

THE TORCH

The Kennedy Newsmagazine/30 November 1976/Vol. 12, No. 3

HEADLINES:

- Homecoming relived in photos (News, page 2)
- Calming Christmas fears (Cover story, page 3)
- Polling the vices (Feature Focus, pages 4-5)
- Portrait of an IM athlete (Sports, pages 6-7)
- Seniors lacking Merits (Opinion, page 11)

Clarifying the touchy question...

...of mixing Christmas and choirs



Schirmer's Editions of Oratorios and Cantatas

SERIES THREE

Matthew, J. M. The Shepherd of Bethlehem	105
Mendelssohn, Felix Elijah	106
Mendelssohn, Felix The Wedding Cantata	107
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	108
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	109
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	110
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	111
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	112
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	113
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	114
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	115
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	116
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	117
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	118
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	119
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	120
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	121
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	122
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	123
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	124
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	125
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	126
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	127
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	128
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	129
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	130
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	131
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	132
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	133
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	134
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	135
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	136
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	137
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	138
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	139
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	140
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	141
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	142
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	143
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	144
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	145
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	146
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	147
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	148
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	149
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	150
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	151
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	152
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	153
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	154
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	155
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	156
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	157
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	158
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	159
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	160
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	161
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	162
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	163
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	164
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	165
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	166
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	167
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	168
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	169
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	170
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	171
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Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	178
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	179
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	180
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	181
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	182
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	183
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	184
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Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	200
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Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	206
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	207
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Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	221
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	222
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	223
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Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	244
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	245
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	246
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	247
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	248
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	249
Mendelssohn, Felix The Hebræid	250

Schirmer's Editions of Oratorios and Cantatas

THE MESSIAH

An Oratorio
For Four Part Chorus of Mixed Voices
Soprano Alto Tenor and Bass Solo
and Piano

by
G. F. HANDEL

Edited by
T. TERTIUS NOBLE

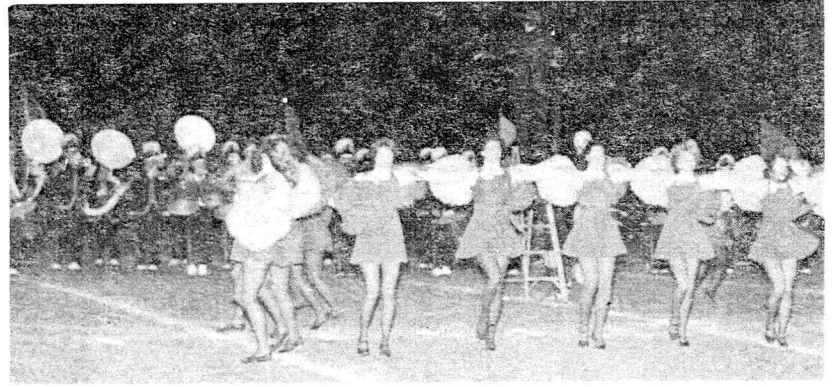
Revised According to
Handel's Original Score by
QUAX SPICKER

- Original score complete \$1.50
- Original score complete with piano accompaniment \$2.50
- Original score complete with piano accompaniment and vocal soloists \$3.50
- Original score complete with piano accompaniment and vocal soloists and piano \$4.50

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New York

Glances at Homecoming

Top left: Senior Attendant Wendy Kanne congratulates a happy Queen Brenda Anderson after Coronation. Lower left: King John Tabone is greeted by Junior Ambassador Betty Dahle while Coronation Narrator Dave Knutson looks on. Center: Junior banana eaters place second at pepfest contest as Chuck Engberg proves no one can eat just one. Lower right: The Eagle Marching Band and Kolleens perform during half time at the Homecoming football game. Center right: Enthusiastic juniors and seniors show their spirit.



ONCE AROUND THE SCHOOL

Torch shines again!

For the seventeenth consecutive semester **The Torch** has been ranked All American, the highest rating available to a high school publication, by the National Scholastic Press Association. **The Torch** was given Marks of Distinction in the five judging categories of Coverage and Content, Writing and Editing, Editorial Leadership and Opinion Features, Physical Appearance and Visual Communication, and Photography, Art and Use of Graphics.

'Tis almost the season

Kennedy's Concert Choir, JB Singers, Sensations, and Variations will present their annual Holiday Show at 8 p.m. Dec. 9, 10, and 11, and at 2 p.m. Dec. 12. The show will be presented in the auditorium and will be under the direction of **James Bontrager**. Tickets are on sale at the school ticket window from 7-8 a.m., 11-12:30 p.m. (during lunch), and from 2:30-3 p.m. Admission is \$2.75 for adults and \$1.75 for students.

Close usually counts in horseshoes

Students who have been commended for their outstanding performance on the PSAT/NMSQT in 1975 are **Julie Birkelo, Mark Casper, Debra Rogneby, Julie Schmid, Eric Schultz, Terry Sjöholm, and Phillip Smith**. These students' names will be given special consideration for financial aid.

And the winner is . . .

Kennedy students were out of step with the statewide and national vote on Nov. 2 when in a school mock election 50.5 percent of the Kennedy vote went to **President Ford**, and 46.5 percent was cast for **Gov. Jimmy Carter**. Students generally followed area voting patterns in other contests, however, when they gave 79 percent of their votes to **Senator Hubert Humphrey** and 79 percent to Third District **Congressman Bill Frenzel**. In other local races, students gave 88 percent of their votes to former Kennedy student **Bob Benedict** in the State Senate contest in District 38 and 59 percent to **Bob Lindgren** in the House of Representatives contest in District 38B.

PACESETTERS



Patty Meyer, senior, was stage manager for this year's musical, "Bye Bye Birdie." Patty's jobs consisted of constructing props, sets, and helping to run the show backstage. "Patty has done an absolutely excellent job," said Lee Engler, director.



Dave Oster, junior, has been elected as student president of the Ski Club. Traditionally, the club has been Kennedy's largest and Dave hopes to get more students involved. He'll also try to work up enthusiasm at pre-season meetings.

Of choirs and Christmas music

Darkness engulfs the audience; slowly the lights are brought up. Assembled on the stage is the Kennedy mass choir, in place for the last selection of their Holiday Concert. The orchestra strikes a chord and with spirit and emotion; the choir begins a rendition of "Over the Rainbow." Possible? Yes. Probable? No.

This fall, some students, parents, and faculty members have shared the misconception that Christian-oriented Christmas music would be limited or sacrificed altogether in the choirs' annual Holiday Show. This is not the case.

