

THE TORCH

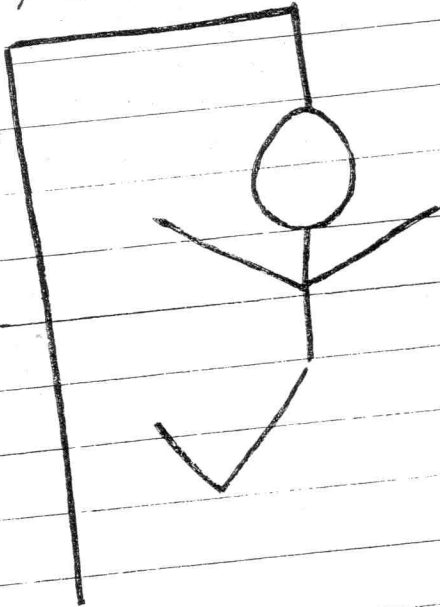
The Kennedy Newsmagazine / 1 April 1977 / Volume 12, No. 7

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What six-letter word comes
before 'fever'?

u, e, o, t, k, z



— p r — — g

(Hint: It's not 'winter')

Pep music overwhelms true identity of band

Sounds of cheering fans fill the gymnasium. Another game is won, and the crowd is ecstatic. Athletic fans wait for the familiar fight song to be played. However, no one plays the song, for the band loft once occupied by Kennedy's Pep Band, is empty.

Although at this point the scene is hypothetical, in the future it could be a possibility, for the band is searching for an identity beyond that of a pep band. Currently, most people think of the Kennedy band in terms of a group that plays for pepfests and games, and this is what concerns Director Thomas Peck.

Concert activities should be the heart of the instrumental program, according to Mr. Peck. He said he wants to "provide the best possible musical experience for all those in band," but he doesn't believe this is happening. Band activities are being dominated by the Pep Band. "We have begun to sacrifice other opportunities, such as concerts, clinics and even time spent at home," he said.

Each appearance of the Pep Band involves an average of three hours of activity (one-half hour before a game getting ready, two hours of playing at a game, and another half hour for returning to school with instruments). This year the group played at 31 athletic contests, meaning members gave 93 hours of their time beyond the school day for the Pep Band's appearances.

While all Pep Band activities occur after school hours, and membership is purely voluntary, the regular school music budget must pay for the group's music and repairs for instruments that may be damaged during appearances. This means that a major portion of the band budget goes for Pep Band needs, thus slighting other concert needs. In the past the band even had to pay for most buses to games out of their regular budget, though this has been

picked up by other budgets, including that of the superintendent of schools for Regional and State Tournament hockey and basketball games, and home football games. "If the community wants a Pep Band, then they should provide a budget for it," said Mr. Peck.

"Pep Band does take up a lot of time," said junior band member Doug Utterburg, who like many band students also has an after-school job. "If I have to work or something else important comes up, then I don't play," he said.

Priorities are a major concern for Mr. Peck. He fears that the band gets the most attention when they fail to play for a game. Then everyone thinks about the band and wonders where it is. When they do play, they are more-or-less taken for granted. "It is not that we aren't anxious to support sport activities, but we haven't yet recognized our own priorities. We are unable to get the school to recognize the band as being equal to other activities," he said.

While it may not always be obvious, support for and appreciation of the band is evident among those involved in athletics. "I think the band does a nice job," said Mike McKay, football and track coach. "Of course, when they are not there, it is noticeable, as they do add a significant amount to a game. I do not however, expect them to be there when they are unable to," he said.

Still, Mr. Peck thinks that raising the level of music appreciation is hard when most people only get exposure to pep music. "After all," he said, "we are the first band in Minnesota to play in Kennedy Center. We have the first wind ensemble in Bloomington, and we received the highest percentage of superior ratings among instrumental entries in the Lake Conference in last year's Region Music Contest. The efforts of these young musicians and students of all activities must be recognized through their efforts."

NEWSLINES

Catching cagey kissing couples in the act

Kissing, making out, petting ... whatever the name, the action has spread into the school. Hardly a day goes by when students and teachers don't see it going on around some corner. What can be done? Almost nothing, it seems, for the "Student Bill of Rights practically supports it," according to Ray Hanson, assistant principal, "depending on how you interpret it."

Michael Karbo, assistant principal, agrees there can be a "broad interpretation" of the Student Bill of Rights. Article 7, Section 3A says students have the right of freedom of speech and expression, which is interpreted to cover kissing in the halls. The Student Bill of Rights says that students may have freedom of speech and expression as long as it is not disruptive to the school program.

Interpretation of the Student Bill of Rights raises many questions, according to Mr. Hanson. Is kissing a way in which students express themselves? Do those students actually believe that their activity is protected by the Student Bill of Rights? And when does kissing become disruptive to the school program?

When dealing with a hallway kissing situation, Mr. Hanson and Mr. Karbo said they approach the problem in the same way.

Usually, the students confronted become defiant, and the assistant principals make a practice of calling the students' parents. They do not do this as often now, for most parents tell them it is none of their business, according to Mr. Hanson.

Roots of the hallway behavior problem seem to stem from the home. According to Mr. Karbo, many students are not learning respect at home anymore. Parental concern



Couples no longer require privacy for affection
Such occurrences now a common sight in halls

on the topic is very low, also. "They feel we are here to teach their children, not to discipline them," said Mr. Hanson.

Nevertheless, there have been situations in the school which have called for action. A dance chaperone at the '50s dance in February reported finding a couple lying on the dance floor; the boy had his hand up the girl's skirt. A teacher on his way to the cafeteria for lunch turned a corner in the hallway and found a boy and girl embracing while the girl was in the process of unzipping his pants. These may be extreme examples, but variations of such actions are evident daily in the hallways.

Opinions vary as to whether kissing in the school is a problem. Mr. Karbo feels that indeed it is a problem, that it is highly disrespectful. Steve O'Brien, dean of student services, on the other hand, simply feels it is an annoyance, and hardly one of the bigger problems he faces.

Kissing in the hallways has become an everyday occurrence in the school, problem or not. It may be a means of legal student expression, and it so far has hit only a small minority of the students, for, as Mr. Karbo, Mr. Hanson, and Mr. O'Brien all report, it is always the same students who get caught in the act.

-Paula Blumke

Spring exploration

While they're supposed to be musicians, sometimes it seems as though choir and band students are purely salespersons, especially on those countless days when they sold everything from pizzas to candy and jewelry, from pumpkins to fruit and raffle tickets. They did this with one overriding goal in mind: spring vacation spent somewhere other than Bloomington.

Saturday, the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport will be cluttered with 248 Kennedy students all trying to check in luggage while keeping their excitement under control.

Band members, who will be flying off to Washington, D.C., for six days, will be anticipating seeing the White House, Mount Vernon, and the Smithsonian Institute, as well as performing for Senators Hubert Humphrey and Wendell Anderson and hopefully Vice-President Walter Mondale. The group will give a concert on the Capitol steps.

Individual costs for the trip have been kept to \$220. This includes hotel accommodations, round-trip plane fare, 11 meals, and all sightseeing previously scheduled for each member of the group.

Concert Choir students, meanwhile, will be flying off in the opposite direction. They will be spending eight days in Honolulu at beach parties and luaus and giving concerts at various spots on the island. They will also go on a Pearl Harbor cruise on a free tour given by the Navy.

This trip will cost students \$225, including the hotel, round-trip plane fare, and two meals (at the luau and beach party). Free time will be spent surfing, sunbathing, riding motorized bicycles, among other activities.

Supervision of students on both trips will be strict, for the students must comply with Minnesota High School League rules, Bloomington school regulations, and rules set down by the directors. Adult chaperones — mostly parents — will help enforce rules.

Any students found using alcohol or tobacco or having illegal drugs in their possession will be sent home immediately at their own expense, according to Thomas Peck, band director.

