

graphos

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New Ulm, Minnesota 56073

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Jim Grussendorf (left) and Keith Block (right) display the kind of dress that stereotyped them as "hippies" in a recent project performed by their social studies class.

A walk in hippie's shoes

by Lisa Knutson

Some of you may have come in contact with the book, *Black Like Me*, which is the story of a white man who darkened his skin so that he could actually experience what it was like to be a Black American living in the deep south. Recently, Ms. Winnelle Carpenter's sixth hour social studies class has also been studying prejudice and, to get a real taste of the unfairness of prejudice, they began a project which they called "A Walk in a Hippie's Shoes."

This particular project was chosen because the students were curious about what it would feel like to be a hippie and what the general public of New Ulm would say in response to the arrival of hippie's in our city.

Many class hours were spent researching books, news articles, and viewing films of the hippie movement of the late 1960s. After delving into the history of the Hippie "fad," the class ventured out to seek public response to the following questions:

- Does society have a preconceived and unreasonable opinion of hippies?
- Do the people of New Ulm have any real prejudices against hippies?
- What would be your first reaction if your son or daughter declared themselves a hippie?
- Will store personnel be suspicious and suspect shoplifting?
- Was the hippie movement a fad?
- What were hippies trying to accomplish?
- Were hippies actually escaping from family problems?

Their project climaxed on March 8th when Jim Grussendorf and Keith Block, dressed in traditional hippie garb, set out to portray a hippie image. They walked the streets of downtown New Ulm while their fellow classmates (Dwayne Pikkarainen, Brenda Oswald, Don Bennett, and Tom Reinhart) observed the public's reaction.

Shoe Salesman: "Who are those hippies over there?"

Clerk: "Oh. They're not from New Ulm. They must be from Mankato."

That exchange was only an opener to the many remarks overheard that day. Jim

Grussendorf recalled, "Some people actually stepped aside when we went by." Keith Block added, "One older couple wouldn't even let Jim or I open a door for them." Brenda Oswald remarked, "Most people laughed at them or just stared in amazement."

When asked about the public reaction, Ms. Carpenter responded, "I interviewed and recorded public responses and found the general public definitely stereotyped Keith and Jim as filthy, grubby-looking, and unclean. One lady commented, 'The kids are good-looking. I can't understand why they want to look ugly.'" Many people remarked that if a hippie were clean he would probably find himself more readily accepted.

Many people felt hippies were trying to get away from the American stick-to-itiveness, relied heavily on drugs, and were "marching to the beat of a different drummer." One lady remarked, "They were and still are soul-searching individuals breaking away from the nuclear family, but in time, they'll come back to our way of thinking."

The majority of the people commented that some hippies were in the drug scene,

making mind-blowing drugs part of their way of life. Everyone interviewed stated firmly that all hippies were in search of a new social structure to replace the nuclear family. For many, the old familiar, social, and rational relationships had lost all meaning. The general public felt that hippies were breaking away from the all American image.

Ms. Carpenter did find some prejudice existed among the general public, especially because of their reactions to the appearance of Jim and Keith, but she was suprised at the public responses. She expected a more conservative over all public view-point. The general attitude was "If it is their thing, then let them do it."

"My students found it to be educational and a 'mind expander.' I believe we're all going to think twice when we feel prejudiced toward a group of people. Actually the emphasis should be on the individual, not on a group. When one looks at an individual person and judge's him because of the group he belongs to, one creates a prejudice. If one looks at the PERSON, one then sees an individual human being."

editorial

Reader questions students' priorities



by Lisa Dotznerod

The girls' sports program at New Ulm Senior High is headed for serious trouble. The basis of this trouble is not a lack of talent or enthusiasm on the part of the girls themselves. The problem is a result of the failure to locate a competent coaching staff for the next year. Due to the several resignations of many girls' coaches, there will be openings that are going to be difficult to fill. In the senior high girls' program alone, resignations have come from two basketball, one track, one gymnastics, and two volleyball coaches.

Why is it that when the decision to put girls' athletics on an interscholastic level was accepted, everyone was willing to back it up 100 per cent, but now when things get a little tougher, the program is all but getting deserted?

The coaches are probably finding that the job requires a bit more than expected. Pressures that didn't exist on the intramural and extramural levels are now coming to the surface. Much more

emphasis is now placed on the sport's win-loss record. The split shift practice; long, hard hours; time away from the family; and the discipline problems that are evident in any sport are all factors that these coaches are now, for the first time, forced to deal with. As evident by the large number of resignations, these points have taken a very definite toll.

One can easily understand why so many women coaches have decided to turn in their sweat suits. But we cannot overlook the problem facing our school and many others in the same situation. Where are good, skilled, and competent women coaches going to be found?

Today many colleges offer courses in coaching to women going into teaching. So an obvious answer is to hire these trained teachers and coaches when a position is available.

But, is this decision really fair? In many schools the only women teachers being hired are those who are willing to take on a coaching position. This practice may be a plus for the sports program, but is it worth the risk of by-passing some fully capable and maybe every superior teacher who doesn't have the desire to be involved in athletics? We have to decide where we place girls' sports in our list of priorities. Both sides of the issue are apparent, with no easy answer offered. Nevertheless, it is a problem that has to be looked into in more depth than it has now been receiving.

Cans, bottles mar country's beauty

by Barb Gitter

Now that it is the spring of the year and everything is about to turn green and look fresh, our country seems to be such a pretty place with all the rolling hills filled with flowers and singing birds. But what about all of the ugliness in our environment? There is nothing pretty about driving along the countryside on a nice warm day, wanting to enjoy the sights of new life and having to see hundreds of empty beer cans and pop bottles in the road ditches. Everything has its proper place, and road ditches aren't the home for our Saturday night means of fun.

Many of us young people today don't care what our country looks like and feel that it's not up to us to help the situation. We think that the little bit that we carelessly deposit on the roadside couldn't possibly be classified as polluting. Pollution is only the big things like wrecked car fenders and discarded mufflers. The little things that we throw out won't hurt anyone and won't amount to much. It will soon disintegrate and there will be nothing left.

