

the graphos

New Ulm Senior High School
New Ulm, MN 56073

November 28, 1973

English skills emphasized

By Sue Lang

Many young people who apply for jobs or are working now have realized that a subject so many of them hated and felt wasn't very important is a necessary tool in the working world. That subject is English, not just spelling and punctuation but all forms of communication-reading, writing and speaking.

Local businessmen are especially concerned (or maybe they're just more vocal about it) because they pay these young people and in turn want competent employees. In an effort to discuss this problem with high school English teachers, New Ulm businessmen met and exchanged ideas with them last spring while the students were involved in Smorgasbord activities.

Since then the faculty has taken a long hard look at the whole English department from kindergarten through grade twelve. Their evaluations and conclusions were heard in a presentation at the November 15 school board meeting.

To the average person English is taken for granted and he fails to realize, as an instructor does, how complex it is. Just learning to speak correctly is an example. Unlike some other subjects, English skills are learned in the home. If bad habits are formed, they have to be changed in school. This task is a big undertaking. It becomes even more difficult when one hour of instruction is outweighed by fifteen hours in



Mr. Jenson, English Department Head, suggests a possible revision to Kris Schultz during a conference in a Composition I class.

which good usage is unimportant.

The whole world of communication made a giant step forward with the development of television. However, television has to a great extent impaired

the reading ability of many young people.

They would rather watch TV than read plus books and magazines aren't often readily available in many homes. These developments have contributed to

lowering reading comprehension and literary appreciation.

English, believe it or not, isn't dull. It is a changing, moving subject. As our technology increases, so does the number of words and their uses. Words change in spelling and meaning. More books are written than ever before, and it is impossible to keep up with just the recent best sellers.

Several years ago NUHS changed its English curriculum from three year-long classes - English 10, 11 and 12 - to the present quarter system. These nine-week courses gave students more variety in course offerings, and the teachers were now able to introduce changes much more readily. Maybe in all the rush to make courses more interesting and practical, the basic English skills - grammar, speaking and writing - were regarded in some areas as unimportant or not applicable to a particular course. What is trying to be done now is to make all the concepts of communication, which is what English really is, a basic part of every class from composition to farm mechanics.

In our world communication brings us together and gets us where we want to go. On a smaller scale, the student who has a sound command of English skills seems to be able to bring his talents together and give him a chance to progress in a modern, constantly changing society.

Seventy-five for '75

by Mike Bonacci

To formally unite three school district programs, the Madelia, St. James and New Ulm school boards have entered into an agreement to share the costs of establishing a vocational center in Hanska. According to Mr. Fier, New Ulm's director of vocational education, the basic purpose of the new vocational center is "to give more opportunities to kids in vocational programs."

More specifically, the proposed center will (1) give the student a saleable job entry skill upon completion of the program, (2) serve the student who will continue in post-high school job training and (3) give the student a chance to explore various occupational careers.

Eight programs are planned for the new school, six of which are already taught here in New Ulm. In the near future at least two more additions are planned.

There will be a Model Office, a Food Occupations Program, and a Model Store



Mr. Ed Fier

like the Paper Mache in which actual retailing is taught. Automotive Services and Building Trades are also in the works. These courses will expose students to opportunities in different fields like construction, wiring and plumbing. Health Occupations training for nurses' aides, x-ray technicians and day care center work will be included too.

One of the new fields will be Recreation and Utility Vehicles in which the student will learn to work on the small engines of cycles, snowmobiles, snow blowers and boats. A Fashion and Apparel course for people interested in selling and making clothes will also be added later. Future plans call for the addition of electronics and day care center occupations.

The program will enroll juniors and seniors and should be in operation by the 1974-75 school year. The popularity of vocational schools has been increasing every year, and by 1975 Minnesota hopes to have seventy-five schools like ours in operation.