Some changes — all voluntarily made by Director James Bontrager — came as a result of recommendations by last year's Intercultural and Non-Sex Bias Citizens Advisory Committee. Dropped were the song "Why Isn't Everybody Singing Allelu?" and selections from "The Messiah," as well as a Mexican scene that included a manger. That Nativity scene is specifically prohibited by the 1974 Religion in the Schools policy adopted by the School Board. Except for these changes, the show will go on as planned.

Nevertheless, many misconceptions have grown out of these cuts. Some people have been led to believe, through rumor and misinformation, that the Intercultural and Non-Sex Bias Committee is singling out and censoring Kennedy's programs. In truth, the committee works only in an advisory capacity to the School Board and the Human Rights Commission. The committee only has the power to make recommendations to these groups and not to censor individual programs.

According to Harold Childers, committee chairperson, the committee is striving for awareness of ethnic groups during the holiday season and not for the outright suppression of Christmas activities in the schools.

Still, there have been questions raised regarding the structure and scope of the committee. It consists of two Blacks, two Orientals, two Spanish Americans, two American Indians, two people of the Jewish faith, and a feminist, in addition to various school officials who serve on it, according to Roger House, Contemporary Issues teacher and former member of the committee.

According to School Supt. Fred Atkinson, the committee is required by state law, and the make-up of it is governed by the same law. Further investigation with the State Dept. of Education revealed that the committee was established in response to a guideline issued by that department in conjunction with the State Dept. of Human Rights. Formation of such a committee is recommended by those departments, but not officially required by law.

The Human Rights Dept. also recommended that certain minorities be included on such a committee, but there was no stipulation made regarding a strictly minority-membered committee, such as the one Bloomington has.

Bloomington's School Board has been advised by its attorney, Kingsley Holman, that state rules and regulations issued by the State Dept. of Education or Dept. of Human Rights have the "force of law," according to Don Heinzman, school-community relations director. The suggestion to have an intercultural committee did not come in the form of a rule or regulation, however, but rather as a guideline.

Scope and activities of the committee

Since the Board chose to have an intercultural committee, in effect the intercultural committee has taken a quasi-legal stature. Its recommendations, if adopted by the Board, tend to have the force of law locally. According to Mr. Childers, the committee was formed to and indeed does work on creating a greater awareness of ethnic or minority groups in the district. During its five-year existence the committee has performed such functions as listening to complaints from citizens about racial or discriminatory remarks or incidents, studying existing curricula and instructional materials to determine what should be acceptable to the ethnic community, and reviewing religious policies and religion in the curricula in an attempt to add balance to the programs.

Determining religious balance

Deciding what determines religious balance has aroused a measure of interest at Kennedy. According to Mr. House, it is first necessary to determine the intent of a program, whether used with an academic course or in an extracurricular presentation. "If the intent is to indoctrinate, then it is wrong. If the intent is to educate, then it should be right," he said.

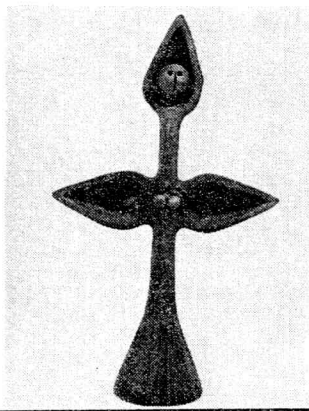
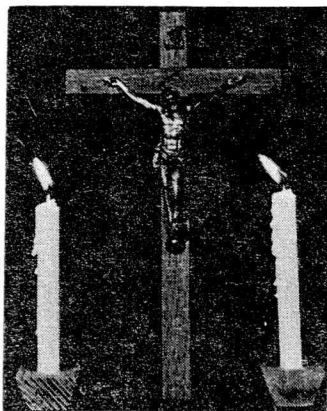
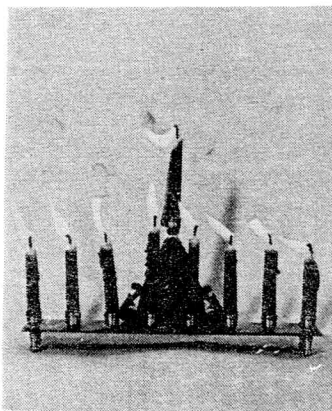
Recently, the committee released a clarification of Regulation 6190 which deals with religion in the schools. Contrary to what is believed by many, the clarification asks for no great changes, even in Kennedy's Holiday Show. "The interpretation of the original policy at the local level was unknown. There wasn't enough concern," said Mr. Childers. "The clarification did nothing more than define the original policy," he said.

Basically, the clarification asks for a redefinition of balance and a re-emphasis of "educational relevance" in religious programs. It specifies that an effort should be made to create a greater sensitivity to individual religious and non-religious backgrounds of students by staff members, that activities or programs of a holiday theme should reflect "variety or diversity," that and elementary classroom activities should avoid having a particular holiday or seasonal theme throughout the complete school day. The clarification makes no reference to specific areas of interest, such as holiday concerts.

Thus, the Kennedy Holiday Show never really was the object of committee concern this year, though in the future the committee will continue to strive for that elusive concept of religious balance in all school programs on any level.

—Julie Schmid

Religious symbols reflect a diversity of belief or disbelief. At left is the Jewish Menorah used for Hanukkah, in the center is the Christian Crucifix, and on the right is a modern Czech symbol for atheism.



Central to the question of religion in the schools is the consideration given to holiday and other programs which teach about various beliefs but which do not consciously make judgments about the different beliefs.

The Student and Drug Use

Five years ago, drug use among high school students was what headlines were made of. Today, drugs seem to have lost the spotlight, even though 250 respondents to a **Torch** poll indicate that the problem deserves major attention. According to the **Torch** poll, 35 percent of Kennedy's students are regular users of illegal drugs.

By far, marijuana is the most commonly used drug by those students, as 100 percent of the respondents who use drugs regularly smoke pot. Thirty-three percent of the users indicate that they use pills (amphetamines, barbiturates, etc.), while another 30 percent use hard narcotics, such as heroin and cocaine.

For most of these users, (72 percent), drug experiences began in their junior high years, while only 28 percent began using drugs since they came to Kennedy. Forty-three percent of the student

users believe their parents know that they use illegal drugs, while only 10 percent think their parents have also tried illegal drugs.