"I work hard at trying to set up a fun trip for the kids, because it's experience I can't give them in the classroom," said James Bontrager, choir director.

Mr. Bontrager traveled with Fred Waring, a professional producer and director, for many years. "There is so much to be learned and experienced while traveling. Nothing can replace it," he said.

Both groups will be home in time to spend Easter Sunday with their families. This will give the students at least one night to dream about the unforgettable places they've just seen before returning to that other unforgettable place ... Kennedy High School.

—Tammy Fetter

ONCE AROUND THE SCHOOL

Breaking a spring leg

"Teahouse of the August Moon", the spring three-act play, will be presented in the Kennedy auditorium April 27 and 28 at 8 p.m. Director of the production is **Lee Engler**, English 10 and Theatre Arts instructor. The cast includes **Jim Ritter**, **Scott Huffman**, **Ken Lillemo**, **Sue Warren**, **Nola Berger**, **John Illika**, and **Bruce Hutchins**. **Mary Clifford** is Mr. Engler's assistant, and **Patty Meyer** is the stage manager. Tickets will be sold in advance and at the door for \$1.50 for students and \$2 for adults.

April dates to remember:

Apr. 2—A.C.T. testing, 8 a.m.-noon, cafeteria

Apr. 4-8—Spring Vacation

Apr. 18—Field trip day

Apr. 28—Kolleens tryouts, cafeteria

Starting their departing

With the fitting of caps and gowns and the ordering of senior announcements behind them, seniors are turning their attention to the actual graduation ceremony, to be held at the Met Sports Center, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. Seniors and/or their parents have contributed \$6 per graduate to help cover the \$2,030 rental cost for the Met. According to Ray Hanson, assistant principal, "Kennedy parents prefer to hold the commencement ceremonies at the Met because then each graduating senior can have any number of friends and relatives attend. The Met Sports Center will accommodate everyone comfortably."

It's party time...

For the second year in a row, Kennedy senior parents are getting the plans underway for this year's Senior Graduation Party. Kennedy's party is scheduled to run after graduation June 8, from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. For the \$18 ticket price students will have an evening filled with food and activity. Ten committees have been organized, and each is in charge of a certain area for the party. These areas are prizes, tickets, publicity,

decorations, entertainment, food, clean-up, hosts and hostesses, check-out, and calling. The band Scribes, which played at this year's '50s dance will be playing during the night. In addition, students will be able to see movies and play casino-type games, miniature golf, ping-pong, volleyball, and foosball. There will also be a full-course meal served. And if graduates are still hungry, there will be an all-you-can-eat taco stand, fruit stand, and pop stand.

Getting 95 times the action

In response to criticism of the small numbers of students participating in the Student Action Committee, Steve O'Brien, student government advisor, has helped to organize a Student Senate for second semester. Representatives were elected by each of the school's 95 homerooms. Those students, in turn, elected officers by class. Senior Class officers are **Patty Meyer**, president; **Marie Kappes**, vice-president; **Jeryl Millner**, secretary, and **Gail Olson**, treasurer. Officers of the Junior Class are **Dave Knutsen**, president; and **Dyan Flatten**, vice-president. Sophomore officers are **Bruce Hutchins**, president; and **Nora Wilagen**, vice-president.

Prom-ising finish ...

Preparations for the 1977 Tri-School Prom have begun with "Ageless and Evergreen" as this year's theme. The dance will take place at the Radisson South Hotel on May 13, from 9 p.m. to midnight. Ticket sales start April 18 at the ticket window for \$7 a couple.

Internationally exchanging

Visiting Kennedy this semester are **Violetta Seda**, from Chile, who is living with the Jurchisin family, and **Patricia Brasil**, a Youth for Understanding student from Brazil. Kennedy students **Gary Martin** and **John Westley** will spend next week in Mexico with a group from Richfield High School, while **Ann Abbott** and **Sharon Dolva** recently spent a weekend at the Language Village at Concordia College,

PACESETTERS



Seniors **Jodi Henseler** and **Tom Larson** have received the First Bank High School Award presented by the First National Bank of Southdale. The award is made annually to a boy and girl in the graduating class of area high schools and is based upon creativity, dependability, responsibility and service. An inscribed silver metal and a \$50 savings account will be awarded to Jodi and Tom. They will both attend a banquet on May 4 at the Minikahda Club to receive their awards.



Glen Broemer, **Beth Bauer**, and **Larry Schlichting**, juniors, have been selected to fill editor positions on publication staffs for the 1977-78 school year. Glen, as **Torch** editor, was chosen on the basis of his leadership abilities and his composition skills by publication Advisor **Jon Kukulish**. Beth and Larry will serve as co-editors of the **Profiles** staff. They were chosen for their creativity and outstanding leadership abilities.

Porking out: Student stomachs bend in direction of Golden Arches

As the buzzer sounds signaling the end of the game, a mass "Big Mac Attack" begins. Cars stream out of the parking lot to form a beeline to the nearest McDonald's. Upon their arrival, students invade the restaurant, claiming it as Eagle territory.

When 250 **Torch** polls regarding student eating habits were distributed randomly during lunchtime, respondents selected McDonald's as their favorite place to eat. An influential factor may be found in the fact that for 46 percent of the students polled, the most popular time to eat out is after games.

Only 2 percent of the students polled eat out alone, while 86 percent go out with two or more friends. This is understandable, since for most people the reason they eat out is because it gives them a chance to get out and do something with their friends.

Many (73 percent) of the respondents go out to eat with their families, but when they do, a casual, sit-down restaurant like Perkins or Mr. Steak is where they head, rather than a fast food place such as McDonald's or Burger King. A small number of Kennedy students (12 percent) don't go out to eat with their families, but go out only with their friends.

Since fast-food places are popular among teens, 85 percent spend approximately \$2-\$3 (or less) each time they eat out. Although this seems like an insignificant amount, the junk food bill quickly rises because of the frequency of students' visits to junk food places. For some students, a bill of \$10 could very easily accumulate in a week's time, simply by eating out four or five times.

FEATURE FOCUS



Junior Nancy Loftus puts the teenage diet in its place

Of those students polled, three percent stated they eat out daily. One possible reason for this frequency with which they dine out can be found in the fact that for some students with jobs it is more convenient to eat out than to eat at home. For students employed at restaurants, it is cheaper to eat on the job than to eat at home.

Taking the financial situations of students into consideration, as well as their eating habits, it becomes apparent that teens patronage of eating establishments is in direct proportion to the amount of money they have to spend. When students were asked to rank their five most frequently visited restaurants, results showed

McDonald's as No. 1, followed by Burger King, Bridgeman's, Perkins and the Betty Crocker Pie Shop.

It became evident that restaurants located in Bloomington were visited more frequently than those in another suburb. For example, Cicero's, which is located in Edina, received 11 percent of the students votes, while 37 percent went to Pizza Hut, found in Bloomington.

Apparently, Kennedy students enjoy eating out. They frequently visit places with a very casual atmosphere where they can have fun with their friends. It becomes evident that socializing, rather than eating, is the main point of their excursions.

—Debbie Maxvold & Dana Michel

New ideas for the tired taste buds

It's Saturday night and the team has just won another game. Now that you've used all your energy to cheer the athletes on to victory, you have reached the point in the evening when you must make a crucial decision: should you go out for your 999th hamburger of the year or should you have your 1000th pizza? If your stomach turns at the thought of either possibility, then you might turn your back on the conventional teenage diet and try something different.

That "something different" might be found at the Pantry (7545 Lyndale Av.), a place that specializes in homemade goodies like banana bread, omelettes, and onion rings. Prices range from \$1 to about \$3.

More elaborate — and, not incidentally, more expensive — treats can be found at the Lincoln Del (Highway 494 and France Av.). The Del features delicatessen-style

food, including great desserts and large sandwiches. Prices there run from about \$2 to a complete dinner for \$7. The Lincoln Del is open until 2 a.m. on weekends, and 1 a.m. on weekdays.