Sing of Christmas

By Jill Schlong

The Choir is really going to be something to sit up and listen to this year. The group seems enthusiastic, we're working on great material, and our regular director, Mrs. Patton, is back.

I can tell right now you are just dying to hear this super choir, so I'll let you in on a little secret. We've got our annual Christmas Choir Concert coming up on the sixteenth of December. And now for the best part. If you bring a friend, you both get in absolutely FREE!!! Of course if you don't bring a friend, you can still get in free, but then you won't have anyone to talk with during intermission.

So you say your great grandmother just gave birth to triplets and you're going to miss the Christmas Concert. Well don't despair. Dry your eyes and slap on a happy face because I have enlightening news! You can tune into the choir on December eighteenth on KEYC TV. Although we won't be doing our complete concert, you can still hear most of the selections.

So your great grandmother lives in Berkeley, California, and she doesn't pick up KEYC TV on her set. Well now the only consolation I can give you is take two aspirin, drink lots of fluids, and get plenty of rest because you will be very, very sick when you find out what an outstanding concert you missed!

Editorial

by Ann Berle

The future of America's standard of living appears to be rather depressing with the predictions of material shortages and exhaustions. Gasoline and fuel shortages are already felt with impact as schools, businesses and homes turn down thermostats and gasoline prices rise. Wood, metals, concrete, plus other building materials are increasingly more difficult to obtain. There is a "so called" beef and food shortage. Fabrics, such as denim, are harder to find on the sales counters. What is happening to America — land of plenty?

Americans are now feeling the pain of uncontrolled use of our natural resources. When it comes to use of resources, we have the attitude "as long as it's here, let's take it before it's gone." The result is massive wastes. Factories dispose of surpluses which are still of value. Pop and beer cans lie in the ditches. Scrap metal piles up by the tons in junkyards. Consider the waste of food in restaurants and in your own homes.

Take water, for example, which has been considered an undepletable resource. If one pound of bread is traced through the growing of the wheat, followed by the various milling processes to the completed bread, we discover that over 2500 pounds of water are used for a single pound of bread. Our total use in the U.S. amounts to about 1270 gallons of water per person per day. We think nothing of wasting water and using it in tremendous amounts. Yet how long can this use go on before water becomes a scarcity? If the same procedure is followed as with other resources, nothing will be done until it's too late.

We can't expect miracle replacements to be invented overnight to redeem us all. Work has to be started now to wisely use what we have available.

As the shortages grow, the average American consumer's pocketbook shrinks. Those who know how to work the "ropes" will still prosper as John Doe struggles. Possibly, the first of America's resources to be exhausted will be the average taxpayer.



Seniors only

by Lonnie Hulsey

Eighteen year olds now have full adult rights, and I think it's about time. Not only are they allowed to form their own contracts and belly up to the bar, but they also have certain rights or privileges that extend into their school lives as well. As Mr. Wilson so aptly put it, "Many parents will be surprised to find they have an adult living with them." Right off hand, I know that an 18 year old is allowed to write his own excuses for absences and have his midquarter failure notices mailed to him. Other than these two items, I can't recall any other school related rights, yet there probably are more; and as the law is tested, I'm sure that more will come into being. I wonder, for example, what would result if an 18 year old student insisted on going to his own parent-teacher conference in place of his parent. At any rate, I think that the two new rights I've already mentioned are an improvement; however I feel they should be carried one step further and given to all seniors. Mr. Wilson cited a high school that extended the school related rights of 18 year olds to all seniors. The result was that the attendance of seniors actually improved. To me this experience shows that not only were seniors as a whole mature enough to be given this responsibility but the school profited as well by improved attendance. I'm now wondering why our fine high school doesn't have the good sense to make a move in the same direction.

By Denise Simonson

The crisis of the fuel shortage will probably alter the lives of most people living in the northern climates. We are going to become accustomed to living at cool temperatures and using various means in our daily lives to conserve on energy.