But I fear we are mistaken. Pollution is anything that is left behind or thrown away in an improper place. Pollution is dirty and unclean and therefore makes the places that are polluted unsightly.

Some people may say that pollution isn't totally the fault of today's generation. People began polluting before our time. I agree, they may have started it, but it is the now generation that is continuing to pollute our lands. We were brought into a world that was being polluted by a few people; and as the years went by, that number grew and grew until the whole population became polluters.

Polluters are people who have a severe case of just plain laziness! That's all it is. If people wouldn't be so lazy, our country wouldn't be in this fantastic mess. We are too lazy to throw our waste material in a trash can, so we discard it anywhere that is convenient.

Maybe what we need is a stricter penalty for polluters. There now is a fine for anyone caught polluting. Maybe we need a jail sentence or special counseling. Pollution has to stop, and if people aren't going to listen, other means of enforcement have to take place.

People ask what can they do about pollution. They don't pollute and feel it's not their problem anymore. But I'm afraid it is. It is everyone's problem until the last person stops polluting.

We all have to pitch in and help stop pollution, and it won't get done unless we start now. So if you care in the least about the beauty of our country, as the old saying goes, "Stop pollution before it stops you."

To the editors:

The editorial in the February issue of the *Graphos* implied that the only way for teens to have fun in this community is to drink. After taking a look at what students do for entertainment, it seems that many students think that this implication is true.

Why is drinking the main source of fun? Most students blame their parents, teachers, and other adults in the community for their problem of having "nothing to do around here." But the real cause of the problem lies in the fact that many students condemn or ruin every form of entertainment that doesn't include drinking.

School dances wouldn't be "almost nonexistent" if people attended them. But in recent years attendance at these dances has declined. Kids seem to be more concerned about the parties after the dance than the dance itself. Some students can't even wait until after the dance to drink and have to sneak out to their car during the dance to have a few swigs of booze while others cannot face the prospect of being at the dance at all with no liquor. The few students who would enjoy the dance are turned off because of the attitudes of these others.

The many school athletic events are marred by the use of alcohol. Students wouldn't get kicked out of the audience because of "acting too rowdy" if they hadn't been using alcohol. Drinking weakens the high school teams. Many athletes cannot make it through a season without drinking and some of them pay the

consequences by being expelled from the team.

If this town is as dull as most teens claim it is, one would expect students to do something different and exciting when they go away to other cities. However, most kids go to other places to do the same thing that they do here, that is, to drink.

The writer of the editorial seems to have contradicted herself. If there are many people who don't care "if our team throws the ball through the hoop the most times," then why did so many students go to the state basketball tournament? Wouldn't it be even more boring watching someone else's team try to throw the ball through the hoop the most times?

If NUHS did sponsor a senior class trip, how many students would use the trip to have fun as a class by taking part in different kinds of activities and seeing new and exciting things? Many students must admit to themselves that they would just use the trip as an excused absence from school for drinking.

The teen-age entertainment situation in this city is no one's fault but the teens' themselves. Many kids are too unimaginative and dull to create their own fun. Instead they depend on alcohol to have a good time. It's true that many of our parents and educators are also in this rut, unable to have fun without alcohol. But must we be like them? Are our lives so boring that we can't have fun on our own? Are we so dim-witted, dull, simple-minded, apathetic, stagnant, and trite that we need an outside force to stimulate ourselves to have fun?

Name withheld upon request

Damnation of *Graphos* feared, or catching hell on both ends



by Julie Hulsey

The *Graphos* is doomed. What else is there to say about a supposed open-minded paper whose editor is a sexist child with a closed mind?

After reading "Women Libbers are Fibbers" in the March issue, I was left quite baffled and sympathetic. Baffled for I'd like to know where the editor got his information, and sympathetic to his narrow-minded beliefs about girls sports.

The article expressed the opinion that girls are not ready to handle interscholastic sports. Whose opinion of "readiness" is being questioned? If the editor had been a responsible reporter, he would have asked some girls for their reactions, but then his article would not have represented such a completely one-sided view.

So our editor's "hushed laughter" can in a sense be placed with those who laughed at the Wright Brothers, Tom Edison, and any other "idiots" with more in their minds than personal appearances.

As for the girls lack of aggressive attitudes, maybe the editor should be out in the middle of the girls basketball court

sometime. The bumps and bruises may not be very obvious, but they are there. The girls have not accepted the "knock-down, drag-out" tactics some male sports encourage, so if it's blood you want, go to a bull fight.

Bench warmers will come and go, but they will always be. Even our esteemed editor says that. But he has never been a bit hesitant to try and beat out a friend whose team standing means a lot. Also, girls may not be willing to hurt a teammate in a fight for a position on the team. I feel that sports are an opportunity to build skills and sportsmanship, not to see how many injuries or personal feelings you can hurt.

Another point. When the NUHS boys basketball team finished with an 11-10 record, it was called an "average" season. But when the girls finished with a 6-7 record, it was called a "downfall." A downfall from what? Certainly not from the lofty heights scaled by the boys team.

I think girls sports should be given a chance to do their best and not be laughed at by an editor who thinks it his place to put down a new program. Maybe our new coaches will introduce some new ideas next year, and maybe our editor will also discover some new ideas. If not, I suggest he remember the old saying: "He who laughs first, gets laughed at."

graphos

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The Guide Post

by Mr. Jim Zetah, Counselor

Career decision making is a concern of virtually every high school student, but the process generally climaxes during the senior year.

The question "What shall I become?" is an important one to consider. For many of you, it was asked during the ninth grade social unit on careers. Attitudes, values, interests, aptitudes and other characteristics are explored and examined. These same areas continue to be re-examined, and alternatives are studied during the sophomore, junior and senior years. As new experiences are encountered, I am sure interests and attitudes change and new career possibilities surface. Part-time jobs, courses, books, and conversations with people all contribute to one's awareness about career choices.

