

the graphos

February 1977 FEBRUARY

New Ulm, Minnesota 56073



Kris Wilner, left, and Bonnie Baack, right, point to Spanish cities they will visit in March while Lori Menk and Julie Blomquist observe.

Spanish students to cherish lifelong memories of trip

by Naomi Isenberg

"Adios! Good-bye!" will probably be heard quite frequently in the middle of March when thirteen students from New Ulm High School leave for a 17-day excursion to Spain.

The group of thirteen students, Tracey Besemer, Peggy Hoffmann, Lori Menk, Karee Rasmussen, Bonnie Baack, Julie Blomquist, Gretchen Schmiesing, Kristen Wilner, Patty Blackstad, Julie Burns, Wayne Roddy, Nancy Nupson, and Jamie Schleuder, are going on a travel program organized by I.S.E.

I.S.E., which stands for Intercultural Student Experiences, was created by some teachers as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization which provides a learning experience outside the classroom. I.S.E. organizes yearly trips to Spain, Germany, and France as well as some other domestic and foreign programs.

Going to Spain will involve work for the 13 Spanish students. Two years of Spanish are a prerequisite for the trip. They will have to make up missed school work. In addition there are passports to prepare, travelers' checks to get and, since most of the thirteen must pay for the trip themselves, money to be earned. Besides all those requirements, I.S.E. sends Spanish tapes and information sheets for the students to translate.

As a final preparation, I.S.E. will conduct an all-day seminar on January 29 to answer any questions the students might have.

On March 21 the Spanish students will depart for Madrid, the capital city of Spain, from Minneapolis International Airport. Once in Spain only Spanish can be spoken.

After spending two more days in Madrid, the New Ulm students and approximately 30 other students and three adult leaders will board Bus No. 6 and drive to Merida. The next day they go to the southeastern coastal city of Jerez, where each student will stay six days with a typical Spanish family.

March 30 marks the final day of the family stay in Jerez, and Sevilla is the next town on the itinerary. Two days later Bus No. 6 goes to Granada for another two days. San Pedro de Alcantara is the last stop where the students will stay for three days before flying from Malaga to begin their return home.

All of the students are understandably nervous. Many say their greatest fear is of the nine-hour plane ride.

Some are looking forward to seeing a bullfight; others want to swim in the Mediterranean while still others are anxious to meet their Spanish family.

The \$603 that each student must pay to I.S.E. might seem expensive at first, but it really isn't when one considers that the money pays for transportation, motel rooms and breakfast, the family stay and probably most important, lifelong memories of a wonderful experience.



Getting into the Spanish mood with castanets and maracas are Peg Hoffmann and Gretchen Schmiesing.

editorial

Aiming to win



by Johanna Johnson

New Ulm High School has a great variety of extra-curricular activities for students. In fact, we offer so many that it is often difficult for a student to decide on which few he can afford to spend his time. However, I think that we need to look closely at the actual goal or purpose of most extra-curricular activities.

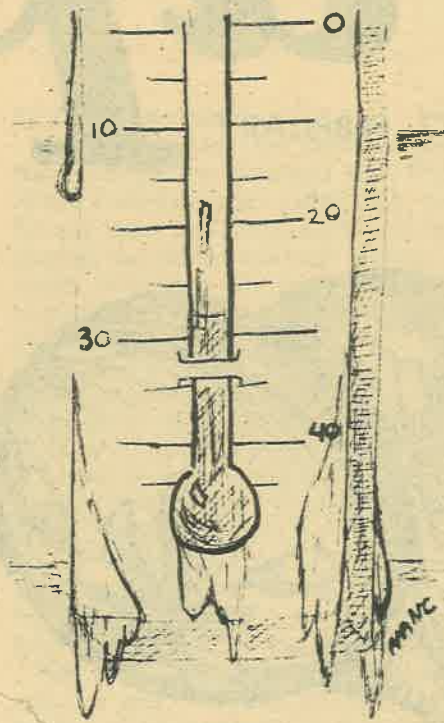
I feel that the original intent behind the vast majority of extra-curricular activities was to provide the participant with an enjoyable way of getting involved and learning different skills. Unfortunately, these original intentions are rapidly becoming lost behind one big goal, winning or excelling. There is a great deal of emphasis placed on the importance of winning at any cost. Granted, this over-emphasis on winning instills an important competitive drive in the participant. We all need some competitive drive. The problem is that this heavy emphasis on winning too often leads to an over-developed sense of competition, and this competition could lead to a great deal of trouble. For instance, it leads to the desire to win at any cost; any cost may involve cheating, unnecessary violence, or other methods of competing illegally or incorrectly.

Winning can become an obsession with some, and they simply aren't able to cope with losing. At a recent one-act play contest, there was a particular school with a very good play. They had obviously worked very hard on their play. They didn't advance to Region competition, however, but were named as the alternate school in case one of the others couldn't compete. Well, when the results were read, the entire cast burst into tears. How much stress on winning had their coach or the cast placed on each other? Instead of congratulating themselves for performing well, they were kicking themselves because they didn't win. Instead of remembering all of the fun they undoubtedly had during rehearsals, they were thinking all of their time had been wasted because they didn't win.

How about the resignation of coach Skip Davis? One of his prime reasons for resigning was that he didn't have a winning team. He thought that the guys deserved a chance to be on a winning team. Well, how about the good times that they had in football? How about the comradie of the team and the importance of good sportsmanship that they learned under Coach Davis? Are all of these things worthless simply because they didn't win? I don't think so.

I could cite many other examples, from this school and others, of how the true spirit of an extra-curricular activity is ruined by the overwhelming desire to win. It's high time we re-evaluate the true goals of our extra-curricular activities and do something to change them.

Dialing down makes 'cents'



by Scott Simkins

The record setting cold wave that struck Minnesota in mid January caused problems ranging from frostbitten fingers to rescheduling of school hours.

Each day the news media urged the population to conserve energy in a number of ways, but residents of New Ulm seemed unaware of the energy emergency.

On Tuesday, January 18, 1977, at the height of the arctic cold, *The Journal* published this paragraph: "New Ulm and area were as chilly as the rest of the state Monday night, but perhaps not as fearful of the consequences of the impending state energy emergency."

Reading through the article, one could conclude that there actually was no reason for alarm even though some Twin Cities firms were actually closing because of a lack of fuel. Thinking that New Ulm won't feel the effects of an energy emergency is a fallacy. Everyone should do his part to conserve energy so no drastic measures have to be taken.

Many people have again hinted that the energy crisis is a hoax. Well, the people at the helm of this "hoax" must have overwhelming influence. Residents were asked to turn down their thermostats to 65 degrees during the day, and some business places were rescheduling hours to conserve energy.

Why don't people quit making excuses and start doing something to help alleviate

a potential crisis. These people who don't accept the reality of an energy emergency are more than likely the ones who ignore the guidelines and suggestions handed down from our state agencies. In the process these people are depleting everyone else's supply of fuel while they sit in their tropical islet.