For about the same amount of money you can try crepes at the Magic Pan (Ridgedale Center or 815 Nicollet Mall). Specializing in French crepes, the Magic Pan has crepes suitable for snacks, desserts, or even dinners. The Magic Pan is open until midnight every night.

If the delicacy of French cooking isn't your style, you could try some genuine Italian cooking at Mama Rosa's (1827 Riverside Av., Minneapolis). Mama likes to cook up lasagna, rigatoni, and just about any other Italian dish — including your old favorite, pizza. Her prices range from \$2.25 to \$4, and she stays open for business until 2

a.m. every night.

Chi Chi's (7717 Nicollet, by the Left Guard) is another ethnic restaurant, this one featuring Mexican food. Prices run from \$1 to about \$4 for all kinds of Mexican specialties, and the restaurant is open until 1 a.m. weekends and until 11 p.m. on weekdays.

If all this ethnic food has given you indigestion, you could go to the Malt Shop (809 W. 50th St.). There you can indulge in All-American malts and hamburgers. Once at the Malt Shop, you may get brave and prefer one of the special malts made with fresh fruit that is large enough for two people. Unusual sandwiches and omelettes, as well as the malts, may bring your bill to anywhere from \$1.35 to about \$3. The Malt Shop is open until midnight on weekends, 11 p.m. on week nights.

—Lisa Beckstrom

Losing the pounds, gaining the edge

Sitting in the far corner of the lunchroom, the lonely wrestler diverted his eyes from the juicy tacos, warm sweet rolls, and thick, chocolate malts, and played with his wilting salad. He put on low-calorie dressing and felt the emptiness of his stomach all during the long winter months.

He put himself through the torment of self-induced hunger, coupled with vigorous physical exercise at practices, so he could lose weight and wrestle at a weight class lower than his normal weight. Wrestling Coach Dave Arens explained that when wrestlers combine dieting with exercise, their fat turns to muscle. "I see an advantage to losing weight, both psychologically and physically," said Mr. Arens. When wrestlers lose weight, they become quicker. They also gain a height or leverage advantage when they compete at lower weights, he said.

During the season wrestlers constantly watch their food intake. On the day of a meet they often skip meals altogether so they can lose the final two or three pounds which will put them in a lower weight class. After weighing in at 5:30 p.m., they can eat anything that won't come back up during the meet.

Swimmers, meanwhile, have a diet of a different sort. Team members were given the option of participating in a no-carbohydrate diet. Five days prior to the Region Meet some swimmers chose to go without eating any carbohydrates. This voided their bodies of energy. Then, 36 hours before Regions, they began to load up on carbohydrates, which made their bodies overreact and produce extra energy.

Swim Coach Bergie Lang said the diet works for swimmers, both mentally and physically. "Swimmers feel that the diet will bring down their times, and they feel united by this. However, there are many factors which can change their performances," Mr. Lang said.

Did this diet work? According to junior Steve Phelps, "I've done some reading on the diet, and it really helps." His time previous to Regions was 53.2 in the 100-yard freestyle. In Regions, he dropped that down to 51.3. Senior Steve Shalo also dropped his best time, from 53.2 in the 100-freestyle to 51.5.

While their methods were sharply different, wrestlers and swimmers found similar results when they dieted. They became quicker, and hopefully better, at their respective sports. —Jenny Peterson

Finding ways of fighting the fat

Grumbling, rumbling sounds can be heard in every hallway. It is no longer quiet in the All-School Testing Center and library, where it seems that 50 students are mumbling all at once. The source of the persistent noises in the school: stomachs, the starving, moaning stomachs of almost every girl in this school.

Boys seem content to be fat slobs, but girls have more pride in themselves. They know that spring trips to Florida, California, or Hawaii will mean bathing suit dates, and they want to bare their tummies without bulges. Then, too, Prom is coming up, and they want to be able to appeal to reluctant dates.

Whether it's the new fad, spring fever, or just because they're overweight, girls use diets as their main discussion at lunch, five days a week. As they chow down their 65-cent salads, their conversation goes around in circles: "I've lost one and one-half pounds!" "As soon as I lose 15 more pounds, I'll buy a new bathing suit!" "I quit."

Diets vary in cost and effectiveness. The cheapest diet, but probably the hardest to stick to, is the crash diet. It costs nothing (starving is free), but the girl who goes on this diet, and sticks to it, often feels like she belongs in a morgue, not in a school.

Molasses and lemon juice, a liquid mixture to be drunk every hour, is supposed to curb the appetite. Then there is the hot dog-banana-egg diet. On the first day the dieter eats seven hot dogs (no buns); on the second day she eats seven bananas (no peelings); and on the third day she eats seven eggs (no shells). This cycle is to be repeated until the desired amount of weight has been lost.

The no-carbohydrate diet (no bread, no

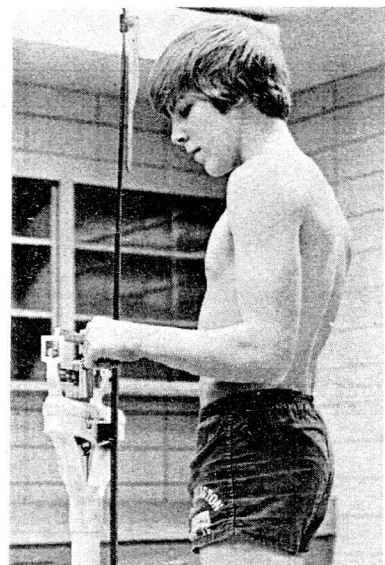
potatoes, no milk, no tacos, no sweet rolls, no anything-worth-eating ...) is another diet, one which may be difficult to stick to. A girl never knows how addicted to carbohydrates she is until they're taken away. A common withdrawal symptom is watering at the mouth at the sight of a donut.

Probably the most expensive diet comes in the form of a commercial kit called "Slender Now." This is for the girl who is truly desperate, who just likes to spend money, or who is dead serious about losing weight. The kit costs \$25 and contains a can of malt mix, two bottles of protein and vitamin pills, and instructions. The dieter is supposed to eat one meal a day, and is told to drink malts twice a day.

For the girl who isn't as serious as some might be about dieting, there is always jogging after school. The jogging is free, but after running the mile or so to Bridgeman's, the jogger may find her run is costing her a few cents.

Excuses abound for those who don't feel like dieting. They may claim they have glandular problems, big bones, or an excess of leftover baby fat. Others may say they eat because they are nervous or depressed, or that they aren't overweight at all, that they simply like to buy the larger sizes of dresses.

More serious girls, however — those who don't want to create a scene on the beach — have switched from the chomp, chomp, chomp of Baby Ruth bars to the crunch, crunch, crunch of Figurines. Those girls know that when they jog to the store, they lose inches galore, but if they stop in the store, they just gain more. —Terri Bowen



Finding the weight he lost last week
Junior Peter Bjerke tries to tip scales



Discovering a couple of new inches
Sophomore Bonnie Ford checks waist



Building up a beautifully bionic body
Senior Jim Makela works on weights

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Ever-changing emotions tell the story

Granted, their minds were not preoccupied with the desire to ride the roller coaster at the local amusement park. However, there seemed to be some relation in the sense that throughout the day the basketball squad — champions of Region 6AA, from Bloomington-Kennedy High School—was riding an emotional teeter-totter.

Although they were situated high above the downtown streets of the capital city, the team found that living in the eleventh-floor hotel suites of the Radisson-St. Paul had no effect on their mood. Naturally, the team was becoming restless; however, the hotel rooms were not filled with frantic, anxious, basketball players picking their noses and chewing their fingernails; that would occur later.

Instead, the majority of the players were lying in beds, wearing little but the necessary underclothing, watching television to learn of the latest news on the tournament's events occurring at the St. Paul Civic Center.