While you are in the process of becoming, it is important to keep the door open to new options. Career journalists claim that most people will change occupations from 3 to 7 times before the age of 30. Perhaps an obvious conclusion one could reach is the need to deal in tentative choices. I think people would do themselves an injustice if they made a hard-fast decision and were no longer open to change.

We have several interest inventories available that will provide some information for you along with a wide assortment of career related material. Please avail yourself of this service in the guidance office. Miss Marty Webb and I are prepared to assist you in your career awareness search.

With the focus on career decisions, allow me to view your present career status as a high school student. Many of you perhaps do not consider these years as having *anything to do with a career status*. As young people in this stage of life, your career is that of a student. This role may continue past graduation depending on your post-high school plans.

Any career that one chooses will have a number of things in common. We all want some reward. As a student, you look for

passing grades, satisfaction of getting the job done, and parents who recognize the effort you put in learning new things. Being a student is a full time job and requires your best effort.

An underlying principle present in all careers is the concept of work. A speaker at a career conference discussed this concept. He spoke about the need for work: to be, to do, to produce, to achieve. Not all work we do will necessarily be satisfying; in fact, some job settings may create real dissatisfaction. Some of your summer employment may well fall into this category, but you recognize that it is temporary so you can accept it as an experience.

Someone used this illustration to portray the level of one's involvement in the world of work:

He who works with his hands is a laborer.

He who works with his hands and brain is a craftsman.

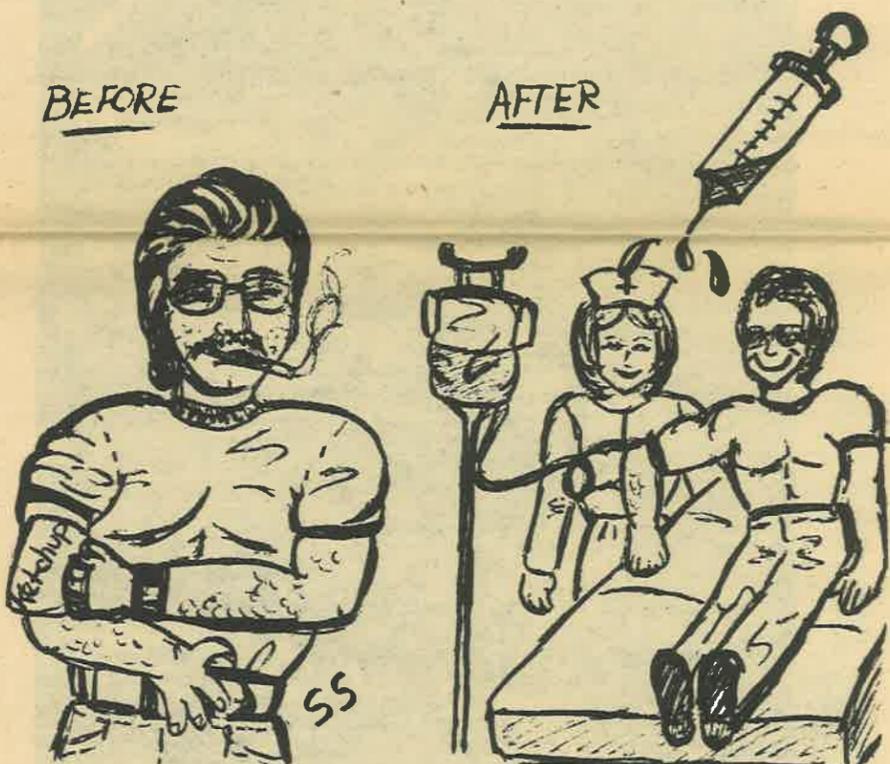
He who works with his hands, brain and heart is an artist.

I think the application of this illustration is apparent. I see some students who don't really involve themselves in school work. They put in the time and their hands but not their brains and are at the laborer level. Others involve hands and brain and succeed as craftsmen. Those of you who truly put your whole being into school; hands, brain and heart, achieve the artist level. You seem to enjoy what you are doing when you are doing it.

Kahlil Gibran in *The Prophet* said of work: "You work that you may keep pace with the earth and the soul of the earth. For to be idle is to become a stranger unto the seasons, and to step out of life's procession, that marches in majesty and proud submission towards the infinite... But I say to you that when you work you fulfill a part of earth's furthest dream, assigned to you when that dream was born. And in keeping yourself with work you are in truth loving life, and to love life through work is to be intimate with life's inmost secret."



HAVE FUN GIVING BLOOD !!



Be a good sport

by Scott Simkins

Almost everywhere you look, there is action taking place concerning sports. You find it in school, in the courtroom, in the newspaper, and sometimes even in sports itself.

But sports have not always enjoyed such popularity. Sports have grown like a monster in the past few years and Americans have been gobbled up in its path.

So it is no surprise to find that there are more and more people, especially students, taking part in sports every year. It would then be no surprise to find out that there are also more "jocks" today.

Then it would seem natural that since a greater percentage of students are taking part in sports, the number of drinkers, smokers, etc. who are "jocks" is going up also.

In the past, a "jock" was someone who was looked up to, not for his drinking capacity but for his extraordinary athletic abilities on the field.

But as morals change, so do "jocks." Today they are a carefree blend of athletic and drinking abilities. To be a true athlete, you have to be able to drink as well as you perform on the floor, and in either case, the more the better.

In fact, coaches must be a bit naive if they don't think "their boys" drink. Only the coaches are fooling themselves if that is their belief. The best men, as well as the worst man on the team, could be drinking whenever the coach or other authority is out of eyesight.

Drinking has become a popular sub-sport in itself at NUHS. It's not uncommon to hear members of sports teams huddled together, planning their strategy for the coming party. Some, in their mobile "porta-parties," have plays worked out just in case the police should become a bit too suspicious.

But the team that drinks together also sinks together. Numerous occasions have arisen in the past which have given school officials no alternative but to suspend students not only in New Ulm, in which drinking athletes have caused occasional problems for athletic teams, but in other towns as well. Elk River lost 12 players, Hermantown High lost 20 players, and Southland High in Adams lost 14 players when cops busted beer parties during their respective football seasons.