Even if the energy emergency would be a hoax, it makes good sense to "dial down" for our own good. While saving an invaluable commodity, we will be saving ourselves some cash on utility bills.

To help all of us do our part during this arctic winter, here are some popular and easy energy conserving tips:

- Probably the biggest energy eaters are home thermostats. Television commercials and newspaper advertisements have been telling us to dial down our thermostats to 65 degrees during the day and 60 degrees at night. According to doctors, dialing down is healthy. For those of you who need extra warmth, try another sweater or snuggle up.

- Another energy waster is the home itself. By insulating or adding insulation to our walls and attic, energy consumption can be cut dramatically.

- Housewives can do their part too, by washing full loads of clothes instead of a number of partial loads. Washing partial loads also puts a strain on water heaters.

- Dialing the water heater down to the "low" setting will mean less work for the heater and more energy for everybody else.

- The list goes on and everyone can get into the act. Forming car pools, filling air space in our homes, taking shorter showers, and weatherstripping doors will all help alleviate the energy emergency.

If everyone does his part, we will make it through this winter's energy emergency without taking drastic measures such as rescheduling our school weeks.

I am glad our school board did not reschedule school hours. A much better solution would be for everyone to do his part instead of trying to alleviate the problem in one big swipe.

If everyone does his part, we'll make it through the winter without undue hardship.

graphos

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For better or worse

Experiences shape individual

by Bernadine Hillesheim

Are you a better or a worse person for the experiences you've had? I set out to answer this question directly, but it can't be answered that way. The answer depends upon what kind of person you want to be.

You can stand outside of experience in school or your life. You can look at the people in the halls and say they're disgusting and you'd never want to be like them. Well, maybe the person you laugh at for frequently wearing the same clothes only has one or two different sets of clothes. And maybe the person who never smiles has many reasons not to. I think that a friendly hello would do more good

than to say to the person next to you, "Boy, is that person a bitch today."

If you see yourself in that above description, then your answer to my initial question is I'd be worse for the experience. I say so because you haven't taken in many of the things you could've. You'd rather not threaten the beliefs you've held for so long by trying to understand the people you consider different. Don't worry, you are not alone in this group. You can always say everyone else thinks your way too, but do you ever listen to those who don't?

You can let many experiences enter your life in and out of school. You have your beliefs planted firmly in your head,

but in your heart another belief is firmly planted. That is the belief that everyone has his reasons, and you can help him by trying to understand. When someone hurts you, try to understand his point of view. You may realize his reasoning makes some sense.

If you see yourself in the above description, your answer is you'd be a better person for the experience. I say so because you take in all the experiences you can even though it is difficult. Every once in awhile you'll want to say the heck with trying to understand. It is easier to ignore, but being an understanding person is much better than being ignorant.



Midwinter blues

by Ms. Marty Webb, Counselor

A prayer
to be said
when the world
has gotten you down,
and you feel rotten,
and you're too doggone tired
to pray,
and you're in a big hurry
and besides you're mad
at everybody.
HELP!

The above poem may well illustrate how you are feeling right now. And let me assure you, you aren't the only one!

I think we do have an energy crisis happening; but I'm not referring to the one that will cause us to turn down the heat and drive more conservatively. The real energy crisis is one of human energy. It seems that just about everyone I talk to is too busy, too tired, and just plain sick of doing anything from studying to watching TV.

Depression seems to be a rather timely topic for many newspapers and TV shows. In fact you may be sick of hearing how depressed you're supposed to be during January and February. But I'd like to take a closer look at this social disease afflicting the multitudes.

According to my Webster's, depression is characterized by "low spirits; gloominess; dejection; sadness... a decrease in force, activity." If we look at the whole picture though, usually we find that depression is prompted by some event—failing a test or losing a friend. Furthermore, depression continues because we believe that we're powerless to do anything about it other than suffer.

One alternative to this mopey-faced life would be for people to start taking

responsibility for their own lives. Too often we believe that we are powerless, that we don't really have control over our own lives. Certainly there are events over which we have little control, but it is not the event but our emotional reaction to it which causes the problem. It is quite normal for people to react to a loss or frustration with sadness or grief. However, when we let these emotions start running our lives, problems develop.

It is not easy to simply say, "That doesn't bother me," and believe it. However, we can do just that. Rather than living in a world of gloom, as though the whole world is collapsing upon us, we can stand up, take hold of our lives, and start making things happen for us, rather than letting things happen to us. It is when we feel we have control that things start looking brighter.

Easy to say, but not to do? You're right, and that's where the poem comes in. Sometimes the very best thing we can do when we're feeling down is to ask for help—from a friend, parent, teacher, counselor, or whoever fits you. The important thing is that you're acting; you are making a decision to reach out for help. I heard an appropriate quote the other day, "Life is not a test, so you don't have to be afraid or ashamed to ask for help."

If you're feeling down or just want to talk with someone, make your move. Ask someone for help.

This seems like an appropriate time to mention again the Peer Contact program Mr. Zeta and I would like to start. If you have questions concerning the program or are interested in helping, please check in the guidance office.

Carter's lust, Ford's falls make big news



by Barb Gitter

How would you like it if everything you did, everything you thought, everything you said was made public? If you were involved in any major type of political life, your whole life would be known by all.

How would you feel if most of your thoughts were published in a magazine or a daily paper? Politicians today seem to have no privacy whatsoever, and I feel that their lack of privacy is very wrong.

Does anyone really care about the little things they do? I don't care what Jimmy Carter gave Mrs. Carter for Christmas. I was listening to the news on Christmas Day and heard the announcer tell millions of people what she received for Christmas. I'm sure that information makes little difference in the way we feel about the Carters.

Too much time and attention is being spent on the personal lives of our politicians. The reporters and researchers could be using that time in doing something more important, meaningful, and interesting to the American people.