About a quarter (26.5 percent) of the student users use illegal drugs more than once a week, while another 20 percent use drugs about once a week. Most of the users (86 percent) are with a small group of friends when they smoke pot or use other drugs. Fifty-four percent indicated that they commonly use drugs at parties.

While 55 percent of the users said they sometimes use drugs at home, slightly more (55 percent) use drugs at school, 59 percent do so at concerts, and 29 percent use drugs where they work.

Thirty-three percent of the respondents say they make their contacts to buy drugs in the school building, while the others buy their drugs at a variety of places, including at friends' homes, on the streets, and "anywhere the time is right."

Even though about one-third of Kennedy's students seem to be using drugs, 77 percent indicated that they consider their drug use as just a way of having fun, while only five percent think their drug use has become a habit.

The Student and Smoking

Smoking has plagued Kennedy students since the school's opening, and this year is no exception. Thirty-two percent of the 250 respondents to a **Torch** poll on student smoking habits indicated that they are regular smokers, and nearly all of these smokers said they smoke in school.

Twenty-eight percent of the students polled said they smoke 6-10 cigarettes per school day. Twenty-seven percent smoke 10-15 cigarettes per day. There are 51 percent that smoke from 11 cigarettes to three packs per day.

Fifty-one percent of the student smokers smoke during lunch, and before and after school on school grounds. Nineteen percent smoke after every hour of class, while 18 percent smoke during school hours while skipping class. Twenty-one percent smoke before and after school, and before and

during class. Only 14 percent of the smokers said they never smoke on school grounds.

Student smoking habits do not seem to be causing major problems at home, as 50 percent are allowed to smoke in their homes, 62 percent said their parents know they smoke, and 56 percent come from homes where the parents themselves smoke. Only 17 percent said their parents would be upset if they knew their children are smokers.

Most students (61 percent) started smoking in or before seventh grade. Thirty-one percent said they began smoking because their friends smoked, and 41 percent said that once they tried smoking, they liked it and continued to smoke.

For 45 percent of the student smokers, smoking is "something to do," while another 31 percent consider it a dirty habit. Only five percent said that they think smoking is "sophisticated."

Cigarette smoking seems likely to continue to be a major problem at Kennedy, with one out of every three students claiming to be a regular smoker, and 82 percent doing their smoking on school grounds.

Help comes in many forms for

A world of lies and shame, of guilt and anger . . . a place in which existence revolves around a bottle or a handful of pills . . . this is the life of a chemically dependent person.

Jim Rothenberger is an instructor on chemical dependency at the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota. He believes, as do many other authorities, that chemical dependency is not a weakness, but an illness. Individuals cannot control their behavior or actions and are considered very sick. They need professional help.

Obtaining help is not the hard part, but realizing that help is needed may be extremely difficult. Alcoholics Anonymous, (A.A.) a free service to alcoholics and their families, uses this realization ("We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol, that our lives had become unmanageable") as their first step to recovery.

This admission of the need for help is not easily obtained, according to Marcia Schindel, a former employee of the American Chemical Dependency Center and a recovering chemically-dependent person herself. She believes that it is difficult for many to face chemical dependency because they are afraid to face the pain they have caused themselves and others, and they are also afraid to take the responsibility for their actions. "The relationship between a person and a chemical is stronger than one between two people," she said. "It is a love relationship; they do not want anything to interfere with the chemical and themselves."

There are several different types of treatment, depending on the severity of an individual's illness. Treatment for adolescents is basically the same as it is for adults. To determine the type of

treatment needed, a diagnostic interview is given first. Some chemically dependent young people may take advantage of the inpatient treatment. This is for those who cannot function in daily life without the use of a chemical. Such dependent persons usually go through detoxification first and then attend lectures and group therapy aimed at learning how to cope with the dependency problem. The length of the inpatient service is approximately one month in duration. Once out, such individuals become involved with A.A. or similar groups.

Another type of treatment is the day service. One half of the day consists of school and the other half is group therapy. This type is mainly for the individuals whose dependency problem surfaces mostly during the school day.

There is also a night outpatient treatment which could involve A.A. or another chemical-oriented group. These usually last a couple hours a week or more, and are basically for the student whose problem is focused on the time after school.

Cost for treatment varies with the center and the type of service. The average cost of a non-hospital, residential treatment is approximately \$30 a day. The day service cost is about \$12 per day, and the outpatient is generally free.

According to Mr. Rothenberger, "Cost should not be a reason for not seeking treatment." He believes there are ways of getting the money. One way is through insurance companies. Many are now paying the cost of treatment of their employees or their immediate families.

There are approximately 400 treatment centers in the Twin Cities

The Student and Drinking

For about 48 percent of Kennedy's students, "drinking" is not limited to milk, Pepsi, or orange juice. Nearly half of the 250 respondents to a Torch poll on drinking habits indicated that they either occasionally or regularly consume alcoholic beverages.

Another 33 percent of the students have tried alcoholic beverages but do not drink regularly, and another 19 percent never have drunk liquor at all.

When 77 percent of the student drinkers get together with friends at parties, drinking is usually the main activity. Sixty-six percent of the student drinkers said they drink because they consider it a way of having fun.

Beer is the most popular alcoholic beverage for 86 percent of the Kennedy drinkers, though 58 percent also drink hard liquor. Southern Comfort, a brand of whiskey, was named by 36

percent of these students as their favorite.

With beer being the least expensive alcoholic drink as well as the most popular drink, about one-half of the students get by with spending \$2 or less per week while another 39 percent spend only about \$5 per week on alcoholic beverages.

As is the case with illegal drugs and smoking, most student drinkers (59 percent) began drinking in junior high years. Sixty-four percent said they were influenced to drink by their friends.

Although 21 percent of the student drinkers usually drink to get drunk, and another 45 percent sometimes do so, nearly 40 percent said they never have guilt feelings after becoming intoxicated. Twenty-eight percent have such guilt feelings only occasionally.

Even though 19 percent drink more than once a week and another 2 percent could be classified as heavy drinkers (by drinking once a day or more), 99 percent of the students who drink feel their drinking is something they can handle. They do not consider their drinking to be a problem, which needs attention.

FEATURE FOCUS

Smoking regarded by two as an issue of conflicting rights

Panic stricken by the thought of being in school without my make-up on, I made a mad dash to the bathroom in hopes of finding some empty mirror space. I knew that I was near when I spied the London fog rolling around the corner. Desperate as I was, I had second thoughts, but I took a deep breath and groped my way in. Tension seemed to build as I made my way to a mirror; it seemed like I had stepped into a land of taboo, where people who don't smoke aren't allowed.

