

# The Sharon High Times

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## AND YOU THINK IT'S BAD NOW...

### The Dress Code

The dress code lasted from 1958-68.

Girls had to wear skirts and dresses that reached a few inches below the knee, which theoretically had to sweep the floor when they knelt down. Boys wore shirts buttoned to the collar with ties, and jackets or sweaters in the winter. Boys without ties were sent to the office where they were given one by the vice-principal. Jeans and sneakers were forbidden. Violators of the dress code were sent home.



photo by Jon Eisenthal

### Sharon High in 1932

In 1932 Sharon High School was located in the Charles R. Wilbur School (the first part of the Intermediate School).

Both College and General courses were offered. They had home ec. for girls and manual training (basic carpentry) for boys. Foreign languages were offered as well as a complete music program. Mandatory courses were English and Physical Education. (Boys and Girls gym classes were held separately, of course.)

The rules of the school were very strict. There was no gum chewing allowed. Suspension and detention were given to students who broke the rules—just like today. Teachers monitored the hallways—there were no special monitors. There was no formal dress code, but girls always wore dresses, and boys could sometimes be seen wearing suits and ties (it didn't even have to be senior picture day).

All students had to attend their assigned study halls, but they were allowed to go home for lunch. There was no smoking allowed but sometimes boys smoked in the lavs.

School spirit was good. Everyone attended the basketball games—the big sport at the time. Girls were even allowed to play basketball.

Every morning there was a general assembly in the auditorium where morning announcements were made. They had a salute to the flag and a prayer or psalms.



## Extracurriculars

In the late 50's and early 60's, there were many clubs. Period 8 was longer, and almost every teacher had his or her own club. Some of these clubs were: Future Teachers of America, Red Cross Club, Classical Music Appreciation Society, National Honor Society (which is returning soon) as well as many of the clubs we have now. One of the newer clubs is The International Exchange Club (along with the Rotary Exchange Program).

People used to be more involved. Dances were held in the cafeteria often. This practice was ended in 1966. The Junior Prom was held in the gym and everyone worked hard at decorating it. Many people enjoyed working on the annual musical production (which is returning soon).

In the mid 1960's there were formal assemblies every Friday morning or a play performed by each homeroom. This assembly would last for 45 minutes to an hour. However, there were only 800 kids enrolled then, compared to the 930 of today.

After a few years the skits were dropped and replaced with an occasional movie, speakers, demonstration, or band. These assemblies were infrequent and soon they almost stopped altogether.



## Stories

Did you know that in the sixties...

1. There was a popular joke that more people escaped from Walpole State Prison than from SHS. One could be sitting in one's classroom and hear footsteps on the roof followed by yelling. The rumor was (and some people insist to this day that it's true) that Mr. Blanchon was staked out on the roof to catch hopeful escapees in the act.
2. Gym wasn't a dream either. The girls had to wear blue one-piece uniforms that buttoned down the front and had balloon pants which looked like bloomers. There was a small breast pocket on which you were required to sew your name. Girdles were the craze in those days, and not permitted in gym. Of course, it became very popular to try to wear your girdle without Miss Decas knowing, but few succeeded. Very little gets past that woman, as you all know!

## Rules

Classes were run differently in the sixties than they are today. Each class met only four days a week but was an hour long. In some classes a "lab period" was required a few days a week after school. Until the late sixties there was no eighty-five percent attendance rule, basically because there was no attendance problem. Students were only absent when they were sick.

Required courses also started in the late sixties, when students began trying to graduate with credits from the easiest classes possible. Spanish was added in the mid-sixties, previously French and Latin were the only foreign languages. Final exams were abolished in 1970, only to be brought back in 1977.



## Hall Monitors

In the past, the hall monitors were seniors. It was considered a great privilege to be chosen. They got to leave their classes a little early and hold the doors in the halls and make sure that "traffic moved smoothly!"

## Sports

There have been few changes in Sharon Sports over the years. The major change is that there are more girls participating. Girls' Track began in 1974 and Girls' Cross-Country in 1975. Improvements in girls' sports are better coaches and a better level of competition.

Basketball has always been a popular sport in Sharon. Soccer was introduced in 1961 with Mr. Blanchon and Mr. Rebello coaching. Track has become more popular over the past few years. Football was introduced in 1968-69. For some time before that, there was no football because of a story of somebody being killed while playing years before.



