



# The History Will Give Us Right

#### **WEIRD THOUGHTS By Tom Porathe**

After four months of constant existence in this world of yours, I have found it my duty to settle down in front of this world and tell my sincere feelings—as a true citizen of a true democracy—Sweden.

Surviving the mighty holiday, Thanks—giving, which I spent according to the tradition, eating turkey (a holiday unknown to every fateful Swede), I now feel prepared to begin.

It was not without great grief that I was forced to glare into the eye of cruel reality. It was on the 7th of November, that I realized that there is something wrong with the SYSTEM.

When such an honorable and honest man

When such an honorable and honest man as Senator George McGovern was cheated as Senator George McGovern was cheated on the candy, is not only a shame and a disgrace to the country, and in fact to the very principles it stands for, it also shows that the Silent Majority stayed home on election day (partly due to Pentagon directed cold) and turned around and continued sleeping on the other side. That our honorable citizen, Dick Clark, won, and Ted Ellsworth lost (to the badly concealed constemation of Gary Hoag), is of course always a comfort. It doesn't compensate for the disappointment, I am sure, we all feel for another four years am sure, we all feel for another four years with Richard Nixon. Years characterized by inclining inflation of the lunch prices, by inclining inflation of the lunch prices, increased unemployment among teachers, and the never-ending Vietnam War for us to grow up and die in. (If you don't want to desert to Sweden, of course.)

Otherwise, I want to state that I am having a great time. The American school is very relaxing compared to the Swedish

school system. I enjoy greatly my subjects. as I have had the opportunity to choose classes that I like. In Sweden you just choose a main line, and then you get a lot of subjects which you perhaps don't enjoy. My-self, for example, am going on the "naturescientific" line, which is the most college preparing line. I will, during my three years in high schol, have had the following subjects: Swedish, English, German, French, maths, physics, chemistry, biology, history, philosophy, arts, art and

music nistory, social science and P.E. (In junior high students have home economics, geography, and "baby knowledge", to name a few.) I do enjoy your way of

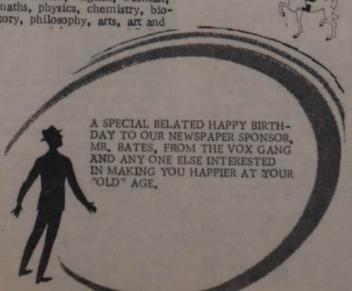
leave the school if he has a free period. Perhaps this is the point: Students are not trusted, and therefore, does not develop responsibility.

My own system in Sweden, I feel, gives you more responsibility. It is your education. If you don't want to have it, then the school is voluntary. We have ten to fifteen minute intermissions during the school day and 60 minutes for lunch-en-

tirely open. Since a few years back, students have been allowed to sign their own

I have not been here long enough to judge the American school system as a part

Until then, with the words of Mr. Mc-Habe in "Up The Down Staircase: You just keep track of them! '



# Three Teachers Interviewed



RINAS: taught 22 years

We seldom stop to realize how long some of our teachers have been in our school system. That is why I interviewed Mr. Bruno Rinas (well known to us here at school as a physics, chemistry, and science teach-

er.)
He grew up in North Dakota, graduated from High School and then began his career in science. He became interested in science only for one reason: he was curious to find out how things functioned. Through his seven years of college, he attended Iowa State, University of Colorado, New Mexico Highlander University, Coe College and University of Northern Iowa. During this time he majored in agriculture, being accident thern lowa. During this time he major-ed in agriculture, basic science, and education. He now has a degree in Ba-sic and Natural Science and has been teaching in the high schools for 22 years in the Marion District.

Mr. Rinas is married and has four chil-dren and five grandchildren. He enjoys

most sports. When asked about future teaching, he replied: "I would like to teach for another twenty-two years, but I'm sure I



mics, geography, and baby knowledge to name a few.) I do enjoy your way of being able to freely choose subjects, and so plan your education more individually. Although, I suspect that in many cases it may result in a less sufficient education. However, there are certain differences between our school systems which I have difficulty adjusting to. Your system seems to treat its students as "objects of education" to be kept closely watched, instead of treating them as responsible individuals. It seems like the school in no way trusts the students. If he is late for class, he must magically appeared a week before Thankshave a pass; if he is going somewhere, he must have a pass; he is not allowed to leave the school if he has a free period. Perhaps this is the point: Students are not trusted, and therefore, does not develop responsibility.

My own system in Sweden, I feel, gives you more responsibility. It is your education. If you don't want to have it, then the school is voluntary. We have ten to fifteen minute intermissions during the fifteen minute intermissions the fifteen minute intermissions the fifteen min now it is a holi-month, beginning on Thanks-giving day. It is becoming a cancer that, finished demolishing one month, insists upon creeping its insiduous way through the rest of the calendar. Not that I have of the American school system as a part of the American community, and the above thoughts are just personal reflections after three months inside your own system. Perhaps a more liberal system would not work; who knows. Perhaps there-in lies a "part" of the key to higher motivation for staying in school.