It was a bad day to begin with. I had tests galore and every teacher was breathing down my neck. I realized I just had to have a cigarette. I began counting the minutes until class would be out. Suddenly, beads of sweat began accumulating on my forehead and my need for a cigarette was beginning to show. After the bell rang, I ran down the hall to the bathroom. By the time I arrived, the bathroom was already jammed full of people. Now all I had to do was light up and join in the gossip because I had a feeling of belonging in this group.

I exit with eyes smarting, lungs protesting, and clothes reeking. After returning to class I feel my anger rising. Why should a minority of people be allowed to impose the side-effects of their smoking habits on the majority of people? Something should be done right away to correct this problem. Either teachers should be assigned to patrol the bathrooms, armed with the power to inflict severe penalties for smoking, or a smoking area should be provided for smokers. Either way, the lavatories should be cleared of smokers.

Finishing my cigarette I race off to class, conscious of the sneering looks that greet me when people smell smoke on my clothes and breath. That's when my anger begins, as I wonder once again why I should be the object of ridicule just because I choose to smoke. It's my decision to do so, and I should be allowed to have the privilege of smoking just as the teachers do. Society allows me to smoke everywhere else; why not here?

the dependent

area. Those closest to Bloomington are the Chanhassen Treatment Center, Fairview Southdale Hospital Treatment Center, Linville Treatment Center just outside of Shakopee, and a new center being constructed in St. Louis Park.

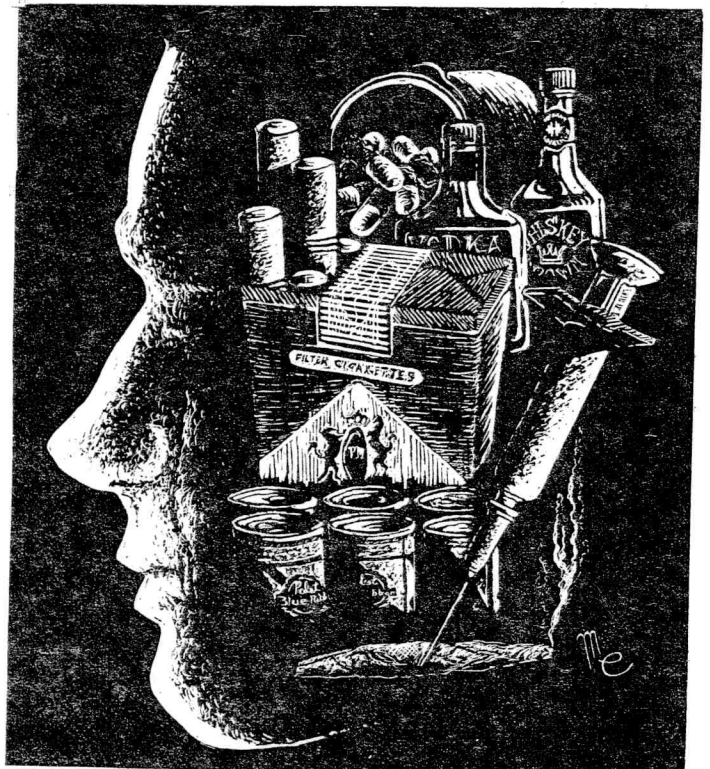
If the person seeking treatment is a minor, he/she may still receive help without the consent of parents. Minnesota law provides a minor consent act stating that any individual may commit himself into treatment regardless of age.

Addicts or alcoholics are not suddenly cured after treatment. Many continue to attend outpatient groups where they have someone who understands what they are going through and share their problems and anxieties.

Support of the counselors and that of the other members help in rebuilding the self image of chemically dependent persons so they can cope with life without the use of a mood altering chemical.

There are ten basic questions a user of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco can ask himself to determine if a dependency problem exists. Alcohol is used as the example below, though the same signs apply to other substances: (1) Am I preoccupied with being able to drink? (2) Can I drink more than others and still function well? (3) Do I gulp drinks or take doubles? (4) Do I make a habit of drinking alone? (5) Do I use alcohol as a medicine to relieve tension or anxiety? (6) Do I have blackouts after drinking? (7) Do I have a bottle hidden somewhere? (8) Do I drink more than I had planned? (9) Do I have morning tremors? (10) Do I need a morning drink to help myself over a hangover?

--Mary Ellen Egan



Athletes get their kicks, punts, bumps from Ir

She knows all the facts of Woody Hayes' '75 Big Ten Champions (Ohio State) and her favorite collegiate player was Heisman Trophy winner, Archie Griffin. She exercises daily to her favorite rock-and-roll record, "Go, You Chicken Fat, Go!"

Written on his favorite football are the immortal words of his theme song, "They call Me, 'Mr. Touch-



IM FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - - HIGH ROLLERS - - Front row: Dale Forslin, Mike Marty, Tim Friend, Butch Potter. Row 2: Chuck Ramsey, Dave Radcliff, Kevin Stoa, Dave Dillon.

down'." He knows he is a great athlete; he acknowledges that fact by filling in with his pencil the mark next to the top ten percent spot on his SAT Student Questionnaire which requests information on his athletic ability.

These are people who dream of the chance to become athletic heroes. Through Kennedy's Intramural (IM) program, some of these dreams can become realities.

These athletic supporters wish to be The Jocks, The Jockettes, and like many of their buddies, they enjoy the competition of the IM program. In fact, they receive so much satisfaction from the program that 112 of them participated in the IM touch football games this fall. The same number — 112 — became members in the IM volleyball tournament.

What, however, are the reasons for the large number of students participating in the IM sports program?

According to many IM athletes, IM sports give them something to do.

The Joe Athletes have other reasons for playing IM sports, too. They finally have the chance to waste the guy they've had a grudge on since August; they can get away with it because it's the only place they know of where they can take a cheap shot without receiving a

penalty. If they win, they get a shirt and they can feel cool to look up to them. But, the cheap ball game against those hot (to play touch football), free from the for illegal use of hands, is a reason for playing the sport.

Likewise, Josephine Athlete because of the chance to play team member mentioned the IM shorts as a major reason for inter-

As for the older generation perpetually complain about the (injuries), the faculty has shown activities.

Nevertheless, characteristic up as the 98th St. Social Club football squad) was successful Rollers. The loss of the game among Social Club members evident in such cut-downs as: "waivers, but no one would pick age and physical condition." placed on Social Security and M

Fans lead spikers

Not only did this year's volleyball team get new coaches, but they got something that previously had never been in the volleyball program — student support.