## Open Campus

The open campus policy at Sharon High lasted from 1969-1974. During this time, study halls were optional to students. If you didn't want to go to study, you could stay in the foyer, go outside or leave school grounds until you had a class. The last vestige of this policy was open last-period studies which were abolished after the 1970-1979 school year.

3. Mrs. McGarry, who was then Miss Sanford, had the same effect on her students as she still does today. Anyone who has had her knows that you dare not throw out any of your English notes, even after the end of the year. One woman kept them in her basement in a box for 10 years until her basement flooded. The notes were ruined and had to be thrown out. This poor woman could still hear Mrs. McGarry's voice telling her to save them and she trembled with fear when she finally dumped them in the trash.

4. In the late 1960's, Mr. Levine was a young, handsome teacher, the heart throb of the school. He was also a drivers ed. instructor. One woman recalls how she was driving with him one day, took one good long look at his, and drove off the road into a snowbank!

--Lisa Wesel



# A Talk with Doc

(An Interview with Mr. Blanchon)

How long have you been at Sharon High?  
Since 1959; 22 years!

What have been the major changes over the past two decades?

1961-"There was more scholastic involvement then. Kids were proud of their class - participating in and starting clubs. We had an assembly at least twice or three times every month. School dances were wonderful things - only \$10 then, and the students really dressed up the gym.

"In the mid-to-late 60's, the students became interested in political and social issues. Vietnam, the Kent State conflict, and the Equal Rights movement. There was a dress code up until 1968 - ties, sweaters, no jeans, you had to wear a jacket from November to May! The girls wore skirts or dresses. No sneakers."

1971-"The schoolteachers began looking out for themselves; they paid more attention to the advancement of their careers. Until then, they had been treated as 2nd class.

"Sharon followed the trend with the other school systems. Since students weren't paying much attention to their activities, and they weren't being responsible, things like open campus and the smoking area were taken from them. The auditorium was open once; we had record players in there, too. You know what we got? Fistfights! There's just not that 'team effort' that students used to have. We didn't really have much in sports up until a few years ago. Sure, there are still those who enjoy extracurriculars and such, but there are just not enough."

Students' attitudes toward the school have changed several times over the years. Until the late sixties, students basically believed the system was working for their own welfare. They didn't question authority; though they occasionally tried to break them, they acknowledged that rules were needed.

However, in the late sixties Sharon High, along with the rest of the country, went through a revolution. Students began to rebel against authority and to question the value of education in general. More emphasis

was placed on social growth than on getting a formal education, so the alternative school and open campus were born. Hairstyles changed from crewcuts to long hair, and sneakers and jeans appeared with the ending of the dress code.

Now a more formal attitude seems to be returning. Rules have been tightened and more stress is being placed on a quality education.

Where do you see Sharon High heading?

"Personally, I think that the kids are now getting back into the swing of things: more like the late fifties and early sixties. More students are getting interested in things like the newspaper, debating teams, math teams. Once they assume responsibility again and can show it, we're going to try to loosen up on issues like the smoking area. The kids, again, are looking forward to their futures, and are planning accordingly. They realize that they 'have a purpose' and can do something for themselves and the world. For example: Class of '81 -

2/3 went to four-year institutions  
82% went on to further careers

Class of '80 -

67% went to four year institutions  
81% went to further their careers

I see a gradual change over the next few years, back to where the students are thinking for their advancement. This will take 5 - 10 years, maybe; but it's happening. Like in the early sixties, we had assemblies almost every week; sometimes movies, pep rallies, etc., but the fact is that we had them. The kids wanted to participate. We gave away awards for honesty, attendance and things like that, and kids took some pride in them; now, they would most likely laugh. Times were just going too fast to cope, but now we're swinging back. Technically, kids are more aware of their education and are becoming serious students. I'd like to go for the best - somewhere between the individual rights of each student and those of all students."

How does/did Sharon compare with other high schools?

"We were always ahead a bit."

What about crime, drugs, etc.?

"Well, Sharon's been pretty much on the average with the other schools. Every school has its trouble-makers; it wouldn't be fair to say that we're all bad. But the crime rate rose from '68 to '76; now it's falling. I think that alcohol is the worst drug of this school now - always has been - but we've never had any hard, serious drug problems."

What is it going to be like in the future?

No one knows.....