Juntil then, with the real after the design and the christmas spirit, mind; as a matter of fact, I think that it is an admirable feeling, and one that the world needs more of. However, man, being basically impossible to live with, is only capable of so much peace on earth and even less good will toward men. By the time Christmas rolls around, everyone is so tired of being pice and the christmas spirit, mind; as a matter of fact, I think that it is an admirable feeling, and one that the world needs more of. However, man, being basically impossible to live with, is only capable of so much peace on earth and even less good will toward men. By the time anything against the Christmas spirit, mind; of being nice and worrying about what to buy for Great-aunt Edna, they don't care if Christmas Day ever comes. Oblivious, the stores and advertising companies can tinue to move up the date in their unceasing quest for the elusive dollar.

If this trend of "earlifying" Christmas continues, ridiculous circumstances are sure to

tinues, ridiculous circumstances are sure to result. Even now Santa Claus has to arrive in a helicopter because enough snow to support his sleigh has not yet fallen by the time he arrives. Imagine what will happen when Christmas starts not with Thanksgiving, but with Labor Day. Santa will have to come to his little air-conditioned house in an open convertible. There will probably be a rash of heat-stroke patients among the snow-suited Santas. However, the companies that make artificial snow in a can will make a fortune.

the companies that make artificial snow in a can will make a fortune.

Maybe Madison Avenue will decide that we need two Christmases, with six months preparation for each. Year-round Christmas! What a break for the chain stores and toy manufacturers! For the rest of the people, it's not so great. What's so special about Christmas if it happens all year? Just as no one gets excited about year? Just as no one gets excited about Tuesday because one comes every week, so Christmas will lose the splendor, the love and joy that makes it Christmas. Let us pray that Christmas does not become more corrupt than it already is.

By Jan Gallagher



GHERE: new this year

By Terry Maginnis Mr. Ghere, a new teacher this year, is starting his teaching career at Marion High School. He was born and raised in Independence, Iowa and attended school at Independence. Mr. Ghere went to college at Morningside, in Sioux City.

Presently Mr. Ghere is married and lives in Marion.

in Marion. His main interest is sports of

all kinds.

I asked him what his opinion of Marion
High School was and he said, "We have
a lot of capable students with good ideas."

We are looking forward to many good
years with Mr. Ghere.!



#### 3 English classes

By Terri Larsen
Who's the English teacher that has three
English classes in the morning, then disappears? It's Mrs. Thompson! She teaches two, English I classes in rooms 20 and
18. She also has an English III class for
this sequence. She has two children and this semester. She has two children and has been a teacher for eight years.
She went to college at the University of Northern Colorado, Northwest Missouri State, and University of Iowa. She is presently going to college and almost has her Masters Degree. I asked her if she had always wanted to be an English teacher and without even having to stop and cher and without even having to stop and think, she replied, "Yes, because it was my favorite subject in school and it's interesting," She has taught here at Marion High School previously for two years and says she likes it "very much".

# **American Slang**

Every once in awhile it's nice to get away from the old vocabulary lists in English class, and find out about a different kind of vocabulary. The kind that Carl Sandburg described as "... language that takes off its coat, spits on its hands, and goes to work. following are some examples of. . .
THE AMERICAN SLANG:
Amateur night--when athletes perform

ineffectively

Bail out--to rid oneself of one's girl friend or boy friend

Barbeque -- an attractive girl Beard--an intellectual person Bird dog--a chaperone at a school

Creampuff -- a weakling or a sissy Drink your beer--shut up fin--the human head Finger-popper--a person who is always snapping his fingers

Flufflog--a little black book Fizyskin--one dollar bill Gams--legs Glime--eyeglasses Grandfather--senior student Grandma--low gear Jim Jams--jangled nerves Keek--pepping Tom Labonza--the posterior
Load of hay--long hair
Meathall--a creep or drip
Nice Nellie--a prude of either sex
Out in left field--wrong Pantywaist -- a cowardly boy Pitch woo--to neck Pretzel bender--a peculiar person

Rhubarb--a noisy argument Satchel--big mouth Tawny--excellent Wowser--a kill joy Wrinkle--fashion Yo-yo--a compromising person Zazzle--sex appeal

### Girls Record

#### Stands At 2-5

By Mike Jacobs

So far this season, I don't think the Varsity team is doing as well as it can. Their record is 2-5 now, but by the end of the season, I think they are capable of having 14-6 overall record.

In the opening game, the Varsity girls were beaten by Anamosa--60-37. Kim Skilling led Marion with 19 points and Darlene Collins collected 12.

Darlene Collins collected 12.