One instance which I feel was just totally absurd was Jimmy Carter's interview

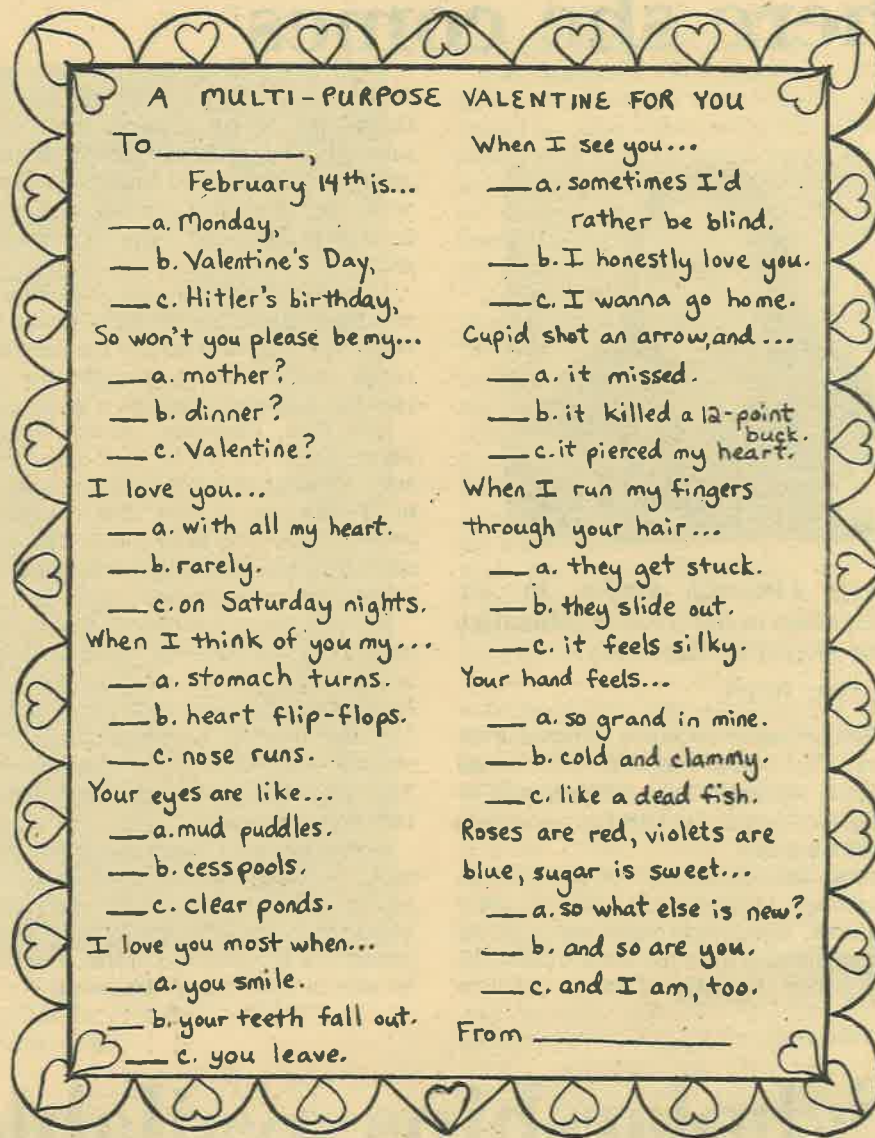
with a Playboy columnist. Only some of the results of the interview were made public in big headlines, namely Carter's admission that he had lustful thoughts.

Gerald Ford has also gotten his share of American publicity. We know how his golfing goes every time he decides to play. We know approximately how many times he fell down while skiing during his vacation. Does anyone really care?

I know that I will never marry any man who has the slightest possibility of being President of the United States because that is not the kind of life for me. I want a little privacy and be able to live my life without having millions of people knowing what I ate for breakfast or whether I slept in the same room or bed with my husband.

I agree that we have to be informed about the men who are to govern our country. We should know about their past experiences in politics and anything else that might help us decide which is the better man to vote for on election day. But I can't see why we should be informed about practically every detail concerning their childhood experiences. What they did in that time of their life is their own business. Whether they were a first-string baseball player or merely the water boy makes little difference regarding their qualifications to hold office.

Don't get me wrong. We need to look at how they feel about the issues and problems facing the country, but we do not need to know how many girl friends they had in high school.



Precious security quickly ending

by Matt Dahl

While wading through end-of-quarter makeup work a few weeks ago, it occurred to me that this school year is already half over. A year or two ago at this time, I rejoiced when I saw only four months of school ahead of me; however, as a senior this halfway point means something more. A thirteen-year-long episode of my life is coming to a close in May. In thinking about this ending, I have become aware of several things all of us — sophomores and juniors, as well as seniors—might want to consider.

Something which has saddened but not surprised me is the casual attitude most of us seem to have toward our school years. Very few seniors I know have openly expressed regret at leaving school. Many more appear to look forward to graduation, and some are already counting the days left. Student complaints are a universal part of school; we all hear tales of woe about bad teachers and boring classes. But there are always benefits to consider. School gives us a chance to extend ourselves academically, athletically, and socially. At the very least, it serves to pass the time with friends. Finally, one of the most important things to consider is the sense of security we get from having most of what we do mapped out for us by the school. There are no earth-shattering decisions to make; we follow the same comfortable routine with the same friends. But now seniors and some juniors are reaching the point where choices must be made. Many good friends will separate at the end of this year. While we may look forward to the future, we have reason to appreciate the past.

The security of our school days appears all the more precious when we look at the uncertain future ahead of us. After May the graduates will reach an important crossroad in life and will have to decide

which road to take. The need to decide often causes many seniors to mature very quickly. The luckier ones have already mapped out their decisions and have committed themselves to a college, a vocational school, a job, or a mate. Some, including myself, are waiting uncertainly to be admitted to a college. Still others just don't know what they want to do after graduation. Even after the choice is made and we have left this school, some of us will still want to return to our old, comfortable routine here. Around Christmas and Thanksgiving I noticed quite a few of last year's seniors roaming the halls looking up former teachers. But, sadly, few of us seem to realize how quickly the future approaches until it has already arrived. As a sophomore, my senior year seemed ages away. Now, however, it is half over almost before I know it. The future holds both pain and promise, yet it waits for no one.

What this essay boils down to is this: all of us—sophomores, juniors, and seniors—are nearing the end of what most of us will look back on as one of the best parts of our lives. This thirteen-year period of success, failure, happiness, sorrow, companionship, and security is coming to a close. And once it is over there will be no returning to it, ever. So I think we owe it to ourselves to make the best possible use of these last few months or years. They are a time to prepare for the future as well as a time to enjoy ourselves. Seniors, who see its preciousness all the more clearly, have little time left. But you underclassmen still have opportunities remaining. I sometimes wish that I had considered these opportunities a few years ago rather than now. I hope that some of you will not make the same mistake. There will be only one high school experience. Don't overlook the benefits and chances it offers.

Germany: here she comes



Lynn Ludewig smiles in anticipation of her year of education and travel in Germany.

by Vicky Helget

How are other countries different from ours? What is their way of life like? In late August, sophomore Lynn Ludewig will be going to Germany to find the answers to these questions.

Lynn was chosen to be our Foreign Exchange student from twelve other students. These young people had to fill out an application from the Rotary Club. The application consisted of many questions

dealing with family life and background. Out of the twelve students three were selected: Wayne Roddy, Jeff Hoffmann, and Lynn Ludewig. The final choice of who would get to go to Germany was made from these three, and Lynn was the lucky one.

Lynn felt one reason she was selected was because she has studied German for two years and understands the language rather well. She also thought her application responses counted a great deal.

New Ulm, Germany, is the location where Lynn will be for her nine-month stay. Although she will be missing an entire school year at New Ulm, her junior year will not have to be taken. The year spent studying in Germany will fulfill her junior year requirements.