Until this year, volleyball attendance was limited only to a few friends of the players. As the season progressed, more and more people were watching and cheering the team.

Exactly what started the trend of going and screaming one's head off at the game is not very clear, but once people started coming to the games, they liked what they saw, according to Coach Guy Blessing.

"The girls asked the guys to give them the same support that they had given the guys (in boys' athletics). Once the guys started coming, they realized that volleyball is an excellent spectator sport," said Coach Blessing.

At the end of the season, Coach Blessing had a conference with each of his players, he said that for most of the players, the high point of the season was the support given them by the "Rowdies" — that unofficial group of 15-20 people who demonstrated their enthusiasm in quite a different manner. Not only were the Rowdies helpful in lifting volleyball team members' spirits, but the Rowdies themselves enjoyed being a part of the overall volleyball crowd, according to Blessing.

Good team play brought the volleyball team through one Region game before a loss to Eisenhower. Blessing said he is looking forward to coaching again next year when he will have three returning starters and about one-third of the Rowdies back.

--Dave Roberman

Injury-prone gymnasts prepare

High expectations of producing a top-contending team fell upon the boy gymnasts early this fall when a pre-season rating of Minnesota gymnastics teams, by the Gymnastics Coaches Association, chose the Eagles as the tenth-best team in the state. Since then, Kennedy has surrendered its No. 10 spot, for the team lost three of its first five meets. The big challenge now is for the team to prove the pre-season ranking by performing well in the Regional meet.

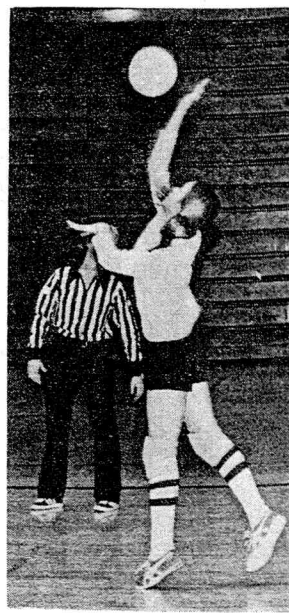
"We have been consistently improving our performance since the beginning of the season," said Coach Duane Hoecherl. "We lost a close meet in Lincoln without two of our top performers who could easily have made the difference," he said.

Even though consistent individual improvement has been adding strength to the team, injuries have stifled any great progress thus far.

Recently added to the injury list was junior I Bartosch who suffered a separated sternum and



Mike Curti directs cheering chorus of rowdies
Volleyball team earns support all season long



Junior Wendy Godwin serves
During Eagles loss to Eisenhower

Intramural sports program

near the coveted IM T-... cause all their friends... to play a touch foot... rior chicks (girls who... worry of being called... far the most popular

enjoys IM activities... against the guys. One... gth of the guys' gym... st in the game.

f athletes (those who... World War II war in... nd participation in IM

f old-age have shown... the faculty IM touch... beaten by the High... aused much concern... and dissention was... e tried placing you on... ou up because of your... 'It's time you were'... ficare!"

However, the wisdom of age has prevailed over the youth of the students. One IM participant observed that the faculty had compensated for their weaknesses through the "luck of the draw." By some profound coincidence, it seems that the faculty IM volleyball team is playing only girls' teams up through the championship round.

Although this wisdom may have prevailed temporarily, age will soon require a substitution for the faculty squad; enter the IM sub.

The IM sub is a special kind of animal. Although not a full-time member, the IM sub feels the worthiness of being a part of the IM program. He/she feels useful; as a place-kicker, one IM sub believed that he kept the other members of his team free from the anxiety of having to worry about the punting and kicking game; therefore, the members of his team were able to concentrate on plays or strategy. All of those two punts really helped release tension during the season.

All these IM athletes, Joe, Josephine, the faculty and the subs have one main interest in common: They wish to fulfill their desire to compete in athletics, and Intramural sports have given them this opportunity.

--Paul Werger



Dave Radcliff throws a pass before being hit by Steve O'Brien Dale Forslin blocks Dick Anderson just long enough

SPORTS

Preparation for Regions

re- be out the rest of the season.

d "Bartosch was valuable as he competed in three... o events: the horse, the high bar, and the parallel... o bars," said senior Co-Captain John Tabone.

it To help overcome the injury problem, the Eagles... e have gone through exhausting practices, sometimes... e lasting from after school until 7 p.m.

n "We must constantly work on improving our... II routines and on increasing the difficulty factor if we... want to have any chance at all in Regions," said... senior Co-Captain Mike Ford.

Included in positive qualities for the Eagles... are their performance on the new event of vaulting... With no prior experience, vaulters Joe Boeser... Keith and Kent Carlson, and Tabone have turned... this piece of apparatus into the team's most produc... tive event.

Even though there are only two seniors on this... year's team (Tabone and Ford), this doesn't mean... that there is little chance for success... Underclassmen have shown ability as well as desire.

"In addition to our outstanding seniors, we have... had fine performances turned in by juniors Boeser... Chuck Luttrell, and Scott Alman," said Coach... Hoecherl. "Adding to the depth of the team are... sophomores Keith and Kent Carlson, Jim Ryan... and Steve Brown, who also compete on varsity."

According to past performances, Edina East will... be the team to beat before the Eagles can enjoy a... victorious season.

"On paper we are about the same as Edina... East," said Coach Hoecherl. "It will all boil down... to the team which hits on the most routines and is... the most aggressive. That team will win our... Region."

--Mike Bauer

Gridders win in losing season

All coaches say it, but this year football Coach Sonny Carlson may have greater than usual cause to make the claim that his team's record is not an accurate representation of his team's efforts.

Consider the situation: the football Eagles won but three games in their nine game season, which left them in sixth place out of nine teams in the Lake Red Division. That record is poorer than the season records compiled by 8 out of the previous 11 Kennedy football teams.

Nevertheless, Carlson believes that the team is one of the top two or three he has worked with in his 18 years of coaching. He feels this way because the "team was hardworking and united" even though it was not a winning team. In addition, he can look back at three games which were lost by a total of nine points and can remember that his team scored as many points (160) as did their opponents during the season.