There are many who don't celebrate the thrill of victory or the agony of defeat with beer and pretzels, but as always there are a few who wreck it for the others.

There are frequent accidents and injuries caused by drunken "jocks" returning from a victory celebration. It only takes one death or maiming to exploit the fact that we have drunk drivers on our roads, and a great percentage of these are students of which a sizeable portion are surely athletes.

So athletes, consider the rules, weigh your thoughts, and reach a decision. But if your decision is to drink, whether that be good or bad, be prepared to take the consequences if you should get caught. The cost could be more than just a temporary suspension from participation!

Scheduling Day set for May 12

by Mr. Thomas Wilson, Principal

Juniors and seniors at New Ulm High School can remember when every student was scheduled by a computer. With that system of scheduling, we simply allowed the computer to decide where each of your classes would be placed during the year.

However, teachers, counselors, principals, and many students were not satisfied with that system because it was so arbitrary. Because of this dissatisfaction, we initiated the student self-scheduling system last year, and it proved to be popular with almost everyone involved.

This year, self-scheduling day is set for Wednesday, May 12. Well before that day, we will meet with you to review the principles of scheduling and to distribute information you will need to do the job.

You know that there will be limitations on what can be arranged. For example, a class may not be available when you want it. Or it may be filled to capacity and not available to you. You may discover that two classes you wanted are scheduled at the same time, forcing you to make a choice. Sometimes, three courses you want will be offered during two periods, forcing you to drop one.

Priority decisions about your course selections will be yours to make, and that is the beauty of the system. When you choose what is best for you, there is no need to request a schedule change. You can see for yourself where the conflicts exist, and the final product will be uniquely yours. Much more information about scheduling day will be coming in the near future.

Spring fashion takeoffs



Cathy Prokesh displays today's comfortable casual wear for gals in a jumpsuit with an elasticized belt.

Spring fashions for girls were provided with the cooperation of Pink's.

by Renee Buck

Feminine, dressy and natural are the looks for gals' spring and summer fashions. This year's fashions, however, do not hold any exceptionally new or drastic changes in style. It seems they are mostly take-offs from last year's beginnings.

The most noticeable change in the fashion line today is the below-the-knee skirt length. There are two major reasons for the increasing popularity of this length: it is a very comfortable length for the wearer and is very feminine to the eye of the looker. (A note to the guys: if ya wanna see legs — find a beach!) Along with this length, the most popular style of skirt is the wrap-around. It has a casual look yet may be worn to almost any dressy occasion.

Also along with the longer length comes the higher shoes. High wedged-heel leather sandals are very popular with the

spring outfits. It's the natural look in shoes: wood and leather in beige, brown and white colors.

The spring colors also accent the natural theme. Beige, sky blues, forest greens, and sunny yellows are popular. Another natural look is the jute trim that you see on many pants, tops, and jackets.

The denim look is ever popular on the fashion scene. Much of the denim used today is the pre-washed denim which gives you the "lived in" look without the worry of shrinkage from washing. Denim exists in jeans and skirts, jackets, jumpers, and jumpsuits.

The gauze fabric continues to be popular for blouses and western style shirts this year. The gauze look got its start last year but is still big in the fashion business. Along with the gauze fabric comes Earth cloth (alias beggar's cloth, alias krinkle cotton) which is used in smocks, skirts, and pants.

The basic T shirt with the cap sleeves is

another big item. It can be worn plain or under a lightweight woven print blouse which may be worn open or tied in front.

The revival of the jumpsuit is the word this spring. The comfortable and casual jumpsuit is expected to be the item this summer for fun in the sun.

For those cool spring nights, jackets couldn't look any better, especially corduroy. The big hood is still in style, but along with it comes the big three-quarter length rolled-up sleeves. Also, a very new and attractive fabric used in jackets is the sarapi fabric, which has the Mexican look with its bright colors. The front pocket, which is a take-off from the sweatshirt, is still a popular style also, although it is more decorative than useful these days.

With prom just around the corner, the new dresses are in. A very popular look this year is the full or tiered skirt attached to figure-fitted bodice. The prints are soft and indistinct; the colors are light and

pale. The look is nothing but elegant. Many of the formals have the old-fashioned styling which is very feminine indeed!

For those who are pace-setters, the newest style on the coasts and just starting to catch on in the Twin Cities is the Jamaica length pants. These pants reached a few inches below the knee and are worn with knee high leather boots. The pants are worn either tucked in the boots or on the outside of them. Don't be too critical — YOU might be wearing them within the year!

Accessories for today's fashions are numerous and versatile. Scarves have become increasingly popular in the past year and can be worn with almost anything: from jeans to dresses. Hats are also popular for spring as are the big purses. Not only are the big handbags stylish, but they are also very convenient. (Now if you really want convenience — get a knapsack!)



Tammy Engel models the popular knee-length wrap around skirt with a T-shirt accented by a chic scarf.

reveal last year's patterns



Steve Polzin models today's popular casual wear for guys featuring a western style gauze shirt, slacks, and boots. Men's clothes were furnished with the cooperation of Leuthold-Jensen Clothing of New Ulm.



An old-fashioned look is created by the lace trim, ruffled bottom, and sleeve style in this spring formal worn by Cathy.



Dave Berle is ready for prom in a European style vested suit which is now reappearing on the fashion scene.

by Renee Buck

There's one word to describe the latest styles in men's clothes this spring — and that's sharp!

The vested suit is back in style after years of hibernation. It got an overwhelming reception last fall and has been popular with many of the spring and summer suits. The European style suit with its peaked lapel and tailored sleek fit has caught the eye of all.

The leisure suits are more fully constructed this year and continue to be good sellers, but with the new looks coming in, the popularity of the leisure suit has declined. The colorful leisure shirt, which was originally used under the leisure suit itself, is still very popular and is worn with any sort of pants, including jeans.

The standard bell bottom styling is even changing its structure somewhat. The flare is less noticeable now because it begins from the hip instead of the knee. The result is sleek, comfortable, and natural.