However, I maintain that there is a bright side to this somewhat gloomy prospect. Has anyone ever thought of the new recreational possibilities that one can find at reduced temperatures?

Among these may I recommend:

1. **Marathon Hand-rubbing:** This activity will soon become a favorite sport for Minnesotans. All that is required is a pair of hands, ranging from white to a medium gray. These are vigorously rubbed until they become neutral to a warm pink. This sport may be of an individual variety or can be done in groups. Perhaps, teams could be formed and meets could be scheduled with other conference or district schools. I can see it all now — Hans and the Handy Hand Warmers stepping up to take their all conference gold medals.

2. **Accelerated Wood Chopping:** You

by Tom Dickey

Once upon a time there were nine tapes. They belonged to a man named Richard who always made everything perfectly clear. One tape recorder did not work and then there were eight. Richard was glad because a bad man, Sam, wanted to take his tapes from him. Little Richard then told Sam that another tape was never made even though Richard had said he heard it. (Richard of course wouldn't lie.) And so now there were seven. Another mean man, Archibald, also wanted to have Richard's tapes so Richard got mad and kicked Archie out.

This description is perhaps a simplification of the situation, but it generally portrays the events of the last few months concerning the mass of charges of illegal actions collectively known as "Watergate."

The list of illegal acts begins over one year ago with the breakin and electronic surveillance (bugging) of the Democratic Party Headquarters in the Watergate office complex in suburban Washington, D.C. These acts were followed by the breaking into of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office in Los Angeles. Ellsberg, you will recall, released the top secret "Pentagon Papers" the year before. CREEP (The Committee To Re-Elect The President) then took numerous illegal campaign contributions from organizations which the Administration promptly rewarded through various acts of special treatment. For a year before the so-called "election" the President had been impounding or seizing money at will which the elected, chosen representatives and senators of the people had appropriated. Richard Nixon decided that

that money was being spent wastefully and being given to undeserving people, like veterans, hospital patients, scientists, farmers and locally elected governments.

The President had also during this time consistently misused his powers as Commander-in-Chief by ordering thousands of troops into Laos and Cambodia, while bombing the civilian populations of North and South Vietnam.

He and his former Vice-President have attempted to destroy our constitutional rights of free speech, press, and peaceful assembly. He has used his emergency powers to control the American economy in a way beneficial to his friends in business. He has spent ten million dollars of public money to improve his two homes in California and Florida. He had defied U.S. District Court rulings requiring bussing in an obviously racist action to gain the electoral votes of the South in 1972. President Nixon has promoted several of his cabinet members to advisory positions without the slightest regard for the opinions of the Congress. His most recent and probably most outrageous move was the order given to Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox to stop trying to obtain information from the White House which is pertinent and critical for the fair trial of any charges arising from Watergate when just months earlier he supported Cox's independence. He then saw to it that Cox was fired and the results of his investigation became for all practical purposes White House property. The evidence regarding all these allegations is in my opinion sufficient to impeach the President on one or more charges and begin the trial of those charges by the Senate as provided by the Constitution.

Graphos Staff

Editors: Ann Berle, Jane Zupfer

Art: Jeff Baker, Mark Wolf

Lay Out: Lynn Baloga

Photography: Julia Byer, Kent Miller, Mike Stapleton and Mr. Marti

Advisor: Ed Weber

NUHS Winter Olympics

have to "axe" permission to keep warm! This event can also be done as an individual or team sport. There are two benefits: the warmth generated by chopping the wood and the warmth generated from the already chopped wood. This particular event has very old beginnings in Minnesota.

3. **Calypso Teeth Chattering:** This refined form of teeth chattering requires control, stamina, and a good set of teeth. The teeth may be yours or a pair of firmly anchored store bought "pearlies"! For best results, it is best to have from five to fifty people participating. Find a moderately cool to cold room and try to chatter in rhythm. The finale is "Montego Bay" in cut time.