- Kevin Tyler

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## Some Teachers' Comments

Mrs. Eames--When I started teaching (21 years ago) the school was more strict. Now, I would say it's a pretty nice school. It is much better than it was ten years ago when students had no respect for teachers or each other. What I would really like to see is for people to become more involved. School is what you make of it.

Mr. Anthony--Kids seem to be more serious in their school-work. They also seem to be better behaved. He feels that the Metco Program has benefited our school greatly by providing exposure to different lifestyles.

Mr. Elefterakis--In the last few years, the school has been going back to what it was like before. He feels that the expansion of the girls' sports program is a "marvelous change."

Mr. Blake--The spirit of the students is cyclical-it goes from one thing back to another. There are serious phases (which we are in now) and game phases.



# DO YOU HAVE SPIRIT?!

## Cheerleaders

### POM-POM GIRLS

Yes, once again the SHS Pom-Pom Girls are airing out their skirts and sweaters for their 3rd season. The team consists of Captain Donna Petze, Co-Captain Emily Baldwin, Carole Glasser, Jennifer Kaizerman, Sharon Garf, Nancy Gerber, and Didi Silva.

The girls have purchased new sweat-shirts and have borrowed the old field hockey skirts to complete their uniforms. They are all looking forward to a super season with some new ideas. They perform during the half time at the home football games and at the Pep-Rally.

The girls are practicing after school and are teaching each other routines for the games and Pep-Rally, with hopes to earn Varsity Letters this year.



who's new in school!

WHO'S NEW IN SCHOOL?  
By Chris Hughes

Amidst all the familiar faces back in the Sharon High School halls this year, there's a newcomer from Texas named Emily Kelley. A junior, Emily was born and has lived in Dallas most of her life. She moved to Sharon from Richardson, Texas where she went to Pearce High School. She has a younger sister Susie in eighth grade and a younger brother, Rob in sixth. She says the high school here is smaller and the people are friendly so she's enjoying life in Sharon so far.

Welcome Emily!



### MAJORETTES

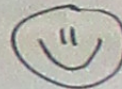
This year's majorette squad is one of the best Sharon High has seen in years.

Headed by Captain Terry Ayotte, the squad consists of seniors Karen Carlson and Robyn Davidson, sophomores Chris Anthony and Debby Shadoff and freshmen Kim Antonio, Sandi Shadoff, Marcia Stetson and Michelle Rosenberg.

A major improvement this year is the squad's new uniforms-replacing the previous ones (which were over 13 years old). The girls worked hard to raise the money for the uniforms by holding a bake sale and teaching baton twirling lessons.

The Majorettes will be performing at all the home football games (as well as the Pep-Rally). Why not go to a game to see them and show some support for the football team? See you there!

Smile!  
Terry



### MATH TEAM NEWS

After returning from a magnificent season in 1980-1981, the Sharon High School Math Team is looking forward to another victorious year. Last season the Math Team came in first place in the Southeastern Massachusetts Math League, second in its division in the state, and third in its division in New England. The Team also performed well in the Greater Boston Math League and several other leagues.

This past year the Math Team has had a complete turnover of officers. The new officers are: President (senior) Russ Basch, Vice-President (senior) Gerald Gamm, Treasurer (junior) Andy Braunstein, and Secretary (sophomore) Barri Gold. Gene Zilberstein, a junior, has been appointed as statistician. In addition, the team hopes to receive inspiration from its new coach, Mr. Cook. The team members are looking forward to working with Mr. Cook this year. Two very successful meetings for the team have already been held this year with a wonderful turnout of new members, especially freshman.

The Math Team is expecting a terrific year both in terms of competition and socially. There is talk of collecting dues or starting some fund raising activities. This money would probably go toward parties and the cost of field trips.

Good luck to Mr. Cook and all the members of the Math Team for a very successful year.

--Sarah Katz

The Varsity Cheerleaders decided this year to split their squad in half and go to two different camps this past summer; half went to ASCC held at Worcester State College, the other half went to NECA held at Brown University. NECA was a camp where the main goal was to achieve a more unified and spirited squad, but many personal individualized awards were also given. Cathie Zeigler received a best attitude award; Marcia Bock, one for hardest worker; and Christine Huerth was awarded most spirited. The group as a whole, won first place out of the seven attending varsity squads and were voted "most friendly" by the whole camp. The other half of the team went to ASCC where the goal was to learn new chants and cheers and improve your old. This camp, unlike the other, didn't present individual awards and was very competitive. The Sharon girls there came in second out of the twelve teams in their competition and also won a "spirit star" given to a most spirited team.