Other statistics add even more reinforcement to Carlson's claims about this team. Several team members broke important records, among them Kurt Schuster with the most tackles in one year (74); Tom Boe with 60 tackles and the most assists in one year (17); quarterback Craig Larson with the most complete passes in a season (95), the most touchdown passes (10), and the most total passing yardage (1100); and Marty Peterson with the most passes caught (42) in a year, most touchdown passes caught (6), and the most total yardage on pass receptions (501). Also, Schuster and Jim Makela were named as All-Conference players, and Larson, Peterson, and Boe received Honorable Mention recognition.

It was these players, along with Brad Carlson, Lee Krueger, and Todd Thorsgaard, who set the tone for the whole team during the season, according to Assistant Coach Mike McKay. "How well these players worked in practice, was how much the whole team worked in practice; or how well these boys played in a game, was how well the team played."

McKay said. "It was a fun year in which to coach because the attitude was positive and the team was hard working. We lost the close ones, but our team never stopped trying." he said.

While the team members' efforts did bring certain achievements to the squad, as shown on the statistical records, there were other things gained which will have even greater meaning for the players in the future, according to Coach Sulack. Some things will stay with the players, like a "positive attitude about themselves, a determination to come back when behind, and an appreciation of the value of their own individual efforts," he said.

Other positive feelings may someday be forgotten, like the feeling of "unity or togetherness that came from the group effort," Carlson said. That's something that must be developed each year, and especially next year when this year's sophomore gridgers join the varsity. Those boys haven't had a winning season since eighth grade, but "if they develop the same dedication and loyalty as did this year's team, they will have a good season," Carlson said.

--Glen Broemer

Teams greet new season with optimistic outlook

While fall sports teams posted largely unimpressive win-loss records, winter athletic coaches remain optimistic about their teams' chances in conference competition.

Coach Dale Welter is relying on six returning letterpersons to help the girls' basketball team improve on last season's fourth-place Lake standings. This is the third year of that sport's existence at Kennedy, and each year the team has improved its record while increasing the point-scoring ability. "Since we are not overly tall, we will have to rely on experience," said Welter. "If we have a big turnout of players, there is no reason why we can't have a winning season," he said.

Title IX considerations have caused the State High School League to equalize the number of games for boys' and girls' basketball. Five games were added to the girls' schedule as a result. The expanded schedule will help the team, according to Coach Welter, as it will allow the girls more time to improve.

Boys' basketball will not be without its problems this year. The team lost both its starting guards and its center to graduation leaving a scoring gap to fill, according to Coach Steve Strommen. "Tim Friend is the only guard with previous varsity experience," said Coach Strommen.

There are some aspects to the basketball team which tend to give an indication to a possibly successful season. "Three of the top players from last year are returning," said Coach Strommen, "and we have above average height."

Tankers eye success

All athletes who hope to be successful must suffer through the same routine of practice, practice, and even more practice, while experiencing pain which includes heat exhaustion, bruises, and pulled muscles. Then comes that certain kind of fatigue where the brain no longer comprehends anything except fulfillment of the athlete's individual goal of achieving success. The story is no different for the girls' swimming team.

Some athletes define success as working hard and being rewarded for their efforts with fan support, newspaper write-ups, and college scholarships. There is, however, another definition of success, a definition which includes working hard, losing, and finding that recognition will be limited to that which comes from within a person's own heart and mind.

So it has been for the girl swimmers. Despite their dedication, good attitude, and two-or three-hour daily practices, the team dropped its first four meets. Minnetonka, Edina East, Eisenhower, and Richfield swam away as the victors, leaving the Eagles at least momentarily dejected, according to Coach Lynn Aaze. Nevertheless, the swimmers have been able to look beyond those defeats and are concentrating on personal and team goals, Aaze said.

"We work hard even when we are down. All of our work should pay off when we attempt to do our best at Regions," said Tri-Captain Jody Henseler. "Even if the team's success is limited to the kind of recognition that comes from within, all the work will have been worth it," she said.

Looking forward to a good season are the new girls' gymnastics coaches, Ken Moore and D'Arcy Johnson. "If the girls perform with the enthusiasm they have shown so far this year, we should have a successful season," said Coach Moore. There are 17 returning gymnasts from last year's squad. With the loss of only two seniors, the team should have the depth for a good year.

According to boys' swimming coach Bergie Lang, "Five returning lettermen have State Meet experience." Since four swimmers presently on the team hold five of the school swimming records, there is no reason that the team will not produce a winning season, according to Coach Lang.

The boys' ski team, which consists mostly of juniors, is attempting to improve on last year's record of 2-9. "We expect to do better this year," said Captain Gregg Paschke, "because I feel we have a balanced team."

Another factor which may help the team is the change of the way in which meets are scored. For the first year downhill, cross-country, and jumping will be scored individually, giving the skiers three separate teams. If one team does badly, it will not jeopardize the other teams.

Coach Dave Arens expects 50 wrestlers to come out for the team this year, of which only about eight will be seniors. However, there will be 13 returning lettermen and many wrestlers from last year's J.V. team to help fill in the open weights.

According to hockey Coach Jerry Peterson, nine players must be replaced from last year's hockey team, which won the 1976 State Consolation Championship. "It's a challenge every year to replace those who have graduated," said Coach Peterson. "We have players who are willing to work hard for success and continue Kennedy's tradition of excellent hockey teams," he said.

CAPSULE COVERAGE

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Lose close match to Park Center 18-20, 12-18 Defeated by Fridley 18-11, 16-18, 14-18 Squeak by Richfield 11-18, 18-13, 18-16 **Stacy Godwin** leads team play Trounced by Minnetonka 3-18, 4-18 Downed by Cooper 18-6, 18-12 Win first round match of Regions against Armstrong 18-16, 12-18, 18-12 **Julie Christensen** and **Wendy Godwin** have strong spiking games Lose final game to Eisenhower 12-18, 13-18.

FOOTBALL

Gridders lose to Minnetonka 6-12 **Lee Krueger** recovers fumble in end zone Lose to Richfield 14-25 Down Cooper 28-8 Squeeze by Wayzata 10-6 **Marty Peterson** scores touchdown **Spencer Jensen** kicks field goal Lose to Park Center 6-32 Touchdown pass by **Craig Larson** to Peterson brings lone Eagle score.

SOCCER

Lose to Cooper 0-1 Down Edina West 1-0 Lone goal by **Jeff Tamanaha** Tie with Lincoln 0-0 **Tom Cherry** records his fifth shutout Beat Lindbergh 2-0 **Bruce Zilka** and **John Amato** get goals Shutout Wayzata 5-0 Lose to Minnetonka 1-2 Harfield scores goal Lose to Richfield in playoffs 0-3 At annual soccer banquet **Dan Anderson** gets most valuable player **Tamanaha** and **Anderson** get All-Conference recognition Coaches award goes to **Eric Schuitz** 1977's soccer captains are **Amato** and **Jamie Kiedrowski**.