4. **Endurance Sweater Wearing:** Take one wooly sweater, wear it as long as possible, and in as many places as possible. Many old timers can wear one sweater for so long that they can empty the auditorium in 2 seconds flat with one appearance in the crowd.

5. **Standing Deep Freeze:** This event is very popular with those who are waiting in line for a bus or for a lunch tray. The first person unable to raise a leg to get on the bus or an arm to reach for a tray wins!

6. **Intramural Icicle Chewing:** Similar to the traditional pie eating contest. The first contestant to consume enough of the clear, tapered pendants will be able to flash freeze the judges in one breath! Unfortunately this contest never has had a winner, for none of the judges have ever been successfully thawed.

7. **Swash Buckling Snow Wading:** This event is much like snow shoeing or skiing depending upon the size of the participant's feet. The basic rule is that no shoes or overshoes or socks are worn. The wade is held on an open field. The length of the journey is from five feet to five miles, depending upon individual stamina. The first one to develop a permanent case of frozen athlete's foot wins!

I also maintain that the dances during the winter months will be featuring such current songs as "The Bridge Over Frozen Water," "Winter Breeze," "Blue Suede Snow Shoes," "Singing in the Snow," "I Only Have Ice For You," and that never to be forgotten all time favorite, "It Never Thaws in Southern Minnesota."

Well, Sports fans, turn down your thermostats, turn up your collars, and roll out the long-johns 'cause there's going to be "A Whole Lotta Shakin' Going On!"

A front row view

By Jane Zupfer

Although most of us have seen a number of class plays, few have caused as much laughter, tears and empathy as *The Miracle Worker*, the senior class play presented November 8 and 9, under the direction of Mrs. Carol Ackerson.

The first act set forth the attitudes of the major characters toward Helen's handicap and introduced a number of conflicts caused by that handicap. Captain Keller, portrayed by Lane Schmiesing, feels alienated from both his blind, deaf daughter and James, his rebellious son by an earlier marriage. Kate Keller, portrayed by Kim Knutson, is shown to be a woman of courage and optimism who is willing to travel any number of miles and consult any number of doctors in the hope that somewhere there is help for her daughter. John Paquay portrays James Keller, Captain Keller's sensitive and rebellious son who longs for his father's love and respect yet lacks the courage to fight for them. Finally we meet Helen and her teacher Anne Sullivan, portrayed by Kris Knutson and Janet Zahn respectively. Although the conflicts and characters were presented clearly, the action seemed to lag, and often the language and dialogue appeared stilted and unnatural. Recognition should go to Kris Knutson, however, who even in this act managed to accurately and believably portray the desperate and undisciplined Helen.

The scene in which we were introduced

to Annie contained some elements of humor, but many of them were lost because the performers seemed uncomfortable with their lines. The scene in which Anne said goodbye to the blind girls was a much better example of her character.

The second part of the act in which Annie becomes a part of the Keller household is humorous mainly due to the efforts of Lane and Janet. Both seemed much more at ease in their roles and thus more natural. Kim, as Mrs. Keller, showed just the right amounts of gentleness and strength necessary for her role.

The biggest disappointment of the evening was the audience reaction to the scene in which Annie attempts to teach Helen discipline and manners by forcing her to eat correctly. The physical violence was an integral part of the scene and meant to be taken seriously. Unfortunately, the audience seemed to relate only to Janet Zahn and Kris Knutson, rather than Anne Sullivan and Helen Keller. This failure detracted from the mood of the entire play and made it difficult for the performers to get the play back on the right track.

John Paquay as James Keller expanded his role in the second act and made the sensitive boy much easier for the audience to relate to. A point in his favor, was his restraint in handling Jimmy's rudeness and antagonistic behavior, which could easily have been overdone.

The offstage voices of Jimmy Sullivan and the other inmates of the asylum were

difficult to follow at first for someone who hadn't seen or read the play either. After the audience caught on to the significance of the voices, however, they added to the empathy they felt for Anne.