Our J.V. Cheerleaders whole squad attended the camp at Brown University and did very well. Their team came in first in the J.V. division and also got an award for best jumps, stunts, and extras. The team's individual talents also won them many personal awards. Marianne Smith, the team's captain, won awards for first all-around cheerleader, best gymnast, and best jumper. Patti Mathews achieved second all-around cheerleader, best gymnast and best cheerer while Michelle Waitz also got awards for best gymnast and best jumper. Beth Zola got awards for best gymnast and best cheer, and Lauren Nichol earned best pep cheerer.

Over all our teams did very well and hope to have a super season cheering and lifting school spirit.

--Sandi Slaney

## Bloodmobile

The Bloodmobile will be coming once again to Sharon High for its bi-annual visit. This year it will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 1981, from 8:30 in the morning until 2:30 in the afternoon. To be eligible to give blood there are only two prerequisites: one must weigh over 110 pounds and be seventeen years of age or older. If you are seventeen you need a parent permission slip, but if you are 18 you can sign up yourself. We hope that more will sign up this year than did last year when we had close to 100 people sign-up.

Please donate if you are able and as Mr. Liberman said to me, "If an old man can give his 17th gallon, surely you can give your first pint."

--Jen Kaplan





# CLUBS IN SHS

## Biology Club

The Biology Club, headed by Ms. Trevas has just started this year and is made up of a group of kids who are really interested in the science of biology. The first meeting was held two weeks ago on Monday, and the next meeting should be on an upcoming Monday. At the first meeting they discussed the many activities that they plan on doing such as trips to Moose Hill, Lake Massapoag, and possibly some nature hikes. They also plan on starting an aquarium and a terrarium. Ms. Trevas also mentioned that any suggestions by club members will be great because it is their club. A few years ago Ms. Trevas had a science club, but since then this is the first type of science club Sharon High School has had. Ms. Trevas believes that the Biology Club has a promising future. At least twelve kids showed up at the first meeting with a mixture of boys and girls, from Seniors to Freshmen. As Ms. Trevas said, "You'll always find people interested in biology!"

## Reader's Rendezvous

The Reader's Rendezvous Club, with Mrs. Cicchetti as its director, has just begun its second year. The first meeting was held on Thursday, September 24, with sixteen members attending. The members of the club go to the elementary schools and help the teachers with those students who have problems with reading, or just those who want to read. They not only use books, but they also invent their own games to help the kids with their reading skills. They go either during a last period study or after school. The members of the club can each pick which grade (from K-5) they would like to work with- most seem to enjoy the younger grades. The members get together about once a month to share their experiences. In between meetings, they often go to Mrs. Cicchetti individually, after school, for advice and ideas.

It is possible to earn credits through the club. Last year, Karen Sinman put in over fifty hours and she received two credits. She also received the highest award, which was given out at the end of the year.

Hugh Craig has made posters for the hallways to advertise the club. He also designed an emblem to be reproduced on T-shirts which the club will be selling later in the year.

Mrs. Cicchetti feels that the club has a promising future "especially with proposition 2½", because the elementary school teachers have such large classes, and they really appreciate the help. Mr. Schein is also very supportive of the club.

If you are interested in joining the club, it's not too late! Just speak to Mrs. Cicchetti in the new reading room, tell her which grade you would be interested in working with, and she will set it up for you. She'd love to see more new members!

- Kim Huber

## Drama Club

### DRAMA CLUB NEWS

This year the Drama Club is looking forward to a very exciting season. It has been decided that the school play for the winter will be "Godspell", a rock musical. This decision has been greeted with a lot of enthusiasm from old members; at our first meeting in September, over 70 people showed up to join the club.

In every play, the actual acting is only a small part of the entire production. Most of the work has to be done before the actual presentation. If you'd like to participate in the play, we need many, many people to help with everything involved in the play. This includes people to help with make-up, scenery, and staging, lighting, props, etc. If there is something you would like to do, whether you know how to or not, give it a try. You can learn these things with us. To get involved, get in touch with any of our officers: Melanie Sandberg, president, Dave Dallaire, vice president, Marilyn Suchecki, treasurer, Karen Craddock, secretary, or you can just stop by any Drama Club meeting. We need your help to make this play our best, and we'll appreciate the efforts of all those who'll lend a hand.