Next Marion clobbered West Dubuque 4924. Kim Skilling led the way with 21 points and Darlene Collins added 18. Defensively Diane Morrow had four steals and five rebounds, Cheryl Walker had five steals and three rebounds, and Dee Hunt had three steals and six rebounds.

At home against Manchester, the gals were nipped by five points, 53-48. Kim Skilling had 22 points, while Darlene Collins gunned in 17. On defense, Karen Folkers had seven rebounds and five steals,

Folkers had seven rebounds and five steals, and Cheryl Walker had five and two.

Dee Hunt played exceptionally well on the defensive end.

The Tipton game found our varsity girls at the short end, 78-67. However, Skilling had 31 points and Collins had 24 (some

and Walker played well on defense, but not quite good enough to stop the towering Vintonians.

In the first game of a three-game con-test, the Indianettes lost to Independence 54 to 41. Kim Skilling canned 25 points, while Darlene Collins popped in 12. Defensively, Cheryl Walker, Diane Morrow, and Dee Hunt had 11 steals and 15 rebounds, Marion Students

collectively.

All the girls have to do is put it all together and be consistent. If they can do this, they should go 12-1 in the remaining games this season.

NOTE OF INTEREST!

If you take a gander at the south trophy case, you will see a small silver cup. IT'S A GIRLS BASKETBALL TROPHY WON IN







### Opens Season With 3 Wins

By Stephen Stolze
The Marion Varsity basketball team opened thieir season with three impressive victories in their first three outings, and jumped into the early lead in the Wamac conference race. Marion opened the season with a 51-

of the year, beating Maquoketa 47-30. Kin Skilling popped in 23 points worth, with Darlene Collins contributing 18 points more. Cheryl Walker, Diane Morrow, and Dee Hunt played exceptionally well on the season with a 51-42 win over Linn-Mar, winning it in the first half, building up a 27-7 halftime lead. Most coaches would have to admire Marion for holding their opponents to seven in a half, but the Lines outcome. to seven in a half, but the Lions outscor-ed Marion 35-24 in the second half to keep it close. Gregg Anderson led the Indians in scoring, coming off the bench with 15 points.

Against a team much taller, Marion came out again on the "short" end. V inton won 73-45. Beth Mork led all Marion scorers with 12 points, and Jean Peters' had 10. Debbie Wood also added six points. Hunt and Walker played well on defense but In the Indians next game, they won a 17, kept them in the game as Monti had 7 more field goals at the half. In the second half, however, Marion tightened their defense and worked the offense; holding the lead throughout the second half. Leading the Indians once again in scoring, with 25 points plus pulling down 12 rebounds,

# Appear In **Honor Band**

On December 2, seven students from Marion participated in the Northeast Iowa bandmasters association honor band festival held at Independence. Selected as members of the 254 piece high school band, were Nancy Griffin and Bob Hemmingsen, Bb clarinet; Pam Olson and Mark Zeigler, French horn; Tim Carter, baritone saxo-

French horn; Tim Carter, baritone saxophone; and Mike Benedict, comet. Karen Williamson, oboe, was selected for the junior high band. The two bands practiced during the day and then gave a concert for the public that evening.

The Marion band presented its own Winter Concert on December 7 in the high school auditorium. Among the selections played were "Mount of Might March" by Eric Osterling, "Merry Wives of Windsor Overture' by Nicolai, Leroy Anderson's "A Christmas Festival," "Selections from Fiddler on the Roof" by Harnick and Bock, "Rudolph's Christmas Party" by Johnny Marks, and a collection of "Sounds from The Stadium".

The stage band also played two numbers, tight Marion zone, as the open player scored the winning goal, High scorer for the Indians was Jeff Knott with 21 points. The Indians bounced back in their next game against Anamosa in a convincing day, as ten of the eleven Indians scored. Marion shot off to a quick 11-0 start, and blitzed to a 29-11 halftime lead. Turning on the fast break, they racked up 40 more fresh troops coming in against the tired Anamosa team. Heading the scoring for Marion was Terry Jensen as he scored 20 points. The stage band also played two numbers, "No Way" and "Rockin' Horse."

was Gregg Anderson. Barry Hopkins had 14 rebounds and Brad Kiburz had 11. First year Varsity coach, Larry Perkins, also praised the play of Mark Hess (second high with 11 points), and Don Wishniewsky. Others scoring for the Indians were Barry Hopkins with 9, Brad Kiburz, and Jon Morris with 8, and Don Wishniewsky with 6.

In their third contest of the year, the Indians won a big road game at Vinton, 76-60. The Indians big second quarter gave them the lead which they held for the rest of the game.

Gregg Anderson had a big night for Marion leading all scorers with 31 points, hitting 14-24 shots from the field. Barry Hopkins was next with 14 points, and Mark Hess had 13.

Two main factors in the Indians success is their strong bench which includes seven possible starters, and their steady rebounding. Marion has out-rebounded every opponent this year.