The mood of the play was properly recaptured during Anne's and Helen's stay in the summerhouse. Janet had by this time thoroughly moved into her role and seemed much more believable than in the first half. Lane and Kim also handled well the Kellers' reaction to their separation from Helen.

The final scene of the play however was the one which really captured the imagination and interest of the audience. From the time Helen and Anne moved back into the Keller household, the entire auditorium grew quiet and one could almost feel people moving ahead in their seats. Janet did an excellent job of conveying Annie's disappointment and weariness after failing to teach Helen the meaning of words during the two weeks the Kellers had allowed her. The scene between Jimmy and Captain Keller was also satisfying and ably done by both John and Lane.

But the final moment, when Helen at last associates water with the letters Anne has taught her, was the most moving, beautiful, and believable part of the play. The joy experienced by the audience was a tribute to the fine acting which was evident in this final scene.

In all, the total impression of *The Miracle Worker* was of a play well worth viewing and remembering.



A member of the cast gets prettied-up before a dress rehearsal.

DECA Week

by Mary Dolly and Renee Pierson

"DECA Week" was declared to run from Monday, November 12 through Monday, November 19. The city manager, Richard Salvatti sitting in for the Mayor, signed the proclamation.

During this week the D.E. students tried to inform the public about the local DECA program.

One of the ways DECA was promoted was a display at the State Bank. This display included pictures of the Co-op students on the job and hand out literature.

A billboard was also put up by the students on Highway 14 east of New Ulm.

Employers were invited to a pot luck banquet organized by their student employees. Dr. Don Maylaben from Mankato State College was guest speaker. Also, present was 1972 DECA President Jeanne Hoffman.

To raise money to help pay expenses to The State Leadership Conference, students will be selling 1974 linen calendar towels.

During the week students wore "Ask me about DECA" buttons. We hope you asked.

Behind the scenes

By John Paquay

There are a number of people who participate in plays, band and vocal concerts, and other productions sponsored by the school who are never seen by an audience even though these people play a vital role in the success of the production. These dedicated students constitute the *Better Half* and *Stage Crew* organizations.

Better Half is a group of twelve girls whose major job is generally considered by most people as handling the make-up of play performers. This is far from their only task, however. These girls are also responsible for any make up required for concerts and other school presentations. Besides the task of make-up, *Better Half* members work on the set construction and find props needed for plays as well as many of the costumes seen in those plays. In other words, *Better Half* is a very essential "behind the scenes" organization.

The other very important group whose members are rarely seen by the public during productions is the *Stage Crew*. *Stage Crew* handles all of the technical

aspects of the productions sponsored by the high school with the exception of television transmission. All lighting, special effects, sound effects, and other technical aspects are supervised and conducted by the *Stage Crew*. Members of the organization also do the heavy work on sets for plays such as setting up and locating platforms and anchoring props as well as working with *Better Half* members on general set construction work.

In the past, both of these organizations have been under the ultimate supervision of Mr. Jenson. After this year, Mr. Pletcher will be the advisor of the two organizations. In fact, Mr. Pletcher has already taken over much of the responsibility by supervising the *Stage Crew* for this year's senior class play presentation of "*The Miracle Worker*" and will be supervising the organizations on other occasions this year.

The next time you're viewing a class play or listening to a concert by NUHS students, you'll know who helped make the production possible — even though you can't see them.



Some *Stage Crew* and *Better Half* members take a break before completing their work on "*The Miracle Worker*."

Winter Sports

By Ron Kaiser

The 1973-74 basketball team will be entering this season with plenty of enthusiasm and expectation after receiving the district runner-up trophy last year. There were only four seniors on last year's team which had a rather impressive 17-6 record. In addition, eleven players from the undefeated bombers will insure tough competition for the fifteen spots available on the varsity squad.

Based on last year's accomplishments, the outlook for the upcoming season has to be optimistic. Both coaches and players are determined to make all the necessary improvements to insure a successful season.