-- Dave Dallaire

The JCL (Junior Classical League) has returned to SHS! Under the supervision of Mr. Beauchemin, the JCL is now making many plans, one of which is a Greek Class to take place after school for all who are interested. Gone for 2 years, we are back, and are hoping to be better than ever.

KLUB  
STUFF

5



# NEWS



## Announcing...

### CLOSE-UP

Close-Up is an experience whereby students and teachers travel to Washington for intensive, firsthand study of their government. Senators, representatives, reporters, and other newsmakers talk about what they do and where they stand on national issues. The students are able to challenge the experts and are encouraged to participate. That's why Close-Up puts students in contact with people whose daily work involves domestic issues on foreign policy.

Kids meet other kids from all over the United States and have strong friendships by the end of this demanding week.

Close-Up this year will cost \$508.00. Don't stop reading the article because you feel you can't afford it. There are many ways to rectify this situation. First of all, the Close-Up applicants will have bake sales and sell giant chocolate chip cookies at the basketball games. In addition, the "heart" day Close-Up started in 1979 will be theirs again to enable the kids to raise some money. Hopefully, organizations will donate some money so kids who cannot go because of financial reasons may get some scholarship aid. Sharon set the record for the number of kids in a high school in the Boston area. In 1979, Mr. LaChapelle sent 34 kids. Chief, as he is popularly known, is hoping to send even more this year. If you are interested, please see him in Room 502, Close-Up Headquarters.

This year the trip will take place in the third week of March so if you want to go, you have plenty of time to raise some money within the next 6 months. Good Luck-

--Jen Kaplan

## For lively minds

### NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Six of the students from shs's class of '82: Terry Ayotte, Jon Eisenthal, Muge Erkan, Gerald Gamm, Melissa Shapiro, and Todd Woofenden, have the honor of being given Semifinalist status in the National Merit Scholarship Competition.

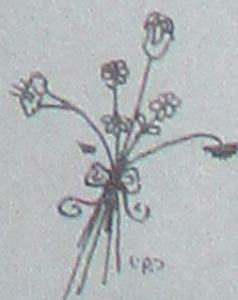
This competition is among the 15,000 top-scorers in the PSAT, 90 percent of whom will receive finalist status and only 40 percent of which will be funded.

The actual scholarships are a four year, 1,000 dollars a year scholarship, a 1,000 dollar scholarship, or a minimum stipend of between 250 and 500

dollars. These scholarships are funded by corporations, colleges and universities as well as by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

On February 19th, the semifinalists will be notified as to whether or not they have advanced to finalist status, and between the middle of March and the end of April, the finalists will find out if they have received scholarships.

-Jon Eisenthal



## music

### THE CHORUS COLUMN BY Melamie S. & Melanie B.

This year's chorus has started off on an excellent foot. New talented members have added much to the already spirited chorus. Three times a week the chorus meets to work on new classical and popular pieces. In addition, some twenty members have begun to rehearse for District Competition, a highly disciplined singing competition involving high school students.

The Fortnightly Club of Sharon will be the audience of the chorus's first performance of the 81'-82' year in November. There the chorus will get a chance to perform their super new songs.

The chorus is very happy to hear that there is a great possibility of Sharon High putting on a fall musical. In the past the chorus has become heavily involved in the musicals, and is looking forward to doing the same this year.

## Band Briefs

The band has begun with a great start. It's officers are co-presidents Sarah Danca and Gary Shotz, vice-president Ori Cohen, sec/treas. Paul Vitali, and trustees David Gronendyke and Barbara Waldman.

The Pep Band has already played at two football games and will also play at all future home games.

Jazz Ensemble held its first rehearsal/audition Thursday, Oct. 1 and looks forward to participating in this year's competitions.

The concert and stage bands are practicing their music in preparation for their first performance.

In addition, Mr. Fleishman has returned after his illness last year, and we're all really glad to have him back. 81-82 promises to be a good year for us all.

-Adam Berman  
Dave Goldenberg



## Model U.N.

# CLASSES & STUFF!

The Model U.N. Model Senate Club met for the first time this year on October 2nd. At the meeting the agenda for this year was discussed. Among the different Model U.N.s and Model Senates planned for this year are the Harvard U.N. in December, the AIC Model Congress in January, the Oceanside Model Congress in January, the North American Invitational Model U.N. in February, the Westchester Model U.N. in February or March and the Westchester Model U.N. in April. Both Model U.N.s and Model Senates are fun and you are able to meet many new people from schools around the area and out of state.