If they give a team-effort every game, they are going to be hard to beat this year.

#### 'THE MORNING SQUADS' SATURDAY A.M.

By Stephen Stolze
The Marion JV Volunteers, otherwise known as "The Morning Squads", because they play most of their games on Saturday morning, got off to a good start de-spite being upset by Vinton 54-53 in the last 14 rebounds, two seconds of the game. The highly tout-ed Indians expected to be one of the top

dy Massial C had an impre Against Inde mulated a 19 JV teams in the area; appeared to have the game won with seven seconds left after Ter- minutes later. The girls pulled the game ry Jensen sank two free throws to put Marion ahead by 1. But a perfectly thrown 3/4 court pass found an opening in the tight Marion zone, as the open player

Marion shot off to a quick 11-0 start, and blitzed to a 29-11 halftime lead. Turning on the fast break, they racked up 40 more points in the second half, as they kept the

# Doug Out, Sports Great Interviewed

Today I am going to interview former baseball catching great, Doug Out, who has recently published a book called "On the Bench." It is based on his life in baseball. Doug spent 14 years in the Major Leagues, and set a record for the most past balls by a catcher in a career. Here is how the interview went! interview went!

STAT MANN:

Doug, I understand that you once played in the 1964 World Series. That must have been exciting.

"Yes, I was one of the main factors in the St. Louis Cardinals winning the pennant and World Series. I had the flu the last 2 weeks of the season and didn't play. Besides the World Series, what other big thrills have you had?

"Well, once I was intentionally walked by the Great Sandy Koufax and another time I singled in the winning run of our first intrasquad game of spring training. Another time I beat out Crummy Zimmerman for the starting catcher's position in the father-son ballgame.

Now you've been traded 4 times during Hello there sports fans, this is Stat Mann, your career, and I wondered if there was

any special way the team let you know? "Oh yes! One time the manager called me and told me we were playing a night game, and the next day in the paper it said that we had played in the afternoon. Another time I walked into the locker room and the manager said to me, "No to the wall".

You caught some knuckleball pitchers in

your career didn't you?
"No, but I chased a few."

What proved to be the best way to catch the Knuckler?

"Oh, I just let it roll until it stopped."
Did you ever have any embarrassing mo-

ments in your career?
"Well, I considered them more of challenges than embarrassments. Like the time I came up in the last inning with the bases loaded in a close game, I looked over in the other dugout and the players were already in their street clothes. Or, if I was the first batter in an inning and I hit a grounder to the third baseman, he would

throw it to second base and then to first to get me out. Or, instead of the catcher giving signals to the pitcher when I was up, he would yell out to the pitcher what to throw me.

I understand you were a good hitter. I never had to worry about my hitting. Neither did many other teams. I had a lifetime batting average of .200 which ties visitors allowed or they'll nail your uniform me for 10th place with Don Carter on the to the wall". all-time high bowling averages."

What are your current plans for the future? "Currently, I am a broadcaster for the Chicago Cubs of the 3-I league. But I soon hope to be broadcasting in the Major Leagues.

That concludes our interview with Doug Out. Next time we plan to have feature articles on wrestling champion Jacque Lock and new fencing champion El Twapp.

Remember, if we don't know the scores, we'll use old ones. By Stephen Stolze

# **Girls JV Cagers** Have 5-4 Record

By Mike Jacobs

The girls Jayvee basketball team has a 5-4 record so far this season.

In the opening game at Anamosa, we trailed 21-14 at half, but then put on an exciting, but vain comeback and lost 37-35. For the game Karen Williamson led Marion scorers with 12 points. Wendy Marshall and Terri McKern follow-ed with 6 and 5 respectively. Next, against West Dubuque, the girls won the game 37-28. Leading scorer for

the game was Mary Ann Victor with 13, followed by Karen Williamson with 8 and Debbie Wood with 8. Defensively, Diane Hackert played a superb game, swiping 5 passes and collecting 8 rebounds.

Against Prairie, the Jayvee could do no wrong. They walloped the "Prairie Six," 81-12. In the game, Karen Williamson led all scorers with 26; follows ed by Lynn Benkusky with 20, and Shel-ly Jacobs and Terri McKem with 12 each. In the next game, against Manchester, Coach Hammill's players were behind the whole game, until they rallied to tie the score at 38 apiece. But then they fell apart for good and lost 48-38. In the scoring column Karen Williamson led with 19, followed by Shelly Jacobs

with 12, and Terri McKern with 4. In the game against Tipton, the Marion girls were victorious by the score of 45-38. Karen Williamson and Shelly Jacobs again led Marion with 28 and 12 points respectively. Great defensive performance was turned in by Diane Hackert, with five steals and nine rebounds. Tierney Oakley also played good ball with six steals and four rebounds.