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY

Eagles lose to Eisenhower 42-20, and Cooper 44-19 Captain **Bob Jacobson** runs well with a time of 15:33 Downed by Edina East 30-25, and Wayzata 31-24 **Brian Nelson** has a team-leading time of 17:49 Jacobson places fifteenth in Regions.

BOYS' GYMNASTICS

Defeat Fridley 104-89 Lose to Cooper 114-120 **Scott Alman** scores 7.5 on parallel bars for the best score of meet Team undefeated on parallel bars Victorious over Richfield 107-88 **Mike Ford** scores 8.15 on floor **Joe Boeser** places first on high bar **John Tabone** wins all-around Defeat Jefferson and Edina East in Northwest Open with a score of 109.

GIRLS' SWIMMING

Lose to Minnetonka, defending State Champions 40-127 Downed by Edina East 21-61 Defeated by Eisenhower 58-112 400 freestyle relay, consisting of **Marilyn Gould**, **Sue Phelps**, **Cathy Meyer** and **Jody Henseler** take first Lose heartbreaker to Richfield 82-87 **Henseler** takes first in 200 and 500 freestyle Downed by St. Louis Park 82-89 **Phelps** takes first in 50 freestyle Lose to Park Center 67-105.

FOREIGN SOCCER TOURNEY

Spanish, French and German classes compete in round-robin tournament Spanish class wins tournament with a total of 5 goals Frenchies wind up with 4, Germans with 1 A game between Norwegians and the champion Spanish class ends in a 2-2 deadlock.

FACES IN THE CROWD



Marty Peterson, senior, broke six school football records this season. "Marty has tremendous self-discipline; he does more with natural talent than anybody I've coached," said Coach Mike McKay. Marty also plays shortstop for the baseball team.



Stacy Godwin, senior, is a three-year varsity letterperson in volleyball. "She was always consistent and dependable," said Coach Guy Blessing. "She knows what she's doing when she's on the court." Stacy also participates in girls' basketball and track.

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SUNDAY	OPEN SKATING	1:30 - 6:30 Adm. \$1.50	FAMILY NIGHT 6:30 9:00 Adm. \$1.00	Family rates: \$2.50/family (Limit 6 .50 ea. addl. person)		Skate Rental - \$.75 Extra Session - \$.75

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Editorial

Questioning composition

Should a committee that consists of two Blacks, two American Indians, two Orientals, two Spanish Americans, two people of the Jewish faith, and a feminist make recommendations and decisions on school policy regarding religion? Yes, according to the Bloomington School Board, which appointed such a committee to advise the Board on minority and religious questions or issues in the schools. The Intercultural and Non-Sex Bias Citizens Advisory Committee was formed upon the recommendation of the State Dept. of Education and State Dept. of Human Rights and was given rather broad advisory operations by the Board.

Although religion is only one of the areas over which the committee has advisory powers, it is the area that **The Torch** believes needs examination. Is it right for a committee of minorities, including only two members chosen because of their religion, to interpret various Christian and non-Christian beliefs and to make recommendations on school programs in which religion may play a part? Also does the committee, which has only loose communication at best with the school staff and principals, know enough about what is going on in the schools to be able to make valid recommendations?

It is **The Torch's** opinion that the committee does not have enough religious representation to allow it to be making recommendations on religious issues. The committee needs to be expanded to include members chosen specifically to represent faiths in addition to the Jewish faith. The committee should also broaden its communications with the school staff whose programs it is evaluating.

With better, broader representation and improved communication, the Intercultural and Non-Sex Bias Committee most probably could serve an important function in Bloomington. The committee should represent the best interest of minority and majority groups whether religious or racial, though we believe the group's present composition is preventing this from happening.

Editorial

Challenging legislators

When the Minnesota Legislature convenes in January, newly-elected State Senator Bob Benedict and Representative Bruce Williamson could perform a needed service for a sizeable portion of their constituents by working to repeal a law which is not locally enforced.

At present, only the schools are attempting to enforce the law which prohibits smoking by minors. What has evolved is an artificial situation in which school officials are told by the School Board to control smoking in the schools, while no penalty is ever applied by our courts.

Why is the law not enforced? According to Kennedy Liaison Officer Mike Studer, the police department does not have the time to enforce smoking laws. As for the county courts, John Trojohn, assistant Hennepin County attorney and supervisor of the County Juvenile Division, says the chances of a school smoking case being heard in Hennepin County are "9,999 to one." Trojohn cites the fact that the courts, too, lack the time, and feel the law should be changed.

At Kennedy, a referral is issued to the student after the first offense, suspension is levied on the second, and on the third the student's status at school is reviewed with the parents. Because the courts say schools cannot deny a student his right to an education because of smoking, the school cannot expel a student for that offense. Only three people regularly patrol Kennedy's lavatories. Students find it easy to get away with smoking and become defiant toward a system that cannot expel them and will not prosecute them.

The Torch fails to see the use of legislation that goes unenforced. Our legislators should work to change the law so that the schools would have a freer hand to deal with the problem. If the laws are amended, a solution may be a well ventilated indoor smoking area where students could smoke and yet have a minimal effect on non-smokers.

Warm reception received in Arctic climate

(Editor's note: Kris Hull '76 a Torch correspondent who is an AFS student, offers this account of her personal adjustment to school life in Storseth, Norway.)

At some time or another in everyone's life there are periods in which the dreadful feeling of being alone encompasses all thoughts. As I entered the building which was to be my school for a year, such emotions of despair fought to override my excitement at the challenge I was being offered — to successfully make it through the first day at any new school is quite an accomplishment in itself. And when everyone is speaking a foreign tongue, the situation can become even a bit more

overwhelming.

But, boldly throwing all pessimistic thoughts aside, I walked into the gymnasium and confidently sat down with the other 240 students to listen to the principal's greeting. While he rattled on in Norwegian, I gazed around for my first glimpse of Norwegian high school students and tried to appear like I knew what was going on. The students looked very much like Americans — no blonder or more blue-eyed — and almost everyone had on jeans.

Finally we arrived at a small room full of windows that looked out onto the mountains. We all sat down and were given our class schedule for the year. After this, our other teachers came to discuss lesson plans and to hand out book lists — every student was to purchase 15-20 books, and because there are no locker facilities, bookbags or backpacks were also a definite necessity.