At a Model U.N. you're assigned a country and become a delegate from that country. Other club members and you form a delegation. Other student delegations and you meet and roleplay being a U.N. representative. A Model U.N. provides a chance for lots of debate, an inside look at how the U.N. works and a general idea of how world politics and compromise works.

In Model Senate you're able to put your own views on issues and vote on bills before a student House or Senate. Model Senate provides an opportunity to discover how our own state and federal government works.

Other tentative plans for the Club include raising funds for Oxfam, getting speakers on national and international issues and fund raising for the club. The club always welcomes new members as the year goes on. Anybody interested in finding out more about the Model U.N.-Model Senate or about joining the club should see Mr. Nelson in Room 510.

--Marilyn Suchecki

## CLASS of '83

This year the class of '83 has hit the ground running. On Friday mornings the class is sponsoring "The Eye-Opener" in the cafeteria. Coffee, tea, orange juice, hot chocolate and assorted doughnuts are sold for a quarter a piece. It is already a huge success and, hopefully, the class of '83 will expand "The Eye-Opener" to twice weekly in the near future.

Plans are already in the making for the Homecoming football game, The Pep-Rally, The Junior Prom, and a Class of '83 sponsored activity that will involve the whole school.

--Karl Suchecki

## Sophomore Class

This year's sophomore class officers are: Michelle Guy, President; Stephanie Healy, Vice President; Sandra Gould, Treasurer; and Susan Schindler, Secretary. The officers and planning board have been working with Mr. Richmond, the class advisor.

Many sophomores are busy choosing their class rings. The rings are being ordered from Jostens. They are expected to arrive in December.

All sophomores are asked to participate in the class by attending planning board meetings. With the cooperation of the entire class, the assurance of a great year will be had.

--Diana Peltz

## SENIORS!

Many things are in the planning for the class of '82. Finalized plans are being made for the Senior Prom to be held at Lantana's in Randolph on June 3rd. In a week a band will be selected and a down-payment completed.

In addition, a dues push is currently underway to increase our treasury as much as we can. Our deadline to have dues paid is by Nov. 1st, so please give them to any of the officers.

To increase our spirit, ideas for the float for the Homecoming game are welcomed by all. We have won the past two years, lets do it again.

The Candy Store is also open every day, and we need you to work. If you have last period study free and are able to open or just want to work there after school, tell Jen Kaplan.

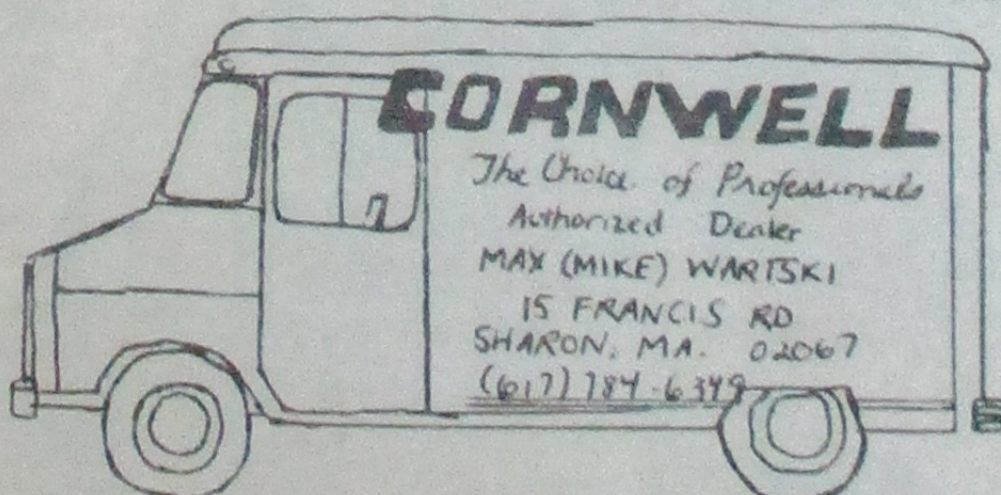
Seniors, this is "our" year, let's show the school what an outstanding class we really are!