With the casual scene, Levi's are a No. 1 item on the market along with the pre-wash items which include not only

jeans but also jackets and shirts. If you take a look around these days, you'll notice that the Levi look is popular with not only the guys but the gals too!

Western style gauze shirts with front and sleeve snaps remain to be on top of the casual listings. A growing popularity for the striped rugby shirt is also getting a start. These rugby shirts come in many bold and bright colors to fit anyone's taste. It's the shirt for goofing around!

In the prom scene the choices for a man on the move are many. The leisure suit, the European style vested suit, and the tuxedo are all acceptable formal attire for the big evening. The tux is bright and colorful this year with pinks, yellows, blues, and browns at the top of the list for popular colors.

As far as footwear goes this season, the negative or more commonly called by a brand name, Earth Shoe, still reigns in popularity. Also, along with popular western style shirt comes the western style boots for casual wear.

For a finishing touch on any form of attire, chokers and medallions do the job. Puca shells, turquoise, and clay beads rank number one for choices in the choker look.



Chesty, the more famous of the Morgan sisters, has found her physical "attributes" to be much more profitable than Kneesies!

Measuring Up

by Denise Simonson

Chesty Morgan has enjoyed fame and fortune because of her unusual physical attributes. People flock to see her and to marvel at her anatomy. However, Chesty is not the only member of her family with unusual physical development. The 73 inch tape measure also applies to another female member of the Morgan household.

"Kneesie" Morgan lives an obscure life in Pinneapple Junction, Iowa. No one has heard of her before and the newspaper never carries accounts of her appearances. She has, more or less, lived in her sister's shadow all of her life.

It wasn't always so, for she wasn't born with her oversized knee caps. As a child she looked much like any other grade-schooler in Iowa. However, with the onset of puberty, a hormonal imbalance caused her knees to develop at an unusual rate. No one

was really concerned when her knees measured 10 inches, they became alarmed when the suddenly jumped to 50 inches, and they breathed a sigh of relief when her growth stopped at 73 inches.

Of course, by this time she began to realize that she would always be different. She had to back up to doors to knock, elevators were impossible, and people were giving her knees those "knowing" looks. Can you imagine her dismay when she overheard remarks about her anatomy. There was no limit to the insults that she had to endure.

Clothes had always been a problem. Form fitting slacks were out of the question. She could only look with longing at the new tight leg styles as she slipped into her usual "elephant-leg" pants.

She recently confided to a friend that she had once considered plastic surgery to reduce her unusual structure. An invitation

to an orthopedic convention and the recognition it brought started her on a new career and ended any thoughts of surgery. She glowingly recalls the X-rays of her knees in every doctor's office in the country. She recently made the centerfold of the American Surgeon. Not to mention all of the "Knees-cake" photos that are now in circulation.

Of course, "Kneesie" fully realizes that her career depends upon her youth. As she ages some newcomer will proceed to fill the spot that she has created. "It'll be a tough field for a novice," says Kneesie. "But if she is willing to sacrifice and endure hardship, she can make it." There is also the problem of her forthcoming marriage to "Ankles Schultz." He wants her to retire and open a Health Spa for other girls with underdeveloped knee caps. But Kneesie feels that the last thing needed in the World today is another "Mark Kneeden" Course.

Out of the mouths of babes

by Johanna Johnson

"The best kind of a teacher is a polite, courteous teacher who isn't too easy and still doesn't give you any hard homework."

"Do you have that kind of a teacher?" I asked.

"Well...we can't tell yet. It's only the first week and she's still being nice."

How many times have you thought that? Now, how many of you would be brave enough to say it? The above passage is an excerpt from Art Linkletter's book *Kids Say the Darndest Things*. It is an actual statement from a real, live kid. Now, I know that I've thought that many times, but there is no way that I would ever actually say it, or at least, not phrase it quite that way.

That is the nice thing about younger kids. They're completely frank and honest. When they think something, they say it just as it is and in no uncertain terms. They don't dress it up or hide it behind something else in order to cushion it. They say it without a thought of potential complications.

This honesty may be a bit uncomfortable at times, but is also very refreshing. I, for one, get a little bit tired of all of the automatic little phrases that are uttered today. Someone will walk up to you and

say, "How are you?" Nine times out of ten you will automatically reply, "Fine, thanks. How about you?" even though you have just discovered that you have mono, your dog just died, and you really couldn't care less about how the other guy feels.

If it were a child answering that question, he would probably rattle off a whole list of his various ailments and liven things up by throwing in a few imaginary ones.

Which brings me to the subject of children's imaginations. Quite frequently, in answering a question put to them, a kid will tell you some of the biggest whoppers you have ever heard. It isn't because he wants to lie; he just doesn't know the right answer, so he substitutes as best as he can.

His answers are almost always very logical.

For example, one child was asked, "What's a wet-blanket?" Now, how could a seven year old kid know? But he replied very quickly, "Oh, that's easy, It's the blanket the baby sleeps on."

Doesn't that make a lot more sense than the accepted meaning of the term? That is what is nice about talking with kids. You get a whole different view of the world. They are naive and unprogrammed but, most of all, fresh.

A few weeks ago, I was visiting one of

my friends and we were looking through her scrapbook. We came across some compositions that she had written when she was in the second grade, so we started to read them.

I thoroughly enjoyed them and we decided to print a few of them and let you enjoy them too.

So, go ahead. Sit back, relax, and read. Look at the world through a child's eyes. Be a child again, if only for a few minutes.