The only worry Lynn has is that she will most likely get homesick. She has no fear of the plane ride to and from Germany because she has been on a plane before. Expenses won't be a problem either since she will be staying with a German family. The only thing she has to pay for is the air fare and her passport.

When Lynn was asked why she wanted to go to Germany for a year of study, she paused a long time before replying, "I guess just to see what the country is like and learn a different way of life. Also I will be able to meet many new people."

AFS needs host family

by Beth Schuetzle

Would you like to travel to a foreign land but feel that you just can't afford it? Wouldn't the next best thing to going there be having a part of that country come to you? By being a host family to a foreign or domestic AFS exchange student, you could see another country (or a part of your own country) through the eyes of a visiting teenager. In addition the visit will give you some insight on how our country or community appears to others.

Being an AFS host family merely requires a sincere desire to share your home with a teenager and the completion of application forms which are available from the local AFS Club. If there is a student applicant available who matches your family's personality and life style, you may be selected. AFS tries to send each student to a home in which he will easily fit into the family's everyday life. The only qualifications needed to host an AFS student are the ability to feed the student, and the student must have his own bed but not necessarily his own bedroom.

Some of the different family situations in which students have been happy are the following combinations:

- Families who are childless,
- Families who have no children the same age as the AFS student,
- Host parents who are quite young,
- Host parents who are of retirement age, and
- One-parent families.

It was my experience to be a host sister to New Ulm's first AFS student, Martin Roden. When we found out that he was coming, I was both scared and excited. As it turned out, I worried for nothing because Martin fit in perfectly with our family. After a few weeks of treating him like a guest, he became one of the family. He seemed like a real brother; he was always there to help gang up on my younger brother, to stick up for me, or just to talk out problems. We still think of Martin quite a bit, especially his word mix-ups. Although he spoke English well, he oftentimes mixed up words. For example, he called the garden hose "a water snake." Another time while he was planning a trip out west, he told us that he was going to the "Dark Forest." It took us quite a while to figure out that he had meant the Black Hills. While at Lewiston for the Short Term Exchange, we went to Rochester to see the Mayo Clinic. On the way back, Martin asked us why there was a "male clinic" and no "female clinic."

If you are interested in hosting an AFS domestic student for six months or hosting a foreign student for a year, contact Ms. Marty Webb. I would strongly encourage you to think seriously about hosting a student. It was a great experience for me. If you have any questions about hosting a student and the problems that may come up, I'd be happy to tell you about my experiences. Once again, I hope that you will consider being a host family. It's a great way to see the world.

Scholarships available to alert applicants

by Kathy Rathman

With the ever-increasing cost of post high school education upon us, most high school students welcome any financial aid they are eligible to receive. Though money will not magically reach those who desire funds, scholarships are available if one is alert and efficient.

One of the best ways to discover available scholarships is to write to the financial aid office of the post secondary institution you plan to attend. Most schools will inform students of institutional scholarships available in addition to funds from federal and state governments, corporations, private individuals, and other organizations.

The Guidance Information Service also informs students of sources of scholarship monies. After you complete a questionnaire that is processed through a computer, the Guidance Information Service

will notify you of scholarships for which you are eligible. The questionnaire contains many questions concerning your family background.

Many organizations and corporations award scholarships to members or sons or daughters of members. For example, the Catholic Aid Association offers \$500 scholarships to members who will attend a Catholic-affiliated college. The 3-M corporation awards scholarships, based on P-SAT scores, to high school juniors who are sons or daughters of 3-M employees.

The Basic Education Opportunity (BEOG) Program is a federal financial assistance program which awards grants to students from low to middle income families who will enroll in a post-secondary educational institution. Applications for the BEOG are available in the Guidance Office.

A number of scholarships are annually

awarded exclusively to New Ulm High School seniors. These grants are based primarily on high school achievement and future educational plans.

Several scholarships are given to worthy, needy students who will pursue training in a particular field. The Somsen Music Memorial and the New Ulm Farm City Hub Club Scholarship are awarded to students who will seek further training in music and agriculture, respectively. The Union Hospital Auxiliary offers a \$300 scholarship to a student wishing to become a registered nurse, while the Loretto Hospital Auxiliary awards a \$200 scholarship to a student who will pursue medical training for at least one year. Ozias Scholarships of \$500 each are awarded to two male students who will study manual arts at a vocational school. The Minnesota Association of Realtors awards five \$400 scholarships to students

with business potential.

The remainder of the local scholarships awarded annually to NUHS students are given on the basis of character, citizenship, need, and academic achievements. The Brown County Bankers Association presents a \$500 scholarship to a student living in Brown County who will attend a college or vocational school. The Mickelson Memorial Award is given to an outstanding language arts student who displays creativity in the fields of journalism, drama, debate, or declam. The \$500 George D. Erickson Memorial Scholarship, the Kernske Scholarship, and the State Bond and Mortgage Scholarship are awarded to needy students displaying sound character, citizenship, and academic achievements.

Applications and additional information concerning the scholarships listed above are available in the Guidance Office.

Did groundhog see his shadow?

by Susan Deming

Groundhog Day is held on every February 2. It is a time for forecasting weather for the next six weeks. This holiday was a custom brought to America by European immigrants.

Today, however, people simply glance out of their windows to see if it is sunny or cloudy. Supposedly, if the day is sunny, winter will continue for another six weeks. If the day is cloudy, winter will be over. However, on this day one always hears those catchy phrases like "Well, the groundhog didn't see his shadow today" or "It looks like six more weeks of winter—the groundhog must have seen his shadow today!" What do these expressions mean? Is there really a groundhog? Can a mere burrowing animal possess the power and the audacity to affect weather patterns? Or do these expressions merely derive

from a cruel fictitious children's tale? Maybe they are merely a figure of speech?

In support of the former theory, we might recall our childhood when scads of Groundhog Day propaganda were distributed. We were told stories about a cute, fuzzy, sleepy, little groundhog stumbling out of a deep winter's slumber only to be scared senseless if he caught sight of his shadow and thus inflict upon us six more weeks of winter.

Also, Groundhog Day is an old traditional belief passed from country to country which is still observed by millions. Most customs have their foundation or origin in some type of truth or basic philosophy.

Furthermore, in the early 1900's a group of merry wags living in and around Quarryville, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, organized the Slumbering Groundhog Lodge. On February 2, its

members don silk hats and carry canes and go into the fields seeking the burrow of a woodchuck. When one finds a burrow, he calls to the others and all assemble to await the wakening of the animal from hibernation and his emergence into the outer air. They watch his behavior and return to their village where they interpret and report his actions.

So perhaps groundhogs have some sort of ability or knack for influencing the weather. Stranger things have happened. Besides, how did they ever get connected with this holiday in the first place? Must not there have been some sort of incident to cause suspicion, start a rumor, or have an almost mystical belief in groundhogs or woodchucks? Maybe somewhere there is a groundhog who possesses the ability, by merely popping out of his hole, to control our winter weather. Anyone for groundhog watching?