To most of the team, the afternoon was dull, although some found conversation to be a useful means to alter the relatively uninteresting day. In general, the conversation was limited to good natured accusations, and ridicule.

One team member boasted of a large sum of money he had collected at the previous night's poker games. Others kidded among themselves about forgetting to bring the binoculars necessary for peering into the windows of the YWCA across the street. Some upper-classmen even mocked the sophomore who had recently moved from rural Minnesota to Bloomington and had said as he first entered the Civic Center: "Wow! You sure could put a bundle of hay in this place!"

Eventually, appetites began to soar and in the same manner, so did the team's emotions. This persuaded team members to spend some of their \$12 daily food-and-expense allowance at a little Irish

restaurant only a short walk from the hotel. Here they were greeted by the theme of St. Patrick's Day ("Erin Go Braugh!") and a sweet, old waitress who constantly referred to each player as "Honey."

After the steaks, spaghetti, and chicken had been consumed, the team returned to the hotel where another transformation of moods occurred.

The transformation began as the window shades were pulled down and the team became quiet and solemn. It was that special time when the team not only rested to aid digestion, but to give team members time to think and concentrate on the upcoming game.

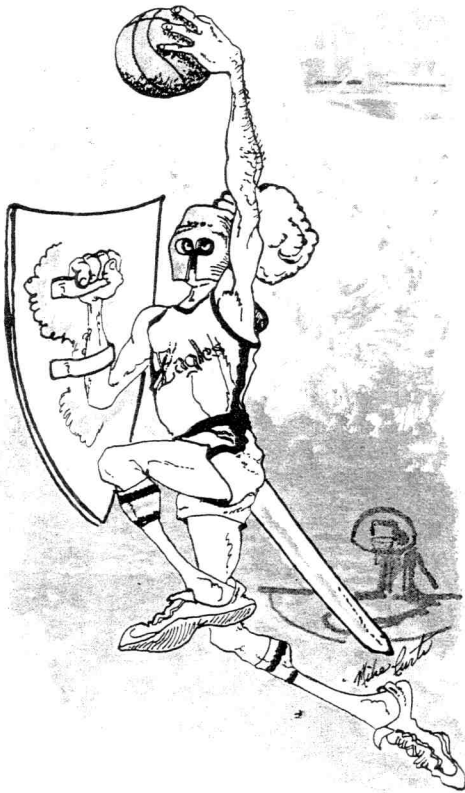
Within the following hour, it was time for the squad to leave. Even though the sun was setting as they left the hotel to walk to the Civic Center, the whole team's spirits rose. In fact, the walk brought about a silly mood.

The silliness became more pronounced as the team entered the lockerroom 45 minutes before the first jump ball. As one player tried to listen to the coach as he gave his last-minute instructions, he fell through the collapsible garbage can that he had tried to make his chair.

However, the silliness did not come to a climax until the muffled sounds of the performing bands and the crowds could be heard through the door. At that point the high pitched moan of the sophomore could distinctly be heard — he had forgotten his tennis shoes at the hotel.

The team seemed to think that this was awfully funny. Then — suddenly — they realized the seriousness of the hour. As they blasted out of the lockerroom and onto the floor of the St. Paul Civic Center, the cheers and enthusiasm of the Kennedy fans rose to a height that was match only by the soaring emotions of the basketball team.

—Paul Weger



Joust getting there was a feat

Once upon a time in the Land of Kennedy there was a scrawny group of boys known as the Knights of the Round Ball. They were led by King Steve of Strommen, Prince Dave of Sulack, and the Duke of McKay.

Few of the peasants in the Land of Kennedy expected the knights to do very well on the battle field as they had lost their two all-conference jousters to higher education. But brave Sir Craig and tall Sir Jim and quick Sir Tim and young Sir Rick and gallant Sir Lee formed together and launched one successful attack after another and when the battle fields cleared those boys had defeated the evil Spartans of Richfield and Skippers of Minnetonka and had won the hand of the beautiful princess, Championessa de Lake Red.

Everyone was joyous and the knights continued to win, beating the knights from the land of the cake and the Lincoln knights from across the fjord.

Now, however, it was time to surrender, for the mighty giants from Robbinsdale were invading. These giants were highly ranked in the lands jousting polls, and had knights as tall as Wilt Chamberlain. Surely, even tall Sir Jim could not be expected to stop these towering giants. But lo and behold, stop them they did, thereby earning the right to appear on WTCN-TV in the Great Tournament.

Traveling across mountains, valleys, great plains, and the crosstown highway, the team finally reached its destination, the Castle Radisson St. Paul. Here they would stay and hold great feasts of Pepsi, Doritos, and eight-tracks.

Finally the time had arrived. Upon the royal court of the St. Paul Civic Center, King Steve and his Knights of the Round Ball were set to do battle with a quintet of knights from the northern land of Duluth.

Maybe the knights from Duluth were superior, maybe they were just from the superior part of the land. But the knights of the Round Ball were defeated, thus proving that winning the jousting championship of the land is as hard as winning a Minnesota State Basketball Championship.

—Tom Larson

Doing the unexpected

Almost nobody would have believed it back in November, but as this year's State Basketball Tournament opened on March 9, there, representing Region 6AA, stood the tall-but-short, slow-but-sure, defensive-oriented Kennedy Eagles.

Despite the fact that Kennedy came home winless from the tournament, losing to eventual runners-up Duluth Central and Rochester Mayo, there still seemed to be an all-around congratulatory school atmosphere which supported the Eagles on their fine performances throughout the year.

It all began with an overtime win over Eisenhower in Kennedy's first conference game of the year. This kept an eight-game winning streak intact. It was the best start, according to head Coach Steve Strommen, in Kennedy's 11-year history.

From then on it was an Eagle-dominated Lake Red Conference which was highlighted by a comeback victory over Richfield in which Kennedy scored the last 15 points unanswered by a battered Richfield team. The regular season ended with a 16-4 overall record and a Lake Red championship clinched before a disappointing loss to a fired-up, revenge-seeking Richfield team.

This loss seemed to have little effect on the Eagles as they began their quest for a Region 6AA title. The Regions began for Kennedy with a rather easy 62-54 victory over a hapless Armstrong team.

After this game things began to get hairy for Eagle players and fans. The next two games went down to the wire with the Eagles coming out on top of both games beating Edina East by one and Lincoln by two. Both games could have been won by larger margins if Kennedy's season-long free-throw-shooting inability could have been overcome.

When Region finals eventually came around, it seemed that the Eagles would have to be content to finish second-best in their Region for the second straight year. This in itself was an accomplishment, considering the Eagles had to face an undefeated Robbinsdale team which included three starters taller than Kennedy's big man, Jim Landes.

But, as before, the Eagles surprised everybody and came back onto the court for the second half fired up and stunned Robbinsdale 46-44 to take home Kennedy's first Regional championship and the right to play in the coveted State Tournament.

According to Coach Strommen, it was the defensive play which held Kennedy in contention with most of the teams throughout the year. "We held teams to a 38 percent shooting average," he said.

It will be hard to replace the stifling defense of the squad that finally made it to the State Tournament. Four of five starters will graduate, leaving only junior Rick Bergien with starting varsity experience. "Rick led the team in rebounds and was second in scoring," said Coach Strommen.

Despite having Bergien for another year, Kennedy will lose outstanding players like Tim Friend, Craig Larson, Lee Krueger and Landes. Point-man Friend, according to Coach Strommen, provided the quickness which enabled Kennedy to break Duluth Central's press where other teams failed, and Captain Larson provided the outside shooting for the team and set a good example with his hard work.