"The Stupid Pig"

by Deb Bowar, 1966

Once there was a stupid pig. And everyone knew he was stupid so they called dumb. One nice morning a horse said to the stupid pig, what's one plus one? The stupid pig really didn't know but he thought he did so he said, well it's a hundred and nine. The horse knew it was wrong so he said, you'll never learn that one plus one is two. The pig thought he was right and he said, if I say it's a hundred and nine then it's a hundred and nine so that means it's a hundred and nine so ha ha ha! So the horse walked away. Now a cow came and asked, what's zero times a hundred? The pig knew he had to know this so he said, a hundred and nine. And this time no one is going to say wrong, so ha ha ha! Then the cow walked away. And pretty soon every animal on the farm had asked

the stupid pig times devide plus minis and to read. And he was wrong all the time. But soon the animals on the farm thought of something. They were going to build a pig school. But they wouldn't let the stupid pig help because he was so stupid. Pretty soon they were done. So the stupid pig went to school and never again did anyone call him the stupid pig because he was dumb they called him the smart little pig because he was almost as smart as the other farm animals. But not quite as smart. And if they wouldn't of tore down the school he would be smarter.

"The Cat Who Named Herself Pat"

by Deb Bowar, 1966

Once there was a cat that was just born. Then the farmer named it Midnight. Now Midnight liked her name but she wanted another name too. So she named herself Pat. And because cat and Pat rimed she made all her sentences rime. She thought to herself, would every cat know she named herself Pat. So just then she thought of something. All the sudden she started to yell. And this is what she said. My name is Pat the cat. And never again did anyone call her Midnight because she was black. They called her Pat or Pat the cat.

Just an Ordinary Day, Part II

by Lisa Dotzenrod

It was just an ordinary day when Mr. Meyer charged into the teacher's lounge, frantically clutching a stack of essay test papers he had been grading. Flinging them in the air he exclaimed, "Can you believe this? Eighteen of these essays are identical! Exactly the same!! I think something suspicious is happening, like cheating. How could my students do anything so low?"

"I'm sure it wasn't too terribly hard," replied Mr. Jones. "You have to remember we are all brothers in old Peer Gynt."

Continuing his tale of woe, Oscar went on, "How could they ever imagine they could get away with cheating? How dumb do they think I am?"

After recovering from a bout of coughing and choking that Mr. Meyer's comment brought, it was Mr. LaPatka who spoke up. "Are you sure you want that question answered?" asked Dick the Rat.

There was silence for a moment because, as we all know, Mr. LaPatka is ALWAYS right.

A break in the uncomfortable silence came when Mr. Roelofs happily cruised in the lounge exclaiming, "It's happened!! My physics experiment actually worked! That brings the total of successful ex-

periments this year up to 3!" He failed to mention the 69 unsuccessful attempts. "If my luck holds out, I may even get back to the complex scientific principles involved in boiling water!"

Mr. Senske, who had just arrived a few minutes earlier, (it takes a while for him to make his way through his obstacle course of papers piled around his desk) said to Mr. Meyer, "What you need is respect from these kids. Like I always say, you can't kick old Jim in the head."

Peering through the haze of smoke created by their cancer sticks, Mr. Qvale, known by some as The Big Q, and Mr. Luker sat back in their chairs and laughed.

"But I do have respect," answered

Oscar. "How many of you have the privilege of having your favorite song sung to you every day?"

Leaving the others with this comment, Mr. Meyer walked out of the teacher's lounge. Not to be disappointed, he was greeted as usual by the strains of the Oscar Meyer Weiner song, performed exclusively by the members of his fan club. (The singing was excellent; maybe the old saying is true. Practice makes perfect.)

Getting out of the chair he had been resting in for a minute or three, Coach Podolske shook his head and said, "Yes, let's call it a day."

How about calling it just an ordinary day?

Winning for quitting

by Dave Mildenberg

One of the most overused cliches we use in our language is "Quitters never win and winners never quit." Of course, there is some degree of truth to the statement since determination is an important ingredient to success. Yet such famous and diverse people as Winston Churchill and Flip Wilson have quit school at one time in their lives. The problem of dropouts and whether an alternative school is needed are now being discussed by our school district.

Today there are 38 students out of school who could be enrolled in our high school at the present time. There are many reasons for these students dropping out of school, but a survey of these dropouts showed that a lack of interest in school was the major reason for their quitting. Because of this information, Mr. Todd Wennerstrom, the Director of Special Education for a cooperative agency that serves New Ulm, proposed an alternative program for the dropouts.

This suggested program would teach the student basic academic and vocational skills which would hopefully lead to actual job placement. These students would be taught by two fulltime and two part-time teachers. The school would be located in the empty room at the Viking Vocational Center in Hanska.

There is little doubt that this concept is a controversial subject which will create much discussion. "Why should kids who drop out of school be given a separate school geared to their needs when similar opportunities are not provided for other types of students?"

First of all out of the 38 dropouts, half had been convicted of a criminal offense as of April 1, and twelve of the 38 have had more than one clash with the law.

Secondly, many of the dropouts are much less advanced in terms of academic skills than the average student. Fourteen of the 38 dropouts read at a level much lower than their peers. Thus, these students fail over and over because they cannot achieve what is required in school. A very low self-esteem is a product of this sort of continual failure.

Thirdly, the school district has lost nearly \$24,000 in foundation aid as a result of students dropping out in the last two years. Even when dropouts quit, the school does not save any money since teachers and programs are not cut. Furthermore, the report estimates the total cost to the district minus state aid to be just under \$11,000. When one considers the fact that it costs \$12,000 per student at the Lino Lakes correctional institute, this alternative school seems like a real bargain.

Whether the dropouts will attend this alternative school is a question only time will answer. Yet in his report, Mr. Wennerstrom conservatively estimated 50 percent of the dropouts will enroll.

As one can see, there are several significant arguments that can be made in favor of the proposed alternative school. Changes are always controversial, but perhaps this school will reach out and help the alienated students in our society.

Golfers hope to defend SCC title

by Kevin Wilner

The Eagles golf team opened its 1976 schedule against Winthrop and Gaylord April 23 at Winthrop. After having a fine season last year, the Eagles hope to successfully defend their South Central Conference title won last year.

The top two golfers this year have been Brian Patterson and hard-hitting Brian Shay. Patterson and Shay were also mainstays on last year's team and are expected to lead the team this year also. Rounding out the rest of the top six golfers for the first meet are Monte Mildenberg, Kirk Gregg, Jim Henning, and Tom Hengel. The rest of the squad includes Mark Paulson, Dave Keene, Thor Mickelson, Erin DeMars, Scott Werdahl, and Rick Thom.