In the Vinton game, Marion couldn't handle a superior height advantage, losing 48 to 32. Leading scorers were Kar-Williamson and Terri McKern. Diane Hackert again turned in a good defensive game with two steals and eight rebounds.

bounds.

At Anamosa, in a freshman game, the Marion "A" squad won 58 to 54. The "B" team unfortunately suffered a 25-22 setback. That same night the girls JV lost 57-52 in overtime to a good Maquoketa team. Leading scorers for the Indians were April Sorenson (25 points) and Wendy Marshall (15 points). Diane Hackert had an impressive defensive game with 14 rebounds.

Against Independence, Marion accumulated a 19 to 3 lead at one time, but relinquished their lead to 24 to 22 a few out, however, with a nine point scoring spurt in the waning moments of the game. In the game, Wendy Marshall led Marion scorers with 11 points, followed by Shelly Jacobs and Karen Williamson with 8. Pat Offerman, the shortest girl on the court, hauled in seven rebounds and two steals. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, GIRLS!

### 'Up the Down Staircase' Presented

On the night of November 17, the curtains of the MHS auditorium opened upon a familiar scene: a classroom. In this unique setting, two fine performances of "Up the Down Staircase", a play by Bel Kaufman, were given by a talented cast of performers.

The play is a true story of a young teacher in her first job in a crowded New York City school. Matters are a lot different than what she envisioned: most of the students are disrespectful and would rather be somewhere else, the teachers all have their own hangups, and the school is usually in mass confusion. But the longer she teaches, the more she is drawn into both the teachers' and pupils' lives, trying to find what makes them tick. This part was played beautifully by Julie Taylor.

Other exceptional performances were given by, well, everyone, but especially Ju-lie Clark, Jim Cerney, Randy Wade, and Gary Hoag as members of the faculty, I know a lot of players go 0-4, 0-5 duragame. Did you ever?

"Oh sure, but I went 0 for June, 0 for July, and Tom Porathe and Denise Bennett and Jon Ward as students."

If you managed to tear your eyes off the actors and actresses, you might have not-feed some of the other very important details. The unsung heroes of the stage, prop, lighting, and makeup crews really deserved a round of applause all their own.

An extra big thank you should go to Mrs.
Hulin and Mrs. Stack. They seem to have
a habit of producing hits, and "Up the Down
Staircase" was no exception.
Broadway, look out!
By Jennie Balcom.

## Wrestling Results

By Mike Jacobs Hello-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o wrestling fans. In the Marion-Benton wrestling tans. In the Marion-Benton community dual meet, Marion romped 44-7. In the opening match, Mark Moeller won, 10-0. At 105 pounds Kevin Klopfenstein tied 5-5. Kane Collins won by a score 2-1. Rick Thomas pinned his man in the time of 2:50. Steve Davidson, Marions only loser, was edged 6-5. Dan Hoke won his match 3-1. Gary Bolden won an exciting 1-0 cliffhanger. Marty Carter won a good match 5-2. Bruce Waters won won a good match 5-2. Bruce Waters won on a pin in the time of 4:58. Mark Olsen pinned his opponent in 3:02. 185 pounder, Mark McCormack tied with his opponent 3-3, and Rick Long pinned his man in the fastest fall of the night at 1:17.

At the Vinton Invitational, Marion finished a very close second with three individual winners: Glen McCue, Rick Thomas,

and Gary Bolden. McCue won the semis 3-0 and went on to win the finals 11-0. Kevin Klopfen-stein was nipped in the semifinals 3-2, but turned reversed the score as he won in overtime in the consolation match. Kane Collins lost in the semis 5-0, but came back and shut out his opponent 2-0 in overtime. Rick Thomas won his first match 13-4 and then threw his opponent match 13-4 and then threw his opponent in the finals in 5:45. Steve Davidson, as well as Marty Carter, Mark Olson, and Mark McCormack, didn't make it into the semifinals as they were beaten in the first round. Dan Hoke, in his semifinal match pinned his man in 4:48, but was "thrown" in the finals. Gary Bolden won his first two matches and won the finals 1-0 in overtime. Bruce Waters won his first match. time. Bruce Waters won his first match, pinned his man in 4:32 in the semis, but was "thrown" in the final match in 5:26. And in the heavy-weight class, Rick Long won his first match on a pin in 1:27. He pinned his opponent in 3:10 of the second match, but lost the final match as he was

match, but lost the final match as he was thrown in 5:20.

In the Prairie Invitational Marion had but 1 winner. Glen McCue at 98 pounds. Glen won his first match 7-0, then won the semis 4-0, and clinched the finals 2-1 in overtime. Kevin Klopfenstein lost his opening match by default. Kane Collins lost in the semifinals 2-0 and was beaten in the consolation 12-0. Rick Thomas lost in the semis 4-2 and the consolation 3-0. Steve Davidson was whipped in the semis 15-5 but came back to win the consolation 6-2. Dan Hoke won his first match 6-0, the semifinals 3-1, but the score was reversed in the finals as he lost 3-1. The only other Marion wrestler to make it to the semis was Bruce Waters and he lost 11-7 but came back to romp in the consolation match 10-5.