Miss Mueller loves horsing around

by Terri Risuis

This is Miss Ellen Mueller — active, energetic, and exuberant — a fascinating example of poise, self-respect, and self-discipline. As a member of the NUHS faculty, Miss Mueller teaches girls' physical education, but as a person she is kind and understanding, always willing to help those who need it.

When asked if she enjoys teaching, she answered excitedly, "I love it! Teaching is just wonderful." Miss Mueller receives great satisfaction watching the girls in her classes develop self-respect and a desire to acquire more knowledge. She feels that these are wholesome traits for all girls to possess.

Miss Mueller has been teaching for thirty-four years. She began her teaching career at Lamberton and later taught at Redwood Falls. She has taught in New Ulm at two different times throughout her career. Miss Mueller previously taught here between 1947-1950; she then went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and taught at an all girls school for six years. In 1956 she returned to New Ulm and has been enjoying her occupation since that time. Over the years teaching has changed, but Miss Mueller noted, "In the past few years there has definitely been more stress put on learning sports and activities such as tennis, skiing, and golf which can be enjoyed for a lifetime."

Miss Mueller lives with her brother, a lawyer, in a beautiful house overlooking the city and the colorful ravine which leads to Westside Park. Miss Mueller, an extremely interesting conversationalist, is knowledgeable in several subjects and is especially interested in politics. She is fascinated by the political events which continually happen. Besides reading political material, she also spends a great



Girls phys. ed. teacher Miss Ellen Mueller enjoys equestrian activities throughout the year.

deal of time reading about horses. Horses have always been a very big part of Miss Mueller's life; she doesn't feel as if she is a complete person unless she has a horse to ride. Miss Mueller is very content

to ride her horses for show or informally on trails. Riding trails gives her a chance to meditate, think, and be alone with her horse, but riding in a horse show gives her an opportunity to concentrate on correct

techniques and perfect execution.

Miss Mueller's first experience with horses came from her uncle, a doctor, who retired his horse from making the medical rounds with him. He was a tricky horse and consequently taught her to be alert to the different moods of horses. She also learned the value of respect and kindness when training a horse.

During her high school years Miss Mueller owned and showed gaited horses. However, it was her ambition to own a registered Thoroughbred Hunter horse. It was during World War II when she purchased Prince Tuileries, a Thoroughbred gelding. Due to war-time restrictions, she was unable to show him.

Several years ago, Miss Mueller rode on the show circuit around the Twin Cities area. Her mount, Mr. Lucky, won the Hunter class at the Benefit Show for the Humane Society. She then qualified for competition at the State Fair. Miss Mueller was embarrassed to say that she was disqualified in the Appointments class for taking the wrong course after getting off to a beautiful start.

This fall Mr. Fleischhaker of Hunt Valley Farm presented Miss Mueller with a horse, called Tracer. He is a retired horse from the Royal Mounted Police of Canada. She uses the horse strictly for practice and rides it every day no matter what the temperature is. Early this spring she will be getting another horse which will be used just for showing. She is anxious for the summer competition to begin. According to her, "It is a hard life; one must often rise at 4:00 o'clock in the morning and drive long distances to the shows. But then again, the competition is very interesting. It gives me a sense of accomplishment when I take the course alone."

"King Kong" smashes records

The most exciting original motion picture event of all time



by Scott Stuckey

The movie has been billed by some as "The Show of the Year." Many call it a "tragedy" or a "love story" and even "a comedy," but many more look at it in the fashion of "genius." King Kong II is breaking box office records wherever it goes, and that's a fact.

The latest version of the 1933 shocker is far more complicated, organized, and mechanized. The '33 original had miniature settings and an ape to match, but the newest version offers a "giant" 40 foot creature, including specially colored Argentine horsehair, moveable eyes, legs, and knuckles. The ape takes one man to operate each knuckle, and several others to make him walk and carry on other "activities." The older Kong would be no match for the new "King Kong."

The movie starts as Jack Prescott, a Princeton anthropologist played by Jeff Bridges, stows away on an oil search expedition ship. He is found and brought to the ship's captain and executive Mr. Fred Wilson (played by Charles Grodin), who is in conference with his crew regarding their search for a large oil deposit.

A little bit later, you meet the damsel soon to be in distress, Dwan, played by Jessica Lange, who is almost in her beautiful black dress. She is the perfect answer to a sailor's dream. The crew and its added passengers continue to the mythical Skull Island with its deep jungle habitat and its very primitive tribe.

As the movie progresses, you will see the ape give Miss Lange a needed bath by holding her under a waterfall and then proceeding to blow her dry with his mighty breaths.

During the show, you will be humored with other oddities in action and speech. For example, Mr. Wilson seems to have

come prepared with everything, including his gray tailored jungle suit complete with shorts, hat, and hundreds of pockets. Miss Lange will also tickle your funny bone with quotes like, "C'mon Kong, this thing is just never gonna work, can't you see?" as the ape holds her in his hand. "Put me down you male chauvanist pig ape. Don't you know I'm afraid of heights?" she shouts.

But the movie also tries to offer some serious thoughts too. The young anthropologist brings out some of these ideas. Mr. Wilson sees pools of oil on the island and the dollar figures flash before his eyes. "You're an environmental rapist," says Prescott, but the oil turns out to need about 20,000 years of aging. Wilson then has the idea that if he can't bring the oil back, he will bring back Kong. He sees his oil company competing successfully with Exxon's "Put a tiger in your tank" campaign. Prescott replies, "The kids will burn every one of your gas stations from Maine to California." So, as you see, the movie is not just a farce or a comedy. It has something(?) to say.

Another angle of the movie is the "love story" between Kong and Dwan. It is hard to tell if the beauty is ever in love with the beast, but it is clear that the beast is in love with the beauty. His various temper tantrums aboard ship and at Shea Stadium demonstrate his love. Kong eventually carries his girl to the top of the World Trade Center's towers, where he is exposed to modern military warfare.

At the closing of the show, you feel that there should be some additional explanation. Did she really love Kong, and what is going to happen to Jack and Dwan? And have you seen someone's 24 million dollar spoof or the most thrilling picture you've ever seen? The questions are left unanswered.

NUHS sets stage for "Oklahoma"



Mrs. Carol Ackerson and Mr. Bruce Becker clarify their responsibilities in the upcoming production of "Oklahoma."

by Roxana Peterson

The drama and music departments at NUHS decided to pool their talents and energies to produce a musical. Preparations are already underway to present "Oklahoma!" later this spring.

"Oklahoma!" is a well-known comedy-musical centering around romance in the rural Oklahoma territory at the turn of the century. Presented on television several times, the last being January 15th, the show has great popularity and appeals to a large audience. The fact that the play is

familiar to so many people was one of the main reasons it was chosen.