Along with an eighteen game schedule, the Eagles will participate in a holiday tournament at Gaylord during Christmas vacation. The four teams entered are Gaylord, New Ulm, Arlington and Minneapolis Southwest. New Ulm is looking forward to an opportunity to challenging Gaylord again after the loss in the district finals.

The team's two objectives for the season are to have an improved winning record and the district championship. New Ulm hasn't won the district title since 1949.

The Eagles open their season on November 30 at Wells.

The following seniors and juniors are currently competing for the varsity positions on the basketball team: Scott Adams, Bryan Boelter, Ron Kaiser, Tim Loose, Ross Nelson, Bill Olsen, Mike Rewitzer, Jim Schuetzle, Bruce Wieland and Steve Altmann, Ken Hagg, Jay



New Ulm's big front line stresses rebounding in preparation for its season opener at Wells on Friday.

Hamann, John Hanson, John Hoppe, Bruce Johnson, Dave Loucks, Spencer Mills, Ron Starke, Tom Schrader and Mark Stewart.



Bob Ries and Bob Lindemann work on a move during a recent wrestling practice.

by John Johnson

The NUHS wrestling team is looking forward to a very successful season. The Eagles, who won the District 10 championship last year, have eight returning lettermen. They are Mike Galvin, Bob Lindemann, Bob Ries, Lane Schmiesing, Lyle Schmitz, Jim Zwach, Scott Palmer and Terry Kral. All of these wrestlers are seniors except for Scott Palmer, a junior, and Terry Kral, a sophomore.

The Eagles lost heavily in the upper weight classes due to graduation. Lane Schmiesing is the only returning letterman above the 138 lb. class. However, there are many fine prospects from last year's B

squad, including Steve Dittrich, Charlie Johnson, Rocky Bernard and Brad Lokensgard. Two other good prospects for the upper weight classes are Chuck Wieland and Pat Landquist.

The New Ulm Invitational, held here November 24, helped prepare the wrestlers for the upcoming dual meet season and the post season tournaments.

The Eagles open their dual meet season November 30 at Winthrop. With the support of the NUHS student body, the team is very hopeful of capturing the District 10 championship for the second straight year.

The Sports Lane

by Lane Schmiesing

On October 25, the Region 3 Cross Country meet was held here in New Ulm. Kevin Korells did something he didn't do often this year, he came in second. As a team the Eagles came in fourth with Hutchinson third, Redwood Falls second, and the Glencoe Eagles taking the meet with 65 team points.

Dan Gueningsman of Lester Prairie was the first Harrier to cross the finish line with a time of 15:07. Korells came in second with a time of 15:19. New Ulm's second finisher was freshman Tom Rodenburg in 25th place.

Kroells was New Ulm's only entry in the state meet, where he placed 57th.

When the football Eagles hosted the Saints in their last home game, things began to look up. New Ulm took the opening kickoff and brought it across the goal line in 14 plays. The apparent touchdown was nullified by a procedure penalty. This early setback seemed to take a little spark out of the offense. The Eagles just couldn't get rolling again and dropped the game 30 to 6 with Roiger scoring the only touchdown for New Ulm.

Things began to look up again at Fairmont in the season finale. New Ulm took the ball right down and scored to go ahead of our opponents for the first time in 1973. A second drive was stopped short on the one foot line.

Another "record" was set in the second half by scoring our second touchdown of the evening. It was the first time the Eagles had scored two touchdowns in one night. After setting all these records, you'd think that the team would then win its first game of the season. No such luck, the Eagles came away from Fairmont on the short end of a 21-12 score. That night

twenty seniors said goodbye to a 2½ month experience they'll long remember.