## Speech Winners

By Jan Gallagher

Jennie Balcom and Tom Porathe were the hero and heroine of the day, Saturday, December 2, at the University of Iowa speech contest. Jennie won the second runner-up honors in "Original Oratory", while Tom reached the semi-finals in his category. Extemporaneous Speaking. This contest is a very tough one, so congratulations are due to Jennie and Tom!

Others attending this contest were Walter Carson and Mary Timms, Extempor-aneous Speaking; Jan Gallagher and Marie Kriegermeier, Dramatic Interpretation:

and Ken York, This I Believe.
The Debate teams, Dale Folkers and
Gary Hoag, negative, and Deb Melchers and Frank York, affirmative, compiled a 2-2 and 1-3 record a z-z and 1-3 record.

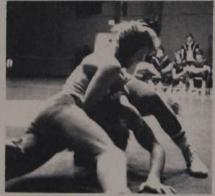


TOM PORATHE & JENNIE BALCOM





GARY BOLDEN



MARTY CARTER

Records of the Marion Wrestlers so far are:

	WINS	LOSSES	TIES
Glen McCue	6	0	0
Kevin Klopfenstein	1	2	1
Kane Collins	3	3	0
Rick Thomas	5	2	0
Steve Davidson	2	3	0
Dan Hoke	5	2	0
Gary Bolden	4	1	0
Marty Carter	1	2	Ö
Bruce Waters	5	2	O
Mark Olson	1	2	0
Mark McCormack	ō	2	1
Rick Long	3	2	0

#### Club News

By Dave Nash

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FBLA is sponsoring a dance after the game, December 15, to raise money for the convention at UNI in April. They also have been running concessions during athletic events to raise additional funds.

The FTA had 9 members attend a meeting in Iowa City for their December meeting. The group sat in on a monthly meeting of the Council for Executional Child.

ing of the Council for Exceptional Children. They also went to the Children's Psychopathic hospital. Teachers at the hospital discussed methods of working with disturbed adolescents. The FTA is also planning a party for December 21.

The United Nations Club, under direction of Mr. Boquist, is going to be very busy within the next couple weeks. The delegate handbooks should arrive shortly. From the handbooks, topics will be assigned to the delegates, and their research and regular meetings will begin. The group has entered the local UN test. Discussion and study of the test is under way. The test will given in February. The UN club is in for a big year, and their work has just begun. has just begun.

Letterman's Club is in for a big year also. Gary Bolden is planning a hunting trip this Sunday. Members of the club are inviting perspective letter winners to go along. Future plans may include a tobogganing party.

Health Careers Club has just begun selling concessions at most of the home athletic events. They hope to raise money for their annual trip this spring. The group will pro-bably go to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester,

# Hoag Plans To Skip School

From February third until the tenth Gary Hoag is going to skip school again. Dur-ing his time out of the MHS walls he will be in Washington, D.C. meeting members of the Senate, Congress, Supreme Court and other leaders of the Nixon administraand other leaders of the Nixon administra-tion. As a student body officer, Gary is one of the two Iowa high school students, representing our state in the 1973 United States Senate Youth Program. The pro-gram is supported by the William Ran-dolph Hearst Foundation, which has sup-ported the program for eleven years. The students were selected to participate in the program by Robert D. Benton, Iowa superintendent of public instruction. Be-sides getting a vacation from school withsuperintendent of public instruction, beaides getting a vacation from school without getting detention, because of skipping
out, Gary also will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship to study U.S. government.
By Andrea Marg, Senior Editor



# 'Worst 4-Letter Word in Language'

Would you be interested in knowing the worst four-letter word in our English language? I have that word! I have a cold!! A description of this plague may help you to understand why I feel so strongly about

Beginning with my eyes, the first glance will tell you that something's not quite right. They are swollen and terribly bloodshot, like I'm a first class wino or something. Which, of course, I'm not. Then comes my nose. It is so red, my family has started to call me Rudolph for short, leaving off "red-nosed" for fear of ending up "black-eyed." My ears are completely plugged up to the point where sign language has become more practical. My throat feels like a million dune buggies are using it for a desert racing buggies are using it for a desert racing ground. I cough continually and speak like I have a permanent case of lockjaw, larengytis, and stage fright all at

once.

My normally cast-iron stomach has become a fragile prima donna, and the slightest irritant makes life torture for

the next few hours.

Spells of hot and cold alternate like traffic signals. One minute I'll be bundled up like an Eskimo with blankets, slippers, pillows--you name it. Then the next minute, I'll feel like jumping into the nearest snow bank and living

into the nearest snow bank and living solely from the coolness of ice cream.