"Oklahoma!" will have a large cast and involve a lot of work to be a success. Putting on a musical requires a great deal of organization and dedication, and much of this responsibility will fall on Mr. Bruce Becker and Mrs. Carol Ackerson, the directors, and Mr. Mike Roelofs, who is in charge of the production of the musical. Mr. Becker will primarily be involved with music direction while Mrs. Ackerson will act as overall director. The entire production will take about 2½ months of

preparation with practice beginning very soon.

"Oklahoma!" has 23 character roles (10 female, 13 male); six of these are considered the main or lead characters. The leads will have a greater involvement in the action, while everyone else will act in supporting roles. A chorus of 15 to 25 people will also appear, functioning as friends and neighbors in the story. They will accompany the leads with singing and dancing. Previous dramatic or musical experience is not necessary for student participation. Mr. Becker emphasizes that anyone may get involved. One of the purposes of the musical was to get more of the student body involved in a school production.

The play will involve some dancing. There was originally a ballet section, but this part is not necessary to the plot. Mrs. Ackerson says the ballet may be dropped because of the lack of ballet dancers. However, the square-dance scene, which many remember from the movie, will remain. The dances are simple and not very extensive.

Anyone who wishes to try out for a part in "Oklahoma!" should sign up for an audition in the music department or see Mrs. Ackerson. Auditions are tentively set for the week of February 7-11. Anyone trying out should prepare a solo from "Oklahoma!" or any other Broadway musical. You should provide your own accompanist, and you can pick up music from Mr. Becker. Mrs. Ackerson will then

evaluate dramatic potential. All those auditioning must read sections of dialogue. Reading will be done in groups. The results of these auditions will determine the cast.

"Oklahoma!" will naturally require instrumental background music. Mr. Becker will be directing a 15-20 piece orchestra which will play almost continuously throughout the play. Anyone wishing to join the orchestra should see Mr. Becker. All players will be chosen on Mr. Iverson's recommendation.

For those who are not interested in acting or singing, Mr. Roelofs will be looking for many persons to help with set construction, lighting, and stage crew. If you are interested, talk to Mr. Roelofs or Mr. Meyer, who will be in charge of the stage crew. Costumes are also necessary and will be made in some of Mrs. Heldberg's home ec classes.

"Oklahoma!" will be presented on three occasions, April 29th and 30th, and May 1st. The April performances will be on Friday and Saturday evenings, while the Sunday performance will probably be in the afternoon.

Everyone involved in the production is enthusiastic and optimistic of success. With the cooperation and support of the students, "Oklahoma's" success is assured.

Mr. Roelofs has one more thing to pass along. Anyone who just happens to have a surrey lying around (complete with the fringe on top) should contact him. Could it be that he doesn't want to build one?

Choosing colleges takes practice

by Dave Mildenberg

When I was beginning my confinement at NUHS (namely 10th grade), the thought always occurred to me that the entire process of choosing a college was being overdone, especially in the daily announcements. It seemed every day there was a deadline for the ACT, BEOG, FFS, SAT, PCS, or there was a representative from some school in upper Siberia. Why the big hassle over a decision of "Where am I going to learn to enjoy Bizet, Lord Byron, Homer and hopefully a vocation at the same time?" Well, I have learned!

Choosing a college is a lot like anything else. If you want to be good at it you have to practice. In other words, one must devote his time to reading college handbooks, studying for entrance tests, talking with those in college and, most importantly, visiting as many colleges as possible. Matt Dahl spent part of his summer traveling around the eastern United States visiting interesting colleges. In late October, Matt, Brian Schriener and I drove to Chicago and visited Northwestern University. We were all much more impressed by seeing the college than by reading literature sent from the school. Visits are crucial to an intelligent school selection.

The literature a high school senior is sent is another part of choosing a college. Of course each college is positive about itself (a gross understatement), but for me the innovative "propaganda" was the most interesting. One school enlisted several of its well-known graduates to tell their most memorable experiences from

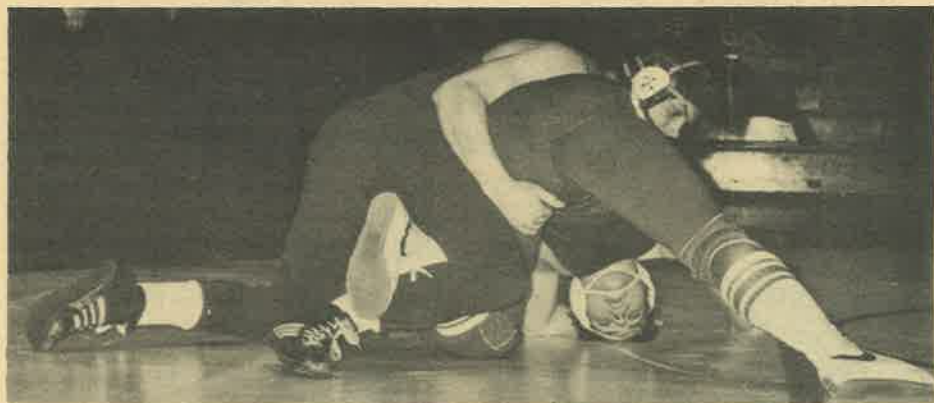
college. Not all were enthusiastic. One said life was so dull that the library was where the action was, yet the pamphlet gave a realistic look at a fine college.

Location of the university was an important factor for me. A friend from New York said I was the first person she ever heard of who wanted to go to a college in a big city. My brother, who goes to college in a city called "the land of colleges, cows and contentment," said he rarely knows the town exists he is so isolated. Yet a large city also can offer unlimited resources to the person wanting to tap them.

Costs of a college are also a major consideration. Tuition for colleges has skyrocketed in the past decade to the point where going to college can be as expensive a proposition as buying a home. I found in my discussions with admissions and financial aid officers that high costs must be looked at in two ways. One, the reason tuition is so high is that more and more scholarships are being given. This places a burden on those who must pay their own way completely. Two, if the student has the ability and a real desire to succeed, most colleges will work out a way so that he is able to go.

These are just a few of the many considerations one has to think about in order to decide which college suits his taste. From my very limited amount of experience, my best advice to future seniors is to set your goals high. Do not count out colleges because they sound "over your head." As a wise man once said, "Every man ought to aim at eminence, not by pulling others down, but by raising himself."

sports



John Dietz, New Ulm's heavyweight wrestler, appears to have his opponent in an upside-down predicament.

Wrestlers live with fear of injuries

by Bill Ostrom

Wrestling is a challenging sport that pits two men in a struggle to pin each other's shoulders to the mat. The wrestler uses many different maneuvers to escape the clutches of his opponent and to eventually pin him. In some cases the wrestler may overstrain himself or he may jam a joint while competing. Most of the injuries occur when he is working very hard to pin his opponent or escape from a possible pin. A few of the New Ulm wrestlers have been victims of injuries during their fight for victory this season.

