I gathered from our interview are that he is a "Treky" and his dream date is Cindy Crawford, "for obvious reasons." And last but definitely not least are two facts that are vital to have before anyone can claim s/he knows a person: Mr. Wertheimer prefers paper



to plastic and does not sing in the shower.  
These new faces include (L-R) **Mr. Hassing, Ms. Philzen, and Ms. Anderson.**



Here are the newcomers! (L-R) **Mr. Maine, Mr. McClellan, Mr. Wertheimer, Ms. Brink, Mr. Stambaugh, Ms. Berkley, Mr. Haley, and Ms. VanDenheuvel.**

By **Erik Langhoff**  
Graphos Reporter

Recently I had the opportunity to conduct a cordial interview with three first year teachers at New Ulm Senior High. **Ms. Philzen, Mr. Hassing, and Ms. Brink** were the teachers that I interviewed, and while my questions were a bit unconventional, they answered with enthusiasm and wit. So, without further ado, here are the interviews!

**Me: Who is your dream date and why?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "Bill Nye the Science Guy. We could do different experiments together."

**Mr. Hassing:** "Meg Ryan...she has a lively, active, hyper personality."

**Ms. Brink:** "Kevin Costner, because he's cute...he's married though I think."

**Me: What cartoon character do you most identify yourself, and why?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "Miss Wormwood from 'Calvin and Hobbes' (Calvin's teacher)."

**Mr. Hassing:** "Tasmanian Devil, because I'm hyper almost all the time, and Mr. Gaudette has called me something like that before."

**Ms. Brink:** "Tasmanian Devil...because he's just cool I guess."

**Me: When the friendly grocery bagger asks you, "paper or plastic?," what is your usual response and why?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "Either...both can be recycled."

**Mr. Hassing:** "Whatever's easier for them, because I really don't care."

**Ms. Brink:** "It depends on what I'm buying. If it's something light, probably plastic, if it's heavier, then paper."

**Me: What is the wackiest thing you did in college?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "I mixed acid and water together without wearing goggles!"

**Mr. Hassing:** "I rolled out of my loft (bed in the air) in my college dorm room."

**Ms. Brink:** "I stayed up all night driving around with friends, and I drove onto a one-way street in the winter. There was no traffic, so it was probably a good time to do it."

**Me: What was your favorite show when you were a kid?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "Mr. Wizard."

**Mr. Hassing:** "Magnum P.I. and MASH."

**Ms. Brink:** "The Partridge Family."

**Me: Do you sing in the shower? If yes, what song do you sing most often, and if not, do you dance?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "I sing the theme from 'Bill Nye the Science Guy, but I don't dance.'"

**Mr. Hassing:** "Sometimes I sing to whatever is on the radio, but I don't dance."

**Ms. Brink:** "No, I don't sing or dance in the shower."

**Me: If you won \$864,373, how would you spend it?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "I would spend it on a new science lab (including lots and lots of microscopes, test tubes, beakers, Bunsen burners, and petri plates) as an addition to my house."

**Mr. Hassing:** "I would pay all my bills, and then take all of my closest friends on a trip to Hawaii."

**Ms. Brink:** "I would use \$73.00 to pay my telephone bill, and then I would build a mansion."

**Me: If you could run for president, what would be the main issue of your campaign?**

**Ms. Philzen:** "Saving the earth, pollution, recycling, conservation of resources (Pet Peeve: People who don't recycle)."

**Mr. Hassing:** "Supporting public education funding and having the government 'pick up' part of college loans. Oh, and I'd push for open lunch."

**Ms. Brink:** "First of all, I'd never run for president, but if I were president, my main issue would probably be trying to eliminate domestic violence."

Still Curious???  
Interviews Continued  
Page 4  
Check 'em out!

# Senioritis - A Cure?



By Sarah Sjogren  
Graphos Columnist

A disease has hit many students at NUHS. It has spread like a plague, mysteriously affecting students from the class of 1997. The symptoms include extreme boredom accompanied by acute laziness. The victims are listless and unresponsive. The diagnosis - senioritis.