Trying to get the rest I need is "The Impossible Dream." Tossing and turning all nightlong accomplishes. .. merely very wrinkled sheets. Sleep comes fitfully between nightmares, and thus I wake up like a grouchy bear.

Let's face it. Colds must be Satan's delight. What have I done wrong? I'll never do it again!!

do it again!!

written by Jr.



Who am I Am I a mixture of several beings All in one?

My actions are things I have picked Up from others.

Is my mind a mass of many People's beliefs?

Has my mind been washed and soaked With other peoples' thoughts?

Who am I

Am I me?

Where am I?

Am I just in this place, or am I Actually somewhere else?

Is there a demension of my mind I haven't found?

And in other peoples' minds? Who am I?

Am I a bundle of emotions thrown on A certain place on earth?

Who am I?

I thought I knew.

But do I?

Who am I?

I'd like to know!

Written by Candis Wamke



# 'Twas the night before Christmas. . .

"Twas the night before Christmas And our house was quite pat; Not a sound could be heard, 'Cept maybe one rat;

The stretch socks were all placed By the chimney with greed, In hopes they'd be filled With goodies indeed.

The kids were camped out In their beds for the night, While dreaming of presents And things out of sight;

And my wife soundly slept, With snores once or twice, As I lay there awake thinking, "Sleep would be quite nice!"

When out in the yard There came such a blare, That I fell out of bed Trying to see who was there.

Quickly to the window I flew like a flash, Tripped on a chair And fell with a crash.

As I soothingly rubbed My swollen big toe, I happened to spy
A strange object below.

What to my wondering Eyes should I see, But a short, little man Behind our Elm tree.

The little old dude Was so lively and zippie, He had to be Santa Or maybe a hippie.

More rapid than reindeer He set up a ladder, And climb to the roof Without even a clatter.

And then, in a moment, He was ready to climb Down our dirty old chimney, Just smeared with black grime.

As I moved from the window, And was turning around, He slid down the chimney With a bound and no sound.

And there at the base He stopped to take pause, I thought to myself, This can't be Santa Claus!

He was dressed in red clothing White beard and the lot Yet something about him Said, "A Santa he's not.

A large burlap bag He had flung on his back, And he looked like a begger Just opening his pack.

Dangled down from his face, And the smelly old smoke Drifted all over the place.

He had a thin face But his belly was big, And it bounded when he moved Like an old butcher pig.

His appearance was more Than my emotions could hold, And I started to giggle. . . My presence was told.

To my sudden exposure He showed little care, 'Cause he pulled out a gun And said, "Sit down in that chair!"

Now from my new site, I resigned and sat back And watched that fake Santa Fill up his own sack.

He spoke not a word But went on a spree; Swiping all of the presents From under our tree.

After cleaning out all Of the treasures it bore, He said, "Ho, Ho, Ho!!" And walked out the front door.

But I heard him exclaim ere he moved in his flight, "Don't make a move 'til I'm clear outa sight."

So I watched him escape From the spot where I sat, And yelled after him, "Merry Christmas. . . you Rat!!"

Written by Jim Bates

# Tragedy!

FROM THE VOX STAFF

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

#### Instincts

By Joyce Suchsland
He must be going crazy. He never felt
this way before a fight. It was kind of a
jumpy feeling, telling him not to go to
the schoolyard. "Aw, instincts are only
in animals, not men." Pete was seventeen, a man. He had been in countless
knife fights. He had the scars to prove it.
So why? Why this queer feeling jumping So why? Why this queer feeling jumping in his gut?

At the school yard, his men were there. They all nodded a greeting His opponent's men were there too, but that was to be expected.

"Hey, Pete! Everyone is present and ac-counted for," said someone from Pete's

"Yeah, Peter. We're all here to see ya get carved," snickered Mike, Pete's arch enemy, and tonight, Pete's match.

"Sorry boy, but you got things turned ar-und," Pete snarled back, man, that crazy feeling!

The boys lined up by their man, forming a large circle. The boys were to fight in that circle.

You 'bout ready?" asked Pete, trying to hold this new feeling at bay.

Yeah, I'm ready. Pet. produced a long hunting knife. He never much cared for switchblades. Never knew when the darn spring would fail. So, he used a hunting knife for his pur-

Mike, on the other hand, carried a switchblade. They were both very fond of the weapons they carried, and took good care of them.

Now the fight was starting. Pete and Mike circled each other cautiously, wait-ing for each other to either chicken out, or to make a wrong move, so they could take a swipe at the arm.

By now they both knew that nobody was going to chicken out; that meant they stared fighting in earnest.

Pete made a quick, easy movement at Mike's left arm. Mike dodged it by fend-

ing to the right.

Mike flipped his blade to his other hand, and tried to stab Pete as he made a dash for his leg. Again, that horrid feeling came over him, causing him to freeze. It passed as quickly as it came.