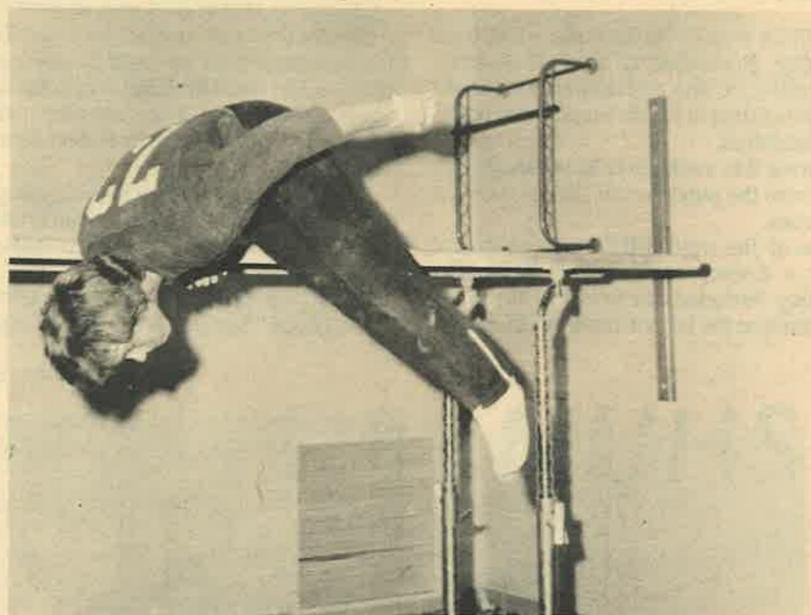
I am an optimist and I am looking forward to some pretty good season records in our winter sports. Coach Schmidt has always put together a pretty good gymnastics team. The guys who go out for gymnastics are dedicated to what they do. If you go to Turner Hall on Saturday or Sunday, you can find a lot of the Eagle gymnasts up there working out. They do this in addition to the hours of practice they go through during the week. This kind of dedication and determination is a definite asset to the gym program.

Mr. Senske is also well known for his good athletic teams, but I don't think he is quite ready to sit back and rest on his laurels. Last year the bubble bouncers were district runners up but I am sure their goal for this year is much higher. Of the seven players who saw extensive action last year, three are returning along with several other talented players. I'm sure these fellows are ready to play ball. Expect to read a lot about them during the winter.

By now you must have guessed that I have been saving the best for last. Wrestling is back and with it all the memories of the hours spent with a friend in that cozy little room in the basement.

I'm sure Mr. Peterson is looking forward to a successful season after graduating only four of his 1973 District 10 championship team. Thirty-seven bright-eyed, bushy tailed youngsters have shown up for practice. All seem very enthusiastic and I think we can look forward to some sunny days.

Well, enough talk, it's now time for all these young men to get together and produce. Good luck everyone.



Jim Lowinske shows good form during a dismount from the parallel bars.

by John Hoppe

It looks as if the NUHS gym team faces a year of rebuilding. New Ulm was hurt by graduation that took all but two of last year's squad. The one bright spot for the upcoming year is Jim Lowinske. Jim, who last year was called upon to fill in for injured brother Jay, did an outstanding job in capturing tenth place for the all-around in the state meet. The only other returning letterman is Greg Stone.

In addition to Jay, the team also lost such performers as Mark Hendricks, Jeff Berg, Dave Rosenbloom, and Tom Pederson. All of these boys placed in the state meet.

Coach Jim Schmidt had this to say of the upcoming season: "Right now the outlook is a little less than dim. We lost a total of 17

routines to graduation. We'll be weak at the start of the season but should come on stronger at the end."

As of right now there are seventeen boys out for gymnastics. Practice started November 12 so the team will have plenty of time to prepare for its first meet December 15 at the St. Cloud Invitational. Again this year the state's strongest teams will be Armstrong and Cooper.

"Cooper will be especially tough again this year," Coach Schmidt commented. "They had an all junior and sophomore team last year so they're getting everybody back."

The season prospects don't look exceptionally high; however Coach Schmidt always seems to come up with a team that's up there with the best of them.