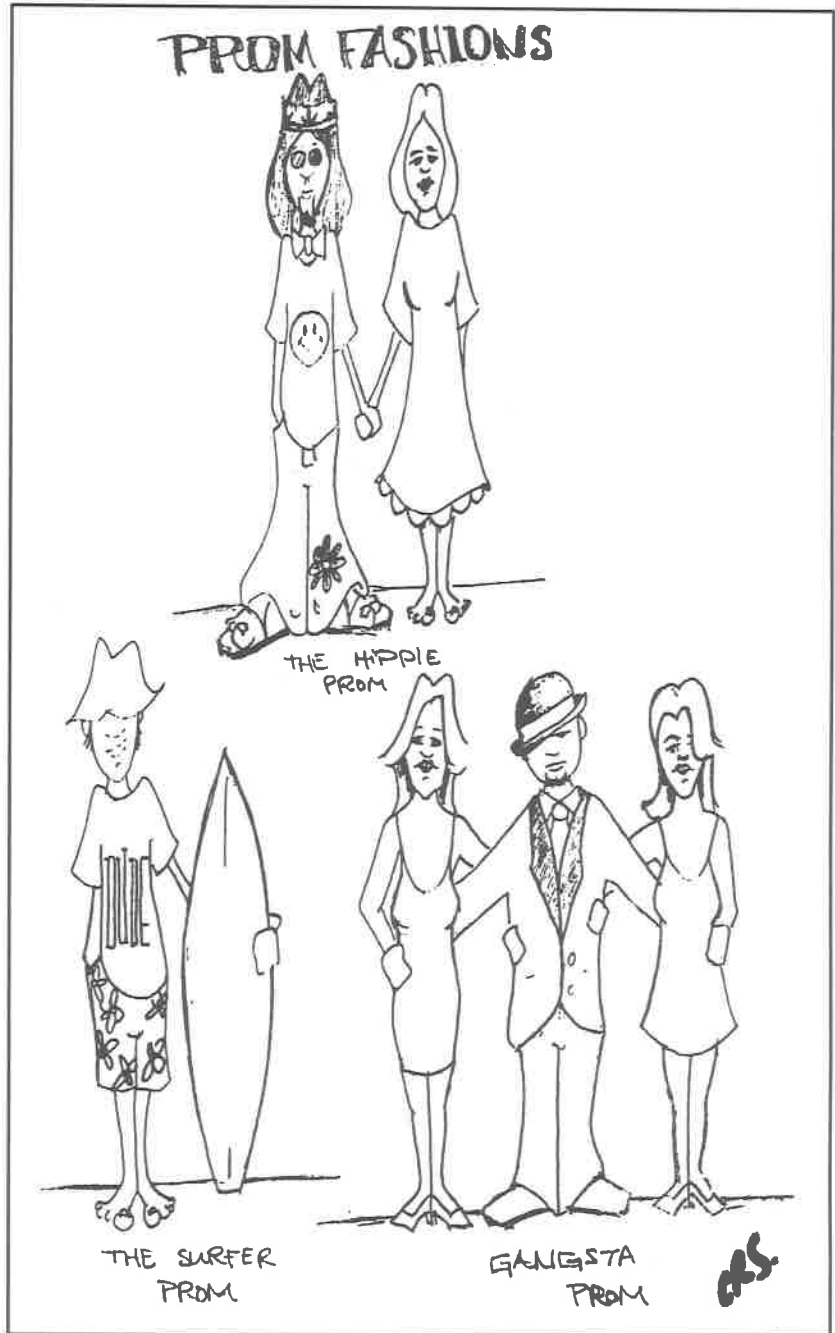
I was warned of this affliction but never really understood its severity. As **Shelise Gieseke** says, "Don't bother to fight it." Senioritis hits without warning and makes school almost unbearable. Homework

Continued from Page 2

becomes optional as **Ellie Helling** says, "Homework? What's that?" Grades are meaningless letters until you realize that college may not be in your future unless you start working. Being in school, whether actually learning or not, becomes a terrible chore. **Kyle Tuttle** says he wouldn't mind school so much "if the classes didn't get in the way." The clocks seem to move backwards in some sort of cruel joke, and like every other year, May cannot come soon enough. Getting out of bed in the morning is harder than ever before, and one wants to regress to the old trick of feigning illness. Says **Linda Poncin**, "Everyday I wake up later and later. When I finally get to school, the sophomores have taken up all of the parking spots." Trying to do homework usually ends in watching a few hours of pointless T.V. programs. Even National Geographic becomes more enticing than physics. Only the State of the Union Address on every channel can prompt the afflicted senior to work. Ambition and work ethic are fading memories. The attention span of a senior is equivalent to that of a two-year old, and English notes give way to random drawings and other nonsense.