Newcomers mark this year's squad. Hengel and Henning are out for golf for the first time. Gregg is originally from Iowa and Thom comes from Albert Lea.

The golfers qualify before each meet. The six with the best qualifying scores go into the next meet with the top four individual scores counting towards the team score.

Coach Dick Werdahl expects New Ulm to be tough, with Fairmont and St. Peter to be good competition in the conference. "St. James always seems to be good too," Werdahl commented. "The conference tournament will be held in Fairmont on May 15, so we'll have enough time to prepare," he added.

A plus factor for the team is the recent hiring of Lee Folkens by the New Ulm Country Club. Folkens comes from a successful program he ran in the Twin Cities area. He also gives lessons and tips to any golfers who need them.

sports

Netters hope for smashing success



Members of the New Ulm girls track team fighting for first place in a recent meet are, from left to right, Leslie Johnson, Lisa Vath, and Joanne Steinbach.

by Bob Skillings

It's a brand new season for the NUHS boys tennis team this spring. Besides some new equipment, their chances for a successful season are also looking good.

Head Coach Joe Poncin is "cautiously optimistic" that the team will have an improved record over last year's poor one. With six returning lettermen, seniors Jeff Hildebrandt, Randy Miklas, Mike Stapleton, and Steve Prange, and juniors Mark Fodness and Scott Simkins, the team appears to be well balanced. Senior Brian Potter, junior Dana Bloedel and freshmen Mark Stoering and Dave Clear are also seeing some action with the varsity in the early meets.

The team started practicing and working out the week of March 15. When the weather permitted, the netters were on the courts around New Ulm. They usually spent two nights a week inside working with "the new machine." The B-squad coached by Don Reinhart, has had a similar practice schedule.

"The machine" helps speed up practices and really improves the players' backhand and forehand returns. It shoots tennis balls across the net in all directions at various speeds. It also has a serving arm.

In his eighth season as the head tennis coach, Joe Poncin looks for Blue Earth to repeat as South Central Conference champs. But with winning their first two matches, the Eagles could possibly give the perennial South Central champs a strong challenge.

"I enjoy playing and watching tennis. I know that many of our students also do," Coach Poncin says. "We cordially invite all students, parents, teachers, and administrators to come and watch." The home tennis matches begin at 4:30 p.m. at various courts around New Ulm. So, all you tennis fans, come out and root the Eagle netters to victory.

Buck, Tauer lead team

Tracksters noted for depth

by Kathy Rathmann

This year the NUHS girls' track team is the largest and the strongest the squad has been in four years of interscholastic competition. The team includes 56 members, compared to 22 in the first year of girls' track at New Ulm. According to the head coach, Miss Ev Beug, this year's team has good depth, the key to winning track meets.

Some of the outstanding individuals are Renee Buck, in the half-mile; Diane Tauer, in the shot put; and Paula Tostenrud, in the discus throw. Renee has gone to the state meet for the past two

years, placing fourth and fifth in the half-mile run. She hopes to take first-place in the state meet this year. Diane also may advance to state competition this year. Carla Windschitl, only an eighth-grader, has done very well in the two-mile run, a new event in girls' track. Kristi Risius, a freshman, is strong in the one-mile run.

Girls in other events have good potential to improve during the season. Included in that category are Leslie Johnson and Joanne Steinbach in the hurdles, Patty Blackstad in the high jump, and Nancy Backer in the long jump.

The goals of the team are to win the

Wabasso and Glencoe Invitationals and the Sub-Regional Meet. Competing against New Ulm in the Sub-Regional will be Fairmont, Worthington, and Marshall; the latter is expected to be New Ulm's toughest opposition. New Ulm also sees placing at the top in the Regional Meet as a goal this year.

Miss Beug is assisted by Mrs. Cindy Theophilus and a student teacher from Mankato State, Nancy Manderfeld. Diane Tauer and Renee Buck were chosen by their teammates as co-captains. Terri Risius and Robin Steinke serve as managers.

Enthusiasm blooms but inexperience looms

by Jim Henning

The New Ulm High School baseball team entered the 1976 season with a very inexperienced team, having only two starters returning from the previous year's team which lost in the District 10 semifinals. However, through five games, the Eagles are undefeated and have won several of the games handily. In fact, they have outscored their opponents by a combined score of 45-21.

New Ulm is playing a fairly tough schedule this year with four teams who have been or are rated in the top ten in the state. The Eagles have already beaten Brownton, which was rated 8th among the state's small schools.

Probably the Eagles' main asset so far this year has been their hitting. They have had 10 hits or more in most of their games. This hitting has been led by third baseman-pitcher, Tim Steinbach who batted .340 and made the South Central All-conference team last year as a sophomore. Catcher Larry Guggisberg and sophomore

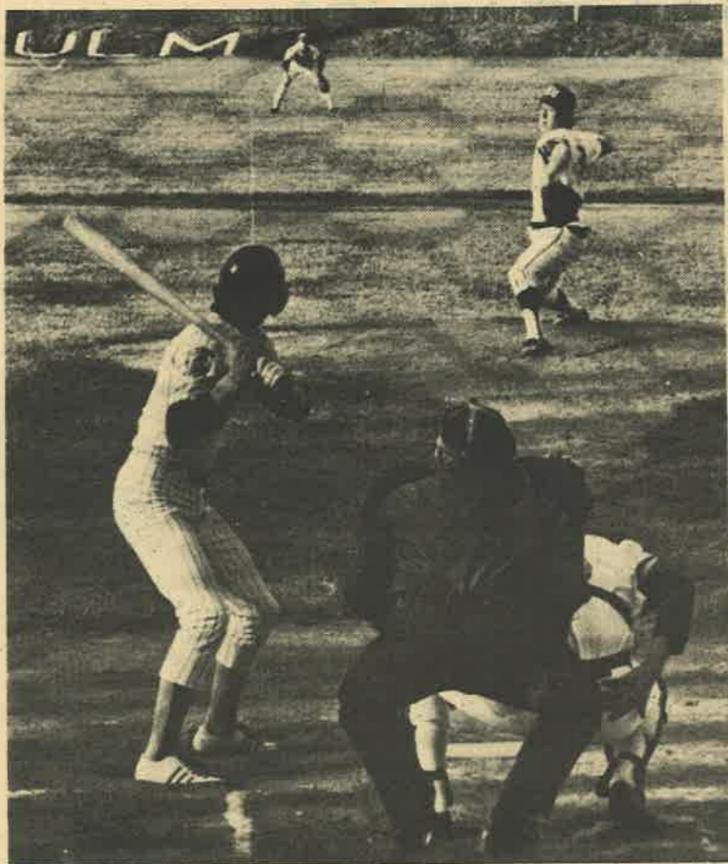
Randy Ulrich have also been swinging hot bats and are right around the .500 mark.