Then it happened. ..Pete and Mike faced each other. Both were in a wrest-large tenne.

lers stance. Pete stared at Mike's sweaty face. He dove at him, unthinkingly.

While Pete and Mike had been staring at each other, Mike had switched hands again. Pete had not seen this.

He timed it perfectly. At just the right moment, Mike plunged his eight-inch ' knife blade into Pete's chest.

With an anguished cry, he fell to the blacktop. He squirmed, trying to rid his body of this terrible pain. But it dod not take him long to die. Just

a few moments.

Pete's gang looked on. When he stopped moving, the troop followed Mike and his gang. They knew who was boss now.

The End?

THE SHOOTING STAR By Jennie Balcom

I saw a shooting star last night, As it slid down the sky, And wished and wished with all my

As I opened my eyes, I could see the monstrosities woven together as if they were a pattern. The steam from them both formed dense fog around me, as if to hide me. I could hear voices, blurred voices; cries and screams as people awoke and

found that it was not a dream. I could hear footsteps and see lights in the distance, but just how far off I could not tell.

The smell of death was in the air. I could see it and feel it as my soul yearned to join them. I Scramed at the people lying around me, but there were no enswers. I around me, but there were no answers. I screamed over and over, but no one moved. sion of speed and grace held me spell-Laying there I could hear the hissing and cursing of the trains. The noise grew louder now; just as if they were fighting.

The pain in my legs grew more intense; my mouth was dry-only to be moistened a little by a slight trickle of blood. I tried to remember how it all happened, but my mind was near blank. All I could remember was the screaming and the great force which had thrown us about--like toys in a child's hand,

The black smoke was now trying to swo-llow me; death was at one end and the smoke at the other. Even the slow rising morning sun seemed to point out this over-

whelming feeling of death. . . I must have fallen asleep, how I'll never know. I took one look around me, those dead bodies -- burned and crushed. Children, women, their death all caused by a train, man's invention. Caused by my mis-

That I, like it, could fly.

Yet, I am but a mortal, And mortals only dream; While shooting stars, with beauty bright, Written by S.B.

Lake, too.

I closed my eyes and didn't open them until I was found awhile later. What do you do when something like this happens? Try and forget, yes! But how???

For What Is. . .

By Sindie Bruring

For what is love If you cannot share? And what is love If no one is there?

For what is hate If you have no might? And what is hate If you cannot fight?

For what is caring If you think only of "you?" And what is caring If you find someone new?

For what is cruelty If you have any pity? And what is cruelty If your heart isn't gritty?

For what is life If you do not live? And what is life If you cannot give?

For what is joy If you are afraid? And what is joy If the laughter slays?

For what is giving If you always take? And what is giving If it's just for your sake?

For what is feeling
If you don't give a damn?
And what is feeling If your words only slam?

For what is truth
If you don't tell it all?
And what is truth If lies come out at all?

For what are you If all of this you don't know? And what are you If you don't let them show?

Softly Walks The Hunter

The eastern sky began to change from the pink of dawn to the golden glow of day as I move cautiously over the crest of the hill, I had spotted a red fox sleep ing in a plowed field and was attempting an up wind stalk. My mind was not filled with the beauty of the morning but with the primitive emotion of the hunter clos-ing with his prey. The 220 Swift seemed to weigh twenty pounds as I approached the

target.

My stealthy movements were necessary because a fox rests lightly as though he knew that the hand of every man is against him. Constant vigilance is the price a predator must pay to survive in a heavily

predator must pay to survive in a heavily settled area.

Suddenly, I realized that the brown object protruding from behind a large clod was the leg of the fox. I paused, for the least sound would send the fox flashing across the field toward the safety of a nearby swamp. How would I react when the fox left his nest? Would I use my skill with the rifle to kill the animal, or would my nerves fail me in this test of skill? The leg of the fox moved as he lifted his head to survey the field.

head to survey the field.

I carefully rechecked the rifle and scope and gave a low whistle. The fox left his bed in a blur of movement. His white-tipped tail floated behind him as he glided over the rough ground. The impresbound for a few seconds.

At that moment the picture of a fox cut-ting like a whirlwind through a flock of young ducks came into my mind. The raider carried away one duck and left several crippled ones behind. This creature of grace and beauty suddenly became a crafty killer of other wild life,

The rifle seemed to move with a will of its own. Through the twenty power scope the fox appeared to be made of burnished bronze. The sharp report of the rifle was followed by the audible explosion of the bullet disintegrating in the chest of the animal.

My sense of elation had begun to fade by the time I reached the blood-stained ground where the fox lay. The graceful creature was now a lifeless trophy proving the superiority of man over nature. A chill passed over me. For a moment I thought of the fate of every living thing. For are we not all quietly stalked by a hun-ter who will strike at an unknown time and place!

Author Unknown