Unfortunately there is no cure for senioritis except graduation. Until then, we tally the days in our empty planners and stare longingly into space waiting for May 29. "It's real!" says **Sara Loose**. Someday in the future, we will say how quickly the year passed and how we miss high school. Someday is still very far away.

And an opinion on....



Continued from Page 3

**Ms. VanDenheuvel**, a new math teacher, seems pretty normal, but you might be surprised about a few things. Did you know that she is training to be in a marathon in June? What would she do with \$1,000,000? She would spend some, donate some, save some, and hide some. During college she was hypnotized as a freshman during finals week and became a very accurate Martian interpreter. I bet you never would have guessed that about Ms. V. Her favorite TV show is **ER**, and her favorite movie is **Toy Story**. More money for education would be on her platform for a presidential election. Her favorite book? **Addison-Wesley's Algebra and Trig-teacher's edition**, naturally.

"I'm not as crabby as they think I am", says new Industrial Technology teacher **Mr. McClellan**. He seems normal enough with favorite shows and movies like **MASH** and **Shawshank Redemption**. He would even donate money to the Industrial Tech. area if he ever won any. Can you believe that during college Mr. McClellan drove golf balls off of Old Main, and could also be once seen driving around on a moped with a tutu on? It's true.

The new health teacher **Ms. Anderson** would budget more money for public education and require that all students and staff have a Phy. Ed. class during the day, that is if she was running for president. Her favorite TV show is **ER** and she could watch **Tommy Boy** over and over and over. With \$1,000,000 she would build a dream home and buy a Corvette, tuned into 103.5. During college she once climbed to the top of the Jolly Green Giant Hill in Le Sueur with a bunch of friends.

**Mr. Stambaugh**, the new guidance counselor, is yet another fresh face at the Senior High. He enjoys playing beach volleyball, softball, and tennis. While these are all interesting pastimes, unbeknownst to many, Mr. Stambaugh also tap dances, but only for Geri, his faithful secretary. Although he doesn't sing or dance in the shower, Mr. S does enjoy shocking people by acting extremely strange and peculiar in public. On his sensitive side, Mr. Stambaugh stated that his wife was his dream date, (although he is somewhat interested in Babs the Rabbit), and his favorite movie is **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest**. What would he do with a million dollars? "Travel," he says without a moment's hesitation. Where you might ask? Mr. Stambaugh would like to go anywhere overseas, but holds a special interest in Turkey. Family is obviously also very important to this new counselor as he stated parenthood as his greatest accomplishment.

**Mr. Haley** is also new to the Senior High School. He hails from Waseca, and names **Gilligan's Island** as his favorite T.V. show. Although Mr. Haley doesn't sing in the shower, the next most likely place he would sing would be in his car, probably to a blaring radio. If he decides to run for President in 2000, his platform would include the reduction of the national debt, "all the red tape," and the role of the government. If Mr. Haley won the lottery or another great sum of money, he would travel the world. One little known fact about Mr. Haley is his craziest moment in college. He was kicked out of the state fairgrounds for unauthorized entry after the fairgrounds were closed. So, don't be alarmed if you see some mysterious teachers at the fairgrounds after hours.



Senior Co-Captain Elly Krzmarzick shoots over her defender for a home crowd.

# Eagles Give Best Effort

By Becky McAninch  
Graphos Editor

Led by senior co-captains **Elly Krzmarzick** and **Roz Clancy**, the Eagle Girls Basketball team ended their season with a 5-18 record. This record, however, does not display the great effort, determination, and work ethic put forth by all team members. The team indeed experienced some magical high points in the season including a 69-67 double overtime victory at home against Waseca. The Eagles played tough throughout this exciting competition coming back from behind to clinch the win. This rival match-up was a definite highlight as die-hard fans stayed late to cheer on the Eagles.

The hoopsters always strived to reach four main goals this season. The girls worked to improve each game, control turnovers, shoot 40% from the field, and most importantly, have fun. Although not all of the goals were always attained, the Eagles definitely experienced some great times working and playing together.

Post-season honors go to **Elly Krzmarzick** for being named to the All-Conference and All-Journal teams, as well as scoring the 8th most career points for New Ulm Senior High with 640. This Eagle team, however, has much to look forward to in the future as seven juniors and four sophomores will return next year.