Unlike some other sports, wrestling requires an injury-free competitor. For instance, if a basketball, golf, track, or football player has a slight muscle pull, he can still participate, but because wrestling requires the use of almost every muscle, a slight muscle pull means no competition.

The threat of injury constantly faces the wrestling team. When injuries occur,

oftentimes they affect one of the top-notch wrestlers. Steve Krause is one example. He is currently out with back trouble, and because he was an active member of the varsity, the Eagles are slightly weaker in Krause's weight class.

To be victorious wrestlers sometimes risk injury. A leg dive in order to attempt a takedown on an opponent may result in a muscle strain. However, if a wrestler enters his match with the fear of being injured, he may shy away from taking advantage of an opportunity and get pinned because of his hesitancy.

In conclusion, wrestling is a sport that requires not only finesse but also a rejection of the fear of injury. Much like a soldier who gets shot while fighting for his country, wrestlers oftentimes receive injuries for their hard work to produce victories at NUHS. Hail to the determined athletic warriors who bore injury during their battle for victory.



Robin Berg, captain of the girls gymnastics team, purses her lips as she anticipates impact with the pommel horse during one of her vaulting attempts.

Girl gymnasts look impressive

by Mark Fodness

Last year the NUHS girls' gymnastics team finished the regular season with a 10-1 record, won the South Central Conference title, and finished first in the Sub-Sectionals and Sectionals. They returned to the State Tournament for a second straight year and placed fifth out of eight teams.

This is an impressive list of accomplishments, one that would satisfy most teams. The success is especially satisfying to the Eagle gymnasts as they enter only their third year of interscholastic competition.

But this season the Eagles do not look to just duplicate their past performances; they hope to improve.

"Most of all we want to get back to the State Tournament," said Eagle coach Sandy Fritz. "We want to improve our score and move up a few places."

Several of the gymnasts conveyed similar interests but for different reasons.

Robin Berg, Karee Rasmussen, and Jean and Jane Spelbrink are the four seniors on this year's squad. Jean summed up their feelings about returning to the State Meet: "The four seniors really want to go back to State because we've been there twice before, and we know what to expect. We don't talk about it much but we all want to go back because we know what

we can do."

For freshman Patti Wieland, a trip to the State Tournament this season would be her first, and therefore it would hold a special meaning.

"I'd be excited if we went," said Patti. "I'd probably be more nervous than the other gymnasts because they've been there before and I haven't."

To get to the state meet the Eagles must overcome one large obstacle, the highly rated team from Fairmont.

Last season in the battle of the birds, the Cardinals handed the Eagles their only loss during the regular season. However, in the South Central and Sub-Sectional meets, the Eagles reversed roles eliminating Fairmont from further competition.

This year the gymnasts realize that Fairmont is again the only team capable of dashing their State Tournament hopes.

"Our biggest meet of the year is always with Fairmont," said captain Robin Berg. "We always do our best against them."

Robin's prediction came true when the Eagles had their first 100 point outing of the year to defeat Fairmont 103.35-100.85.

The win moves the Eagles to 4-0 on the season. For the Eagle gymnasts their next meet with Fairmont in the Sub-sections is the real start of their season.



Jean Spelbrink heads straight for the camera before vaulting from the pommel horse.

Demoralized cagers victory-starved

by Tom Rodenberg

For anyone who has remotely followed New Ulm High School basketball this year, it should go without saying that the team has not experienced a great deal of success. Nor have they showed any signs of renewed hope in early 1977. The sad part of this season is that the fan support is starting to run thin, the players themselves appear to be somewhat demoralized about the whole affair, and the present coach has decided to terminate his career following the conclusion of this season.

At this writing, the Eagles were sitting at the bottom of the South Central Conference with a 1-5 league record. The lone Eagle victory came when New Ulm pulled off an upset over the third place St. Peter Saints. The Saints appear to be a competent conference foe, and so far the Eagle

victory seems to be the only bright spot. In all previous contests, New Ulm has been defeated, usually in convincing fashion.

In a recent game the Eagles travelled to St. James and were convincingly defeated. St. James simply slowed down the game and completely flustered the Eagles' attack with their semi-stall game plan. Additionally, New Ulm could not seem to get set up against the full court pressure which St. James applied. The full court press has continually plagued the Eagles this season and has repeatedly been the turning point whenever the opposition has employed this tactic against New Ulm. It should be noted that if the Eagles could learn to move effectively against full court pressure, they could become more successful in the second half of the season.

It should also be stated that New Ulm has competed without two of its senior starters, and, for that matter, the Eagles

have not been at full strength all season long. Currently, two excellent ball-handlers, seniors Brian Shay and Kirk Gregg, are sitting out with injuries. Shay, New Ulm's top scorer, had been averaging fifteen points per game when he contracted mononucleosis. This sickness is expected to keep Brian out of action for an extended period of time (as you may have noted, his sports column is being filled by two other competent journalists), and his absence appears to be a major loss to the team. Kirk Gregg, New Ulm's bright playmaker, has been hampered all year by nagging injuries.

One bright spot, however, has been the fine performances of the underclassmen who have filled these vacancies. Kirk Gregg's injuries have given junior guard Tom Brethorst a chance to play while Joel Hartfiel, Bill Ostrom, Scott Werdahl, and Jon Brudeli have all played well at times this season. Recently sophomore Dave

Kaiser has been given a trial on the varsity squad and performed very well at center where the Eagles have needed help. The play of these underclassmen is a bright spot on the horizon for NUHS basketball.

But with the repeated losses, the fans' patience has worn thin. The attendance at some of the recent home games has been noticeably sparse, and many of the fans are now travelling to out-of-town events in other sports instead of attending a local basketball game.

The lack of fan support and numerous "wise-cracks" directed toward the team members has created a defeatist attitude.

Further demoralizing the cagers has been the announcement by coach Jim Senske that he will terminate his coaching career at the conclusion of this season. This blow is sure to be an added burden to the victory-hungry Eagles. What New Ulm now needs is some positive fans and a few wins.



Brian Meyer, 19, battles for possession of the puck with an Austin player during an 8-1 Eagle victory.

Eagles bump Saints in OT New Ulm seeking championship

by Tom Wyczawski

The odds of New Ulm High's hockey team reaching the Minnesota State High School Tournament are rather slim, but the way coach Tom Macho has his players playing, the unthinkable may become a reality. With the season just over the half-way mark, the icemen from New Ulm are 10-1.

New Ulm's biggest win so far would have to be their 5-4 overtime victory over arch-rival St. Peter. The Eagles won when Paul Macho scored in overtime. Last year St. Peter cost New Ulm a spot in the regional playoffs with a 3-2 heartbreaking loss in sudden death overtime. During the regular season, the teams split their games with identical scores each time. New Ulm ended last season's competition with a 17-2 record.

With a stronger bench and more team play this year, New Ulm will be looking forward to more success in this year's playoffs.