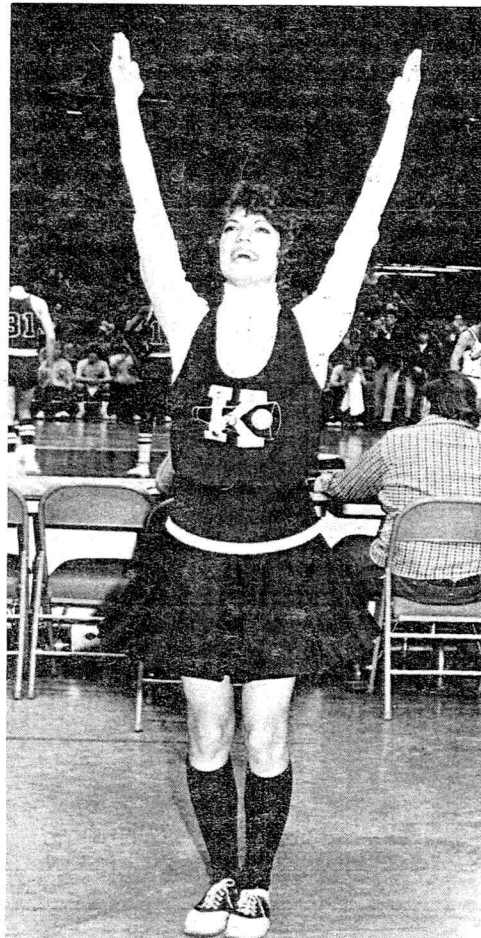
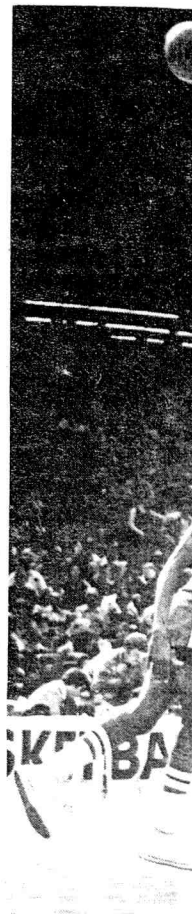
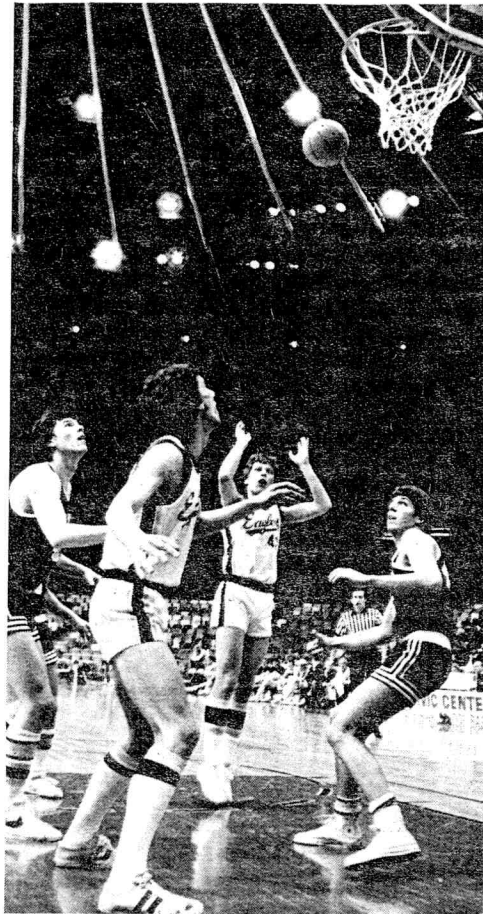
Next year when the Eagles begin their season, Kennedy will have an unknown team similar to the one which compiled a 20-6 enviable record this year. People will probably doubt Kennedy basketball again, but those same doubters found themselves in front of a television on March 9 this year watching the Kennedy Eagles participating in the State Basketball Tournament.

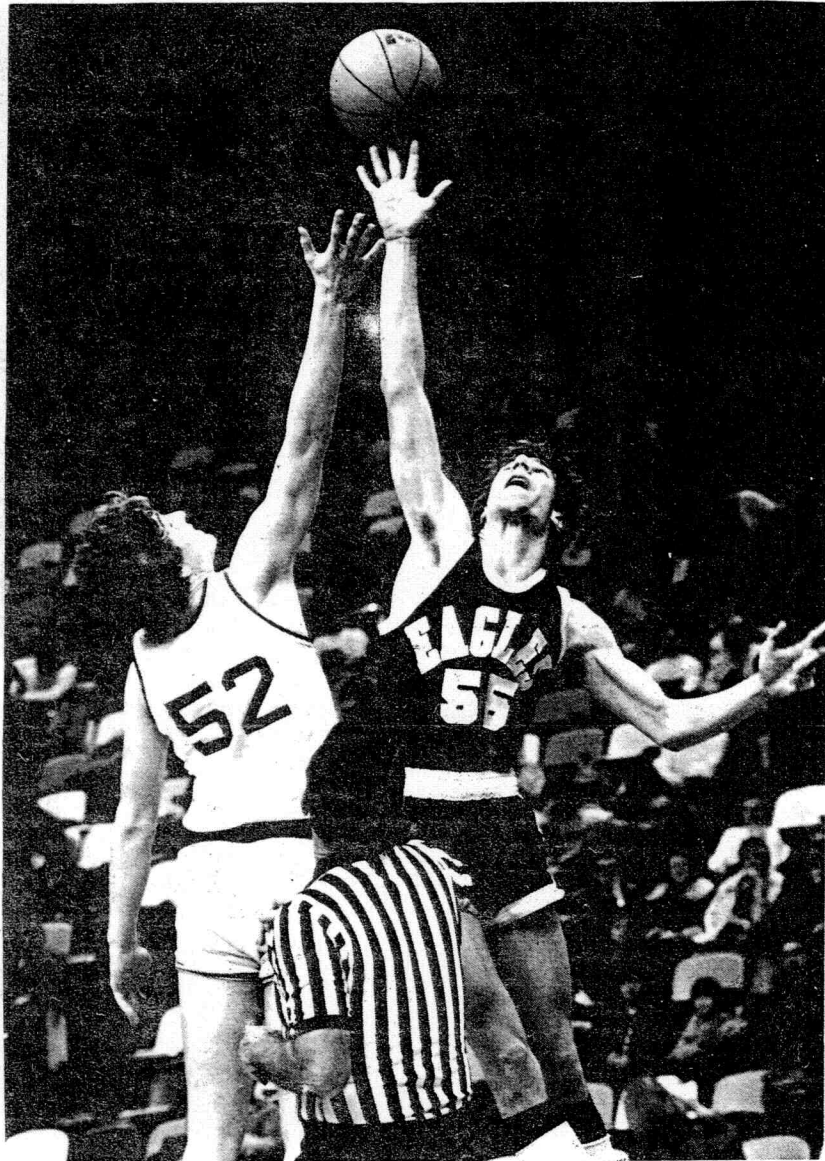
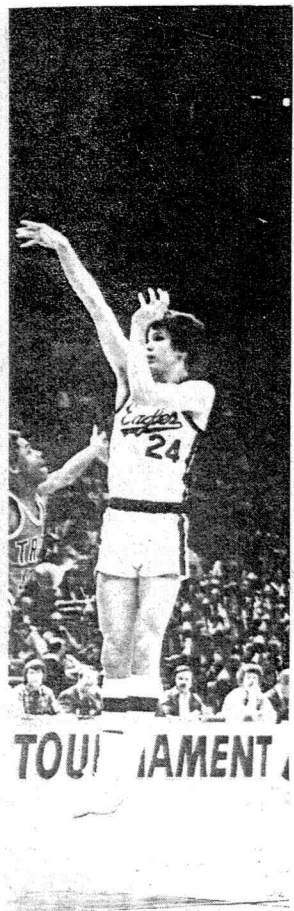
-Mike Bauer

Photo action:

PAGE 8 — Top Left: Lee Krueger takes a jump shot during Consolation round action against Rochester Mayo. Top right: Craig Larson shoots over a Duluth Central player in the opening round of State Tournament play. Lower left: Cheerleader Debbie Van Pelt leads

the fans in a cheer. Lower right: The starting Eagle five prepare for their game against Duluth Central. PAGE 9 — Top left: Tim Friend brings the ball over the time line and prepares to direct the offense. Top right: Jim Landes wins the tip over a Lincoln opponent in a Regional semifinal game. Lower right: Band members keep the fans cheering.