When my English teacher was finished handing out her booklist, she formally introduced me to the class as the American Field Service student from America.

However, everybody already seemed aware of this fact: any new person is quite obvious because the same classmates are together for all three of their years in the "Gymnas" (comparable to an American high school). I was quite surprised and relived by the warmth and the friendliness that both students and teachers immediately gave me.

The atmosphere is extremely casual: girls knit during lectures, students frequently argue with the teachers on due dates for assignments, tardiness is seldom questioned, and there are no hall monitors.

Since that first day of school I have again and again felt the concern that my classmates have for me. Because we remain together in the same room for every subject (our teachers come and go), there is a certain closeness which develops quite naturally from so much contact. Thus, each morning after I rise at 7:30 a.m., throw my backpack on my back and hike the mile to school, I know that no matter how cold I may get from this Arctic weather here in Northern Norway, I'll always receive a warm reception at my final destination.

INPUT

To the Editor:

The volleyball team says thanks! There is no way that the members of the Eagle volleyball team can properly express their thanks to the Kennedy fans, cheerleaders, and band members for their super support this season.

We can only hope you all know how much it has been appreciated and enjoyed. Keep it up!

Coaches Guy Blessing and Bob Ginn
and the Eagle volleyball squad members

Senior Merits decline in scoring

While Kennedy's Class of '76 was a normal graduating class — with smart students, average students, and apathetic students — in most respects, the Class of '76 also had Diane Jacobson, a National Merit Scholarship winner who is now a student at Harvard University.

Kennedy's Class of '77 is also a very typical class, except that this year there is no Diane Jacobson. In fact, there are no Merit Scholars at all, and there is little likelihood of any seniors getting to Harvard.

Why didn't anyone from this year's senior class qualify for the National Merit scholarship? What has made this class different from all previous classes which had at least one finalist each year? Lincoln and Jefferson High Schools have a combined total of 11 students who qualified this year alone.

"This year's seniors are good kids, and there are hard workers among them, but I would say that their motivation level is somehow lower than last year's class," said George Drier, chairman of Kennedy's Math-Science Division. National statistics show that for the thirteenth consecutive year, scores are down for the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) and the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT).

One reason for lower scores may be a national trend toward school programs which are more vocationally oriented, while another may be that more students from a broader range of ability levels — the top one-half instead of the top one-quarter of a class — are now taking the test. It could be expected, then, that more lower scores would be recorded.

Other factors may also be causing lower scores at Kennedy and elsewhere, according to Anna Mae Dawson, Kennedy's head counselor. Changing societal characteristics such as the importance of education and

religion and changes in social mores, values, and customs may be reflected in lower scores. The relevance of the tests themselves — the PSAT and NMSQT have not been revamped since 1963 — and possible gaps or shifts of emphasis in high school curricula may be additional factors.

"Hereditry and environment" are other reasons for lower test results given by Roger Johnston, head counselor at Jefferson. Lincoln's head counselor, Charles Schuman, notes a lack of competitiveness among students. He also cites a "college-blues" syndrome which affects motivation. Students have recognized that in many cases a college degree is no longer a guarantee of a good job.

While all of the above factors affecting lower test scores may be applied to most any area of the country, there is another factor to be considered on a local level. Dr. Bernard Larson, assistant superintendent of Bloomington Schools, believes that there may be a basic socio-economic differences in the three Bloomington high school areas which could affect performance levels.

Dr. Larson identifies the Kennedy area as being lower on the socio-economic scale, as shown by the greater length of the free hot lunch list here and the fact that this school has more families who are recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) than other areas in Bloomington.

"Research reports indicate that students attending schools in a higher socio-economic level tend to achieve more than students in a lower socio-economic level," said Dr. Larson. This may be interpreted to mean that students in the Kennedy area — supposedly the poorer area of Bloomington — may thus have a greater tendency to score lower than students in the Jefferson or Lincoln areas.

Since Kennedy students may have greater educational needs to be met if they are to be

able to compete with those from other areas, it may seem logical that a somewhat greater share of the educational dollar spent in Bloomington should go to this area. This is not the case, however, as the same dollar amount — \$85 per student — is given to all three Bloomington senior high schools.

Economic issues aside, curricular differences among the three high schools should not be the cause for differences in student performance levels, according to Joan Black, Bloomington's instructional generalist for secondary schools. All schools are charged with following the same curricular "scope and sequence" set up by Board of Education.

Even so, Ms. Black admits that no systematic or regular checks of curriculum are ever made, and that interpretation of the scope and sequence designs for the various subject areas is left to the individual departments and administrators at the three schools. According to Ms. Black a student at Kennedy should be getting the same quality of education as a student at Jefferson or Lincoln, though she has no way of proving that this is actually the case. She only acknowledges that there may be individual differences in teaching staffs which may affect quality of education in particular subject areas from school to school.

In the end, a Kennedy student may be left to wonder if there is something lacking in the education he/she is receiving, and there is no way of systematically proving whether this may be the case. All that is known is that right now there are no more Diane Jacobsons around.

--Steve Bergesen

Big memories, small expense

Even though the crowns, capes, and torches have been stored away for another year, Homecoming's memories linger. Perhaps more than any other single event, Homecoming brings Kennedy students together as it creates a feeling of pride in the school.

Creating that feeling of pride is no small task, however, as staff members and students put in countless hours to make Kennedy's Coronation and other Homecoming activities as meaningful and enjoyable as possible for as many students as possible. Hours and hours of time and work are put into Kennedy's Homecoming in scheduling, custodial work, decorating, and rehearsing.

Coronation at Kennedy is unlike any other in Minnesota, mostly because of the demands of perfection made by Orrin Bergan, English 12 teacher and Coronation director. "Mr. Bergan is a man willing to undergo the task of doing it right," said Mike Karbo, assistant principal. The Homecoming pepfest reflects the same kind of hard work as the Kollens, Cheerleaders, and the band strive to entertain and involve the student body.

Although the week of Homecoming may be a hectic one for the teachers and students to plan, it is an important week for the students as it develops a pride and spirit within the school which may otherwise have been lacking. It is important that the administration and faculty recognize the great value all of this has for the school, and that they continue to give support in time and money.

Perhaps what is most remarkable about Homecoming is that all the good it brings the school comes at a cost of only 28 cents a student.

--Debbie Linton

THE TORCH

The Kennedy Newsmagazine

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