The team goals for the first half of the season have been about two goals per game less than last season. Last year's average was around 8 goals per game

compared with about 6 goals a contest for this year's team. Goaltenders Bryan Dahl and Jeff Schugel have given up an average of 2 goals per game compared with last year's 3 per game average. A large portion of the low scoring has been due to New Ulm's defensemen Dean (The Dream) Laraway, Scott (Short Hair) Fischer, Scott Simkins, Paul Macho, and Bill Fischer.

Leading scorer for the Eagles has been Senior Captain Tim Steinbach, who in 10 games has 20 goals with 9 assists. The 20 goals include four hat tricks (three goals in one game).

At the time this article was being written, New Ulm has a 7-1 record in the Minnesota Central Prep Hockey League with 6 games left. The Eagle icemen hope to avenge their 3-2 setback against Red Wing when they meet later in the season. Red Wing scored with 30 seconds left to hand New Ulm its only loss of the season so far. Red Wing tied St. Peter, and New Ulm beat St. Peter, so if New Ulm wins its remaining 6 conference games, it will become the conference champs. This possibility is a very probable reality.

Humor keeping girls BB bouncing

by Kirk Gregg

So far this season the New Ulm basketball teams haven't shown results equivalent to the UCLA Bruins or the Boston Celtics, but as Laverne and Shirley would say, "We've got high hopes."

Even though the school's teams are trying to maintain high hopes, the morale at times is a little low.

Despite the losing record, this season girls' basketball has had its share of humorous incidents that won't be forgotten. Here are just a few of the non-sensical happenings during the girls' practices:

First of all, somebody has to talk to Lori Suedbeck. She's got to start eating dinner; her blacking out in practice from lack of nutrition just isn't necessary. Also, somebody has to tell her to stop wearing

those socks that have separate little holes for her toes. The rest of the team is getting embarrassed when her shoe comes off while spectators are watching.

If one is getting sick from not eating dinner, we've another getting sick from eating dinner, but we won't tell who that is, will we, Sara Kiecker? Don't worry about Sarah though. She will certainly end up laughing at her misfortune. They say she laughs at everything.

Poor Joann Steinbach accidentally got a bloody nose from Cindy Hoffrogge. Good ol' Hoffrogge thought she was going to go unpunished, but she was wrong. One day coach Sparrowgrove was showing Cindy how to run an offensive pattern but coach accidentally fell on her. She learned!

There are two nicknames on the team that sound like they could be somewhat related: "The Center" and "The Big D." If you ever see the Center (Kay Buysee)

stand next to the Big D (Chris Domeier) you would clearly see that they don't look anywhere related.

Everyone knows accidents will happen. JoAnn could get a bloody nose from anyone, anywhere. Cindy could get sat on by anyone, and everyone knows that the basketball slipped out of coach Sparrowgrove's hand when Kay Buysee got hit in the rear.

Motivation is a major part in a coach's approach. In the girls' basketball practices, coach Sparrowgrove lets motivation take the form of running. When he thinks the girls are not performing up to their ability, they run. The girls like to call running lines something more realistic, like "meatgrinders," but don't get coach Sparrowgrove wrong. He's a rather nice fellow. All the girls agree he gives the best ankle wraps, right girls?

Coaches sometimes even get in good

moods. The B squad girls wish that assistant coach Ferret would become a father more often. He's been real pleasant lately.

Let's be serious for awhile and think of all the time coaches put into coaching kids in our school. They take time away from their families to spend time with us. If the thought that coaches are paid enters your mind, then also realize most coaches spend more time than is necessary for their salary. And money can never take the place of the time spent away from their families. Many times when the team loses, the coach takes the loss hard. As a result, the frustrations of the coach often falls upon his family, and they surely aren't paid.

So no matter where the record stands for any sport, let's keep our sense of humor, and appreciation for those who work with us kids.

Bits from B.S.

(Editors' Note: Brian Shay has been ill. Larry Gluth and Tim Steinbach have written his column for this issue.)

by Larry Gluth and Tim Steinbach.

Girls' basketball has proven to be somewhat of a disappointment this year, and the games have been anything but exciting. The girls' biggest problem seems to be a basic inability to perform the fundamentals of the game. Up to this point the Eagle girls have been plagued by far too many turnovers, and adding to their woes, they haven't been able to score enough points to beat a basketball team from the geriatrics ward of the hospital. The Eagle gals must also learn how to play as a team if they hope to win some games this year.

Hats off to Eagle hockey coach Tom Macho and the rest of the Eagle pucksters. Although they have a very young team this year, the hockey Eagles have roared out to another fantastic start. Their only loss

came at the hands of Red Wing, but other than that one loss the team has played exciting hockey. After a couple of mediocre performances, including the loss to Red Wing, the icemen have played superbly in their last few games. The Eagles defeated St. Peter 5-4 in overtime and then pounded Montgomery 11-1. They recently skated past Austin 8-1 in a very rough game.

Some credit for this early success must go to the fine youth hockey program here in New Ulm. There has also been fine leadership from seniors Tim Steinbach, Scott Simkins, Brian Meyer, and Jim Schwarz. Add to that experience some very fine youth, such as the Macho twins, and it looks as if the hockey Eagles will end up with another fine year. Hopefully the pucksters will be able to advance farther in tournament play this season. It would be great watching the Eagles at the Met Sports Center come state tournament time this spring.

Another bright spot in an otherwise so-so winter sports picture is the girls' gym-

nastics team. It looks as if the girls will make their third straight state tournament appearance. So far the girls are undefeated and have not had any real tough competition. But that will soon change. Fairmont (who else?) looks to be the Eagles toughest competition this year.

The Eagle gals are led by seniors Robin Berg, Jean and Jane Spelbrink, and Karee Rasmussen. The gymnasts also show a lot of depth with many younger girls showing a lot of poise and class. It should prove to be another interesting and successful season for the girl gymnasts. Hopefully they will improve on last year's fine season.

Some N.U.H.S. sports are having a tough time winning this year. The football team's season seems to have set the pace for the rest of the sports year.

The boys basketball team is really having its problems and was still looking for its second win of the season as of this writing. The bounce of the ball just hasn't been with the Eagles. They have been plagued with injuries. Since Kirk Gregg

injured his back early in the season, he has seen limited action. The recent loss of forward Brian Shay with mono also hurt the Eagle attack. Shay should be returning shortly.

Mr. Jim Senske, the boys head basketball coach, has also called it quits at the end of this season. Senske has been around a long time at N.U.H.S., but he has decided that coaching basketball and baseball required too much time away from his family. The highlight of his career as basketball coach was his team's appearance in the state basketball tournament 2 years ago.

After a good start the wrestlers also have run into some problems. They have a tough schedule and some of their losses were to ranked teams like Mankato West. They also have had several injuries. Senior Steve Kraus pulled some muscles in his back and senior Jim Burdick suffered a broken wrist in practice. Mr. Rich Peterson is currently trying to get his wrestlers back on track to end the season in winning form.