Tankers show success despite record

Although this year's swimming team had a mediocre record, the team showed the enthusiasm and effort of a championship team. This was demonstrated by the fact that the tankers broke six team records.

Another misleading point about the team's record is that the team lost five of their dual meets to teams which finished first, second, third, fourth and twelfth in the State Meet. This type of competition might have had a tendency to depress the team, but, as Head Coach Bergie Lang said, "we could have scheduled teams that we could have easily beat, but sooner or later we would have ended up facing the good teams."

Along with swimming against good competition came the opportunity for the swimmers to gain the experience of swimming against championship-caliber

teams. This proved to be valuable, enabling the team to lower personal bests and finally slash long-standing team records.

One example is senior Dan Wellumson who became the first person in Kennedy swimming history to break five minutes in the 500-yard freestyle event. In addition to this accomplishment, Wellumson missed qualifying for the State Meet by one-tenth of a second in the 200-yard freestyle. His time of 1:49.7 would have placed him high in the State Meet had he been from Northern Minnesota.

Due to the system used in qualifying for the State Meet, other swimmers from Northern Minnesota qualified for the State Meet even though Wellumson swam a faster time. Wellumson also participated in the 400-yard freestyle relay which shattered the previous school record.

"We give a lot of credit for our success to our cheerleaders, who were always backing us up all the way," said Mr. Lang. Twice during the season, the cheerleaders went to the homes of the swimmers to decorate their bedrooms. They also bought Valentine candy for all of the boys. "People generally take the hard work of the cheerleaders for granted, but we really appreciate them."

Concerning the support of the student body in general, Mr. Lang felt that although the team didn't get as many fans as the hockey and basketball teams, there also wasn't as much room available for the people to sit. "I noticed that we had far better support than the teams which we played at our away meets. The people in the stands that pleased me the most to see were the parents of kids no longer in our program," he said.

-Dave Roberman



Junior Wendy Godwin controls the tip-off
Girl cagers hold on to early game lead



Senior Kathy LaBerge gets a shot away
St. Louis Park defenders watch helplessly



Senior Stacy Godwin pulls down a rebound
Eagles beat Park in a Regional quarterfinal

Team unity proves beneficial to girls

After defeating St. Louis Park 49-33 in the quarter finals of the Regional Tournament, the team sat down together to hear Coach Dale Welter tell them that "if we play together as a team, we can beat anyone." This was also demonstrated shortly before the beginning of the tournament when the girls upset Minnetonka, the first-place team in the division, and lost by only one point to second-place Eisenhower.

Upsetting a first-place team only proved further that this team could improve as the season progressed. Improvement over last year was displayed by ending regular season play with a record of 12-4, compared with last year's record of 7-6.

According to Coach Welter, improved offensive skills was only one of the factors contributing to the success of the Eagle

basketball team this year. There were many others. "The team was fairly consistent offensively. We could guarantee approximately 40 points a game," said Coach Welter. With Wendy Godwin, Robin Knudson, and Kathy LaBerge all averaging in double figures, the girl cagers had a well-balanced scoring attack.

Not only the high scorers contributed to the team; other fine performances were turned in by each of the starters, adding to the balance of the team. "Kathy LaBerge is our best perimeter shooter, Wendy Godwin leads the team in scoring, Robin Knudson has an excellent floor game, Cathy Clark averages 9-10 rebounds a game, and Stacy Godwin is a good defensive player," said Coach Welter. "Reserve player Julie Christensen has done a great job, she can substitute for anyone," he added.

Along with the improved skills of the team, fan support has helped contribute to the success of the season. Once again that group of so-called "Rowdies" have made their way into the hearts of coaches and players. "The fans had a definite influence on the outcome of the game. They get us up and keep us going," said Co-captain LaBerge.

Lacking unity at the beginning of the season, the team finished with a feeling of togetherness. "The enthusiasm grew, and the team attitude got better, finally, it was all for one and one for all," said Co-Captain Stacy Godwin.

Everything peaked for the Eagles at playoff time. "The team pulled together and started playing to their potential, although they never truly reached it," said Coach Welter.

-Debbie Linton



Garth Weiss contemplates his play between periods against Jefferson Eagles eventually lose heartbreaker 5-3 during Regions to end season

Icemen emerge after disappointing season, gain Regional success

In the eyes of many people, this year's hockey team did not make the grade when compared to past teams. However, success should not be measured by statistics alone. Success to this year's team meant overcoming the multitude of problems which players faced during the season and coming together to play as an effective unit in post-season Regional play.

This year's team had barriers unlike teams in the past. Early-season injuries and inexperience were key problems that had to be worked out. "Underclassmen felt seniors had to lead the team," said Coach Jerry Peterson, "and it took 14 weeks for the players to realize that it takes a total team effort to win games."

"We knew it could take all year long to get going, but we peaked at the end of the year and that's what counts," said Captain Dave Dillon.

Kennedy also had mental barriers to fight throughout the season. At the beginning of the season the trend of thinking among players and fans was that the team could never be as good as last year's State Consolation champions. According to Coach Peterson, this seemed to affect the team negatively. "The team struggled to gain confidence and prove themselves," said Peterson. During that time mistakes were made and fans were lost. But that didn't stop them. "The kids have a great deal of pride in the school," said Coach Peterson. "They could have given up, but they didn't," he said.

The team was not, however, without its strong points. Defensively, the Eagles ranked fourth in the Lake Conference, allowing the third fewest goals per game. Goalie Scott Olson proved to be a strength for the team. "Scott showed excellent goaltending," said Peterson. "He was a pleasant addition to our team." Dillon also said he felt that Olson contributed highly to the team. "You couldn't have asked for anything more," he said.

As in years past, fan loyalty proved to be encouraging. Pride in Kennedy and its hockey team brought fans to encourage the team through wins and losses. "It's really nice to play at a school where the coach and the fans really care about the hockey program," said Olson, who transferred here from St. Louis Park.

The depth of that caring was shown when the team, seeded low in the playoffs because of a fourth-place Lake Red finish, attracted traditionally large hockey crowds to see them end the year as Region semifinalists.

-Vicki Mertensotto

CAPSULE COVERAGE

BOYS' SWIMMING

The Eagle swimming team sent the following participants to the Minnesota State High School Swimming Meet ... **Joel Olander** goes in diving, **Jack Allen** in the 50 yard freestyle, and **Dan Wellumson** in the 500 freestyle ... A 400 yard freestyle relay team composed of Allen, **Steve Schalo**, **Steve Phelps**, and Wellumson ... The following were the results of the State finals: Olander placed 3rd in diving ... Allen placed 12th with a time of 22.7 ... Wellumson placed 9th, setting a new team record of 4:59.3 in the 500 freestyle ... The 400 freestyle relay set a new team record of 3:22.3 and placed 12th in the State finals.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Defeat Cooper 53-47 ... Demolish Edina East 59-33 ... Squeeze by Fridley 50-48 in overtime ... Win close game with highly-ranked Minnetonka 41-39 ... Beat Richfield 51-41 ... Lose heartbreaker to Eisenhower 44-45 ... Win another close game against Park Center 43-42

... Defeat Wayzata 32-28 ... Lose close decision to Cooper 44-46 ... Girls open region playoffs against Lincoln ... Defeat Lincoln 40-29 ... Down St. Louis Park 49-33 in second Region win.

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS

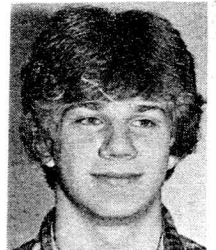
In Regions, this year's Kennedy squad placed 8th out of 21 teams competing and collected a final score of 109.50.