New Ulm's pitching should also be fairly decent. Both Tim Steinbach and Kevin Wilner pitched last year and combined for a 9-1 record. Junior righthander Jim Schwartz has also been impressive in relief this spring.

The South Central Conference should again be strong this year. Two conference teams, Fairmont and St. Peter, made it to state tournament last year, and these two are the favorites again, while the remaining five spots are predicted to be a toss-up.

A change for the Eagles this year is their move to AA grouping for larger schools. In the past they have been in District 10 with such teams as Sleepy Eye Public, Sleepy Eye St. Mary's and New Ulm Cathedral. Now they are with larger schools such as Fairmont, Worthington and Marshall.

The outlook for the season, which was questionable at the start of the season, has improved considerably with the Eagles' fine start and a good season is now expected.



Tim Steinbach, New Ulm's junior right-handed pitcher, cranks up against an early season foe at Johnson Park.

Rodenburg back Eagles jump to fine start

by Brian Shay

Experience is the trademark of this year's New Ulm High School Boys' Track Team. This experience will likely lead to a quality team and an impressive record. Already the Eagles have racked up the South Central Conference indoor meet and have trounced Gaylord twice and Waseca once, while losing once to a tough Glencoe squad.

Included on this year's thirty-nine-man varsity roster are twenty returning lettermen who provide the nucleus of an otherwise young team. Sixteen of the remaining nineteen team members are sophomores.

The Eagles will have depth in several areas, and with some improvement in the distance running they could be untouchable. The trio of Brian Roegiers, Jim Langholz, and Jon Kahnke will anchor the

team in the shot put. You can look for Jeff Isberner and Dave Hanson to be placing high in the high jump while Dan Walden and Joel Hartfiel should be impressive in the long jump and the dashes. Mike Gentz is the main man in the pole vault and Ralph VanKeulen is looking tough in the half mile. The team will definitely pick up some strength with the return of ace distance man Tom Rodenberg. Rodenberg has been out with a stress fracture in his foot. He is one of the finest two-milers in the midwest, and it is exciting to watch him run his specialty.

The Eagles will get a good indication as to what kind of season they will have when they go up against Mankato and Albert Lea on April 20th and then again in the New Ulm Invitational on April 29th with St. Peter, Wells, and Redwood Falls coming. So why not take some time out and come to watch some real classy high school track and support the Eagles at their home meets in May.



Jay Lowinske, a 1973 graduate of NUHS, once again shows his winning form on the still rings. Jay is now a member of the U of M mens gymnastics team, which won the Big Ten gymnastics title and recently held an exhibition in New Ulm.



Dan Walden's face reveals the strain and effort that go into being a member of New Ulm's winning track team.

Paul's Sports Parade

Generally, the announcement of the winners meets with the approval of the schools and the public; however there have been some eyebrows raised with past winners. When it came time to announce this year's male athlete, the speculation rode high on who it might be. Well, when the toastmaster named the NUHS winner as Mike Gentz, it was accepted with great enthusiasm.

Who really is Mike Gentz?

To his fellow athletes he was a fine young man who gave 100 per cent and won the respect of his teammates and coaches alike. Having played football with Mike the last few years, I can say he was a great asset to the team who was enjoyed and appreciated by the entire team. We'll remember him as a tough-nosed lineman who didn't always get the deserved praise but always performed extremely well.

His foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry

Epp, were as proud as anyone when Mike won the award. They should be proud since they guided this fine athlete through his high school career.

Mike was the all-around performer in gymnastics and is a pole vaulter in track. We only wish him the best in his future and the Purple-White athletes of 1976 will long remember Mike as a tribute to his school and community.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS ALSO to Diane Tauer, the first female athlete so honored by the NU Club. Diane was a standout basketball player and is also a trackster.

SPEAKING OF NU CLUB winners from New Ulm Senior High, we would like to point out the success of some past winners: Steve Altmann, 1975, was a member of St. John's football team at Collegville; Ron Kaiser, 1974, is a student at the U. of Minn; Jay Lowinske, 1973, is a member of

Minnesota's Big 10 gymnastics champs; Bill Reitter, 1972, was co-captain of the Augustana College football team while Steve Burns, 1971, won three football letters at Mankato State despite injuries, and Scott Backer 1970, was baseball captain of the U. of Morris team and is now coaching at Morton High Schools.

TRACK JOKE (?) OF THE WEEK

Dan Walden — "How's Hanson doing in the high jump? Any good?"

Coach Davis — "Naw, he can hardly clear his throat."

GOLF JOKE OF THE WEEK

Jim Henning — (far off in the rough) — "Say, Tom, why do you keep looking at your watch?"

Tom Hengel — "It isn't a watch, Jim; it's a compass."

REMEMBER — Close only counts in horseshoes, hand grenades, drive-in movies, and dancing!



by Paul Wyczawski

ONE OF NEW ULM HIGH SCHOOLS finest moments in athletics this past year came at the 22nd Annual New Ulm Club's Appreciation Banquet. The club annually honors outstanding senior athletes from NU Senior High, Cathedral and Martin Luther Academy. This year the outstanding male and female athletes of all city schools were honored.