HOCKEY

Defeat St. Louis Park 4-1 ... Lose to Edina West 0-3 ... Beaten by Cooper 2-1 ... Destroy Eisenhower 5-1 ... Shut out by Jefferson 0-3 ... Downed by Lincoln 2-4 ... This was the final regular season game ... Open Region playoff by bombing Rosemount 8-0 ... **Scott Olson** picks up his 3rd shutout ... Win second playoff game by defeating Lincoln 3-0 ... **Todd Buelow** gets two goals and **Tom Barry** picks up two assists ... Olson records 4th shutout ... Lose in total team effort to Jefferson 5-3 ... This loss ends an exceptional season placing 4th in Lake Red.

FACES

Pat Arens, senior tri-captain in wrestling, received All-Conference honors and wrestled to a 3-2 record in this year's State Tournament. Pat holds a varsity career record of 58 wins, 16 losses, and 5 ties. "Pat has acquired skills and technique through many years of wrestling," said Coach Dave Arens.



Denise Davidson, junior, was captain of this year's girls' gymnastics team. Denise has just earned her third letter in gymnastics. "Denise is an excellent student and is well respected and looked up to by her teammates and friends," said Coach Ken Moore. "She is also a super competitor," he said.

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PILOT LIGHT/ Hope for spring warmth once again stopped cold

Is it spring yet?

I saw a kid hobbling down the hall like . . . you know, he had just gotten off a horse.

Track has started.

A guy who has had an "A+" average all three years of high school was sitting in a corner crying his eyes out and trying to slit his wrists with his report card. He had gotten a "B."

Senioritis has set in.

I was walking down the road when an MTC bus came along and hit a puddle. I swam the rest of the way home.

The snow is melting.

Guys have been wearing muscle shirts to show off their Charles Atlas bodies, trying to impress the girls who have been wearing halter tops to show off their foxy figures, trying to impress the guys who have been wearing muscle shirts to show off ...

Suntan weather is setting in.

I sat all alone in my English class and stared out the window. I could see the rest of my English class lying luxuriously in the soft grass, soaking up the sun.

More kids are skipping out.

The car with the black vinyl top that we park under the tree now has a white top.

Birds are coming back.

Walking up to the front door of school I noticed tire marks on the sidewalks and a slight dent in the flagpole.

Sophomores are getting their licenses.

Female bodies are covering the foyer after school, stretching out in a few thousand different directions and giving cheap thrills to the guys who are hobbling around like . . . you know, they had just gotten off a horse.

It's tryout time for cheerleaders and Kollens.



Springing the Prom trap

Girls are wearing their biggest, brightest, friendliest smiles and their personalities are just bubbling over with sweetness and love and devotion and ...

Prom is nearing.

Seniors are sending out college and job applications too late to get into college and too late to get a job.

It's almost graduation time.

I stood outside and gazed up at the silvery stars twinkling brightly against the jet-black sky. The moon stood silent vigil over a reborn land. A warm breeze brushed softly past my face, carrying with it the promise of freshness and fertility. I went to bed feeling happy and at peace with the world, anxious for streams of sunlight gleaming off clean dew-covered grass. My mom woke me up at 6:30 the next morning to shovel 3 feet of new-fallen snow so she could get to work on time.

Yep, it's spring.

--Chris Keprios

Spring brings rookie rah-rahs



Inflated grades leave students with 'A's'

During the last few weeks before the semester ends, students start looking seriously at their grades. Realizing that they may not end up with "A's", they begin to worry. The fretting seems worthless, because the majority of the students at Kennedy finish with better than "C's" for their final grades. Sudden relief quiets their minds when they see their names printed on the Honor Roll lists.

But what does it mean to be on the Honor Roll? Apparently not as much as it did in the past. According to a nationwide survey of college freshmen, grading standards at secondary schools have gone down since the late 1960's. The survey was conducted by the University of California at Los Angeles and the American Council on Education. That study said that freshmen are entering college with higher grades than ever, apparently because of grade inflation. Students entering college with "A" averages, now equal the number that enter with "C" averages.

This problem of grade inflation is apparent at Kennedy, too. With the standard "bell curve" for grading, the average grade should be a "C." The grade average for first semester here, however, was much higher. Out of the entire student body, 26 percent of the students got "A's", while 33.5 percent received "B's", and 23 percent received "C's." This last category should have included the majority of the students.

The Torch feels that Kennedy grading policies should be stronger. Those students that work hard all semester for good grades are cheated by those who end up with "A's" because of last-minute extra-credit projects, make-up work, or their success at conning teachers. Above-average grades aren't honored as much any more because there is such an overabundance of them. Right now it doesn't take much to get a "C", and with a little more effort a student may receive an "A."

'Rocky': Unique love story wins by knockout

It brings a tear to the eye, but it is not a tear-jerker. It stirs laughter but it is not a comedy. It is filled with serious, quiet moments but it is not a drama. Instead, "Rocky" is a unique combination of these three. It is a simple, unpretentious movie about one man's life and loves, a movie that has garnered ten Academy Award nominations.

"Rocky" displays the unique and immense talent of its creator and star, Sylvester Stallone. Stallone's screenplay, which has been nominated for an Academy Award, is one of the simplest and yet most engrossing and enjoyable stories to surface

in a long time. The premise of a two-bit fighter, such as Rocky Balboa, getting a crack at the heavy-weight championship simply because of his name (The Italian Stallion) may seem slightly preposterous, but the sincerity of the story seems to overcome this.

Situated in the slums of south Philly, "Rocky" is a film about poor and lonely people, people who are touched by the supposedly lowly Rocky. Rocky, a bum to even bums, is not a usual sort of hero. In fact, he is more of an anti-hero. A bad fighter and a worse collector for a loan shark, Rocky Balboa seems to be a no one, a slow-witted, naive nobody, until he is given the chance to prove himself to the world and to himself.

Another aspect of the movie, besides the fight, is Rocky's relationship with his girlfriend who is superbly played by Talia Shire. A shy, old-maidish sort of girl who works in a pet shop which Rocky frequents,

she is puzzled by his interest in her and reacts by avoiding him. Slowly though, she learns to know him and to love him.

"Rocky" is a well-acted and directed film. The title roles are extremely well-played by Stallone and Shire. Supporting roles are also superbly played. Burgess Meredith is excellent in the role of Rocky's trainer and the owner of a gym. A former fighter, he knows exactly what Rocky wants and needs. Burt Young adapts well to the role of Rocky's friend and his girlfriends brother, but he is a bit too forceful. Carl Weathers is fascinating as a world champion boxer, Apollo Creed. He is a sort of Mohammed Ali with a bit more class.

A new and different sort of movie, "Rocky" has been acclaimed by many as the movie of the year if not the decade. It has captured the hearts of all America with one simple, often overlooked theme: that love is everywhere and that it can conquer anything.

-Julie Schmid

Boston: An experience in a new era of rock

Lining up from one end of the St. Paul Civic Center main hall to the other were 2,000 to 3,000 fans waiting for front row seats to the hottest band in the United States: Boston.

The gates opened at 6 p.m., and many fans literally ran down to the stage at the end of the arena and got set for 3 hours of ear-blowing music. Many people didn't just sit and wait, however, as there were numerous activities going on, ranging from throwing frisbees to lighting off firecrackers and smoking pot.

By the time the opening act was ready at 7:30 p.m., the arena, which seats 17,000,

was full. The lights went down, signaling the opening of the first band's show.

The opening band was Starcastle, an American classical-rock sextet which was patterned almost solely after Yes, a very successful British group of this type.

Starcastle's music was very artistic, although they did stretch it out a few times. Their showmanship was superior to even the main attraction. They played and moved about the stage with such coordination that they appeared to be one body. Along with this came flashing, rainbow colored lights in pulsating rhythms that brought out some wild cheers from the crowd.

Starcastle performed for 45 minutes including their encore, and they received a standing ovation at their departure.

Next came the main attraction, Boston, and they came out strong with their beginning number, "Rock and Roll Band", which seemed to bring a new wave of excitement to the crowd.

They were an energetic group, yet they played with a harmony not found in most other hard rock bands. They didn't have any fancy instruments, just three guitars, an organ, and drums, but they used these to a high level of professionalism.

Boston's weakness was very evidently their stage show. Their light show was similar to, but not as good as, that of Starcastle. Their stage movement was centered on 29-year old lead singer, Brad Delp, who did not move around the stage as much as he should have. Only once did he demonstrate any real showmanship, when he inspired the crowd to clap along on "Smokin.'" Boston finished up their show with their latest hit single, "Long Time", and it was clearly the high point of their performance.

If Boston can keep turning out new material, while building up a stage show, it may very well start a new phase in American music.

-Glen Broemer

Darkness surrounds Kris' Norwegian winter home

(Editor's note: Kris Hull, a Torch correspondent who is an AFS student, offers this report on the three-months of night in Northern Norway.)

When I first learned that I would be spending my AFS year in Norway, thoughts of fjords, mountains, skiing, rosemaling, and lutefisk immediately raced through my mind. However, one thing I had never associated with Norway was three winter months without sun. Not all Norwegians are privileged with such an experience, but those who live above the Arctic Circle are.



Kris Hull and her AFS brother, Roar Jensen, play on their "Spark" or kick sled.

Hence, I too would be experiencing this period of darkness in Storslett.

I first discovered that this unique lack of sun existed in Northern Norway when I read through the AFS forms. There was a sentence in bold capital letters saying, "CAN BE DEPRESSING DURING THE WINTER WHEN IT IS DARK FOR SEVERAL MONTHS." It is very hard to describe my feelings at that moment but I slowly reread the sentence, trying to let the full meaning sink in ... dark for several months ... no sun ... I tried to picture it. However, I didn't have much time to think about it as I busily packed and then, after my arrival, was busy getting adjusted to my new life.

As the autumn days sped by, dusk began to set in earlier, and dawn began setting in later, each day. It was easy to see from week to week that the sun was shining considerably less and less. By the end of October, the sun could barely be seen touching the mountains for an hour in the mornings.

During the first week of November the sun made its final appearances. I had expected that during these final days, everyone would be anxious to see the sun for

the final time. However, no such attempt was made. I assume that since it was such a gradual change, it seemed almost natural without the sun.

As the darkness stretched on, it became easy to feel unusually tired. So, during these first months, a few extra hours of sleep each night were needed by most. I was also being constantly told stories about those who, during these sunless months, easily became confused to whether it was day or night. Luckily, I felt no such confusion.

Darkness was not the only aspect of these months, as many nights the sky was filled with beautiful streaks of color. Also, at the fifth of each month, the moon was so full and bright that the streets seemed to be filled with lamps. Thus, since these dark months were filled with more than just the lack of sunlight, the time flew by.

Finally, on Jan. 29, the sun returned to Storslett. For approximately an hour in the morning, the mountain tops were again glazed with the sun's rays. With the first welcome appearance of the sun, the "dark" memories of the past three months seemed to fade away as the sun's golden rays returned to warm the countryside once again.

School district shuffle puzzles educators

As the problems of education — high energy costs, declining enrollments, over-taxed parents, and turned-off kids — grow more acute, many varieties of solutions are offered. It seems, however, that many of these solutions add to, not ease, the problems.

This appears to be the case with State Senate File No. 156, a bill proposed to reorganize the structure of school districts in Minnesota. The stated purpose of the bill is to provide better educational opportunities for all students, to make more efficient and economical use of schools, and to insure more equitable distribution of funds.

In brief, the bill provides for the dissolution of the present school districts on July 1, 1979, and then reformation into 92 county-like units. Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, and the 11th district in Anoka County would be exceptions to this. All faculty members — principals, teachers, administrators — would be included on a master list for the new district, and the hiring, placement, and tenure of these personnel would be based on the master list, dated from the first actual day of service in the dissolved district.

The theory behind the bill is to cut school administrative costs and put these savings back into student program and activities. Other benefits, as listed by the major sponsor of the bill, Sen. Jerald Anderson (DFL-North Branch) are that a uniform educational standard could be established for all students; the new, larger districts

could more easily absorb declines in enrollment, and the finances could be balanced more easily, thus saving more tax money for the actual education of students.

As further testimony is heard, the bill seems to draw more opponents than supporters. Both the Minnesota Federation of Teachers and the Minnesota Association of School Administrators say they do not approve of the bill in its present form.

Legislative and education groups are in agreement that something must be done to ease the problems our schools are in, but there the agreement ends. Some feel the bill is too strong, that it would make school administration too remote and impersonal.

Still others in opposition say any administrative savings would be swallowed up by increased teacher costs, especially in the older districts where the staff maturity/tenure level is higher. Critics also believe the new districts would be too large, and once again there would be administrative red tape problems. Personal loyalties to schools, opposition to busing students to different schools, and objections to the method of determining tenure are further reasons that the bill is widely opposed.

The concept of helping out troubled educational systems is welcome, but this bill falls short of a working solution. It has been beneficial, however, as it has stimulated more discussion and proposals to this long-neglected problem. A fair solution must be reached through more thorough research, planning, and input from concerned parties. The solution should include the

ability of districts to share resources, updated seniority and retirement laws, and a compromise between local control and administrative efficiency. Most importantly, the historical bond between the citizens, their children, their money and its use, must be maintained. —Steve Bergesen

THE TORCH

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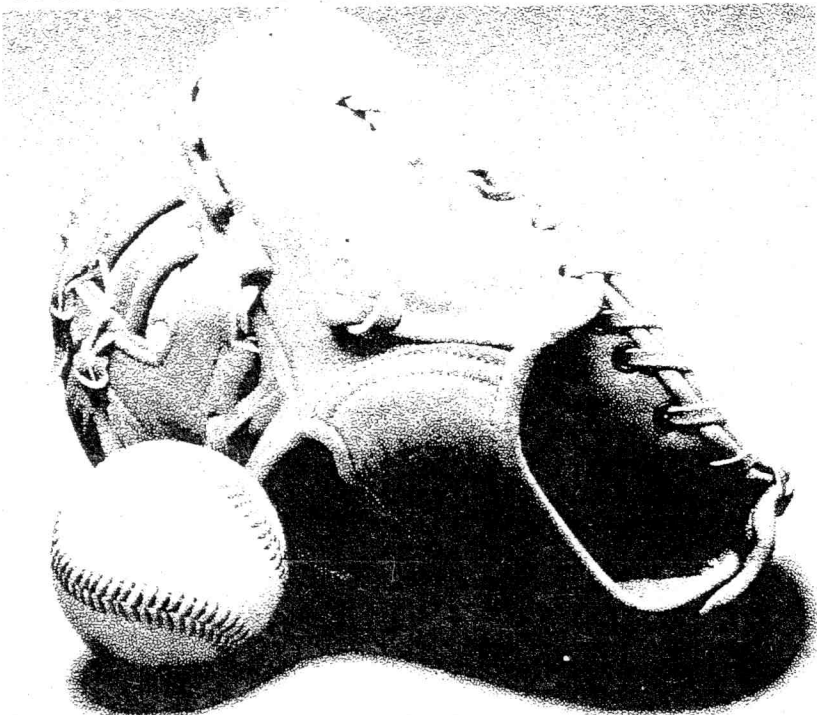
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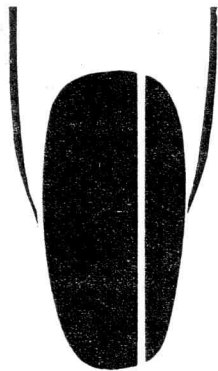


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