--Jen Kaplan

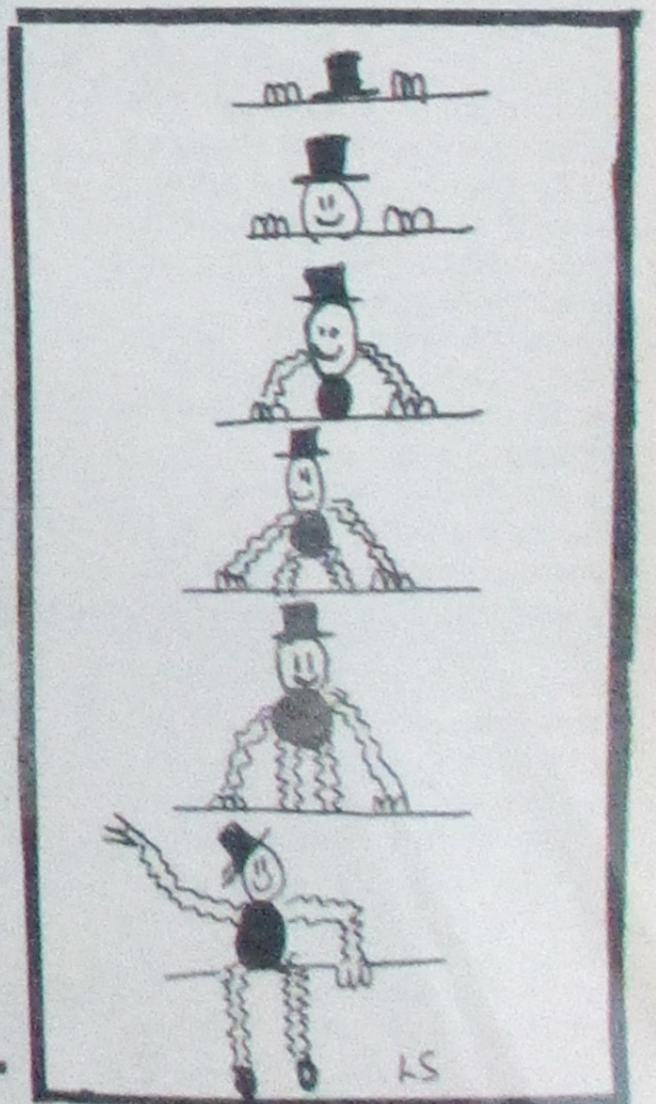
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## boy's cross-country

So far this season, the boys' cross-country team has only had one meet, a close loss to Foxboro by the score of 25-30. The team has worked very hard over the last month and a half, and many of the younger runners are improving quickly. The veterans on the team, Jim Messina (captain), Dan Epstein (captain), Jeff Drew and Larry Rubin are striving for steady performances which will lead to victories. Coach Siegal and Coach Norris are also working hard, as they are sharing both the boys' and girls' teams. Their efforts are greatly appreciated and will be rewarded with victories in upcoming meets. The team is preparing for two meets - Sept. 28 at Home vs. North Attleboro, and Oct. 2 at Home vs. Oliver Ames. Hopefully next month we'll be able to talk of victories and great efforts, but now there is much to be done.

- Jim Messina

## soccer

The varsity soccer team, coached by Mr. Rebello, started its season with a well-fought-for victory over a muchly improved Catholic Memorial team. The final score was 1-0, with Rick Lehrer scoring for Sharon. The goal was assisted by Greg Bodkins. Dennis Foley had an excellent game in net for the Eagles. Unfortunately, the following game, Sharon was beaten by a superb Foxboro team by a score of 5-0. Although it doesn't show by the score, the team played very well. Next, Sharon played Franklin and lost 1-0 in a heartbreaker. The team showed that they can stay in the game with one of the powerhouse teams.

So far, the team defense has held up very strongly, and is hoping to continue as such. The offense is getting on track, and the team is looking forward to a successful season. Good Luck, Eagles!!

- Rick Lehrer

# Sports

## GIRLS' FIELD HOCKEY

During the summer, about 35 girls showed up for four hours of grueling practice (Monday-Friday). As school commenced practice then lasted for "only" 2½ hours (provided we were let out on time). After about two weeks of practice with Miss Decas as Varsity Coach and Miss Condon as J.V. Coach, we had our first game. Although all the girls played their hardest, Canton defeated us.

We're still practicing and the efforts are showing. In our last game against North Attleboro, Varsity won with a 5-0 score and then urged J.V. to win, which they did with a 1-0 score. Even though Miss Decas was not there, Mrs. Van helped out.

We'd like to wish the best of luck to the Girls' Field Hockey Team this season.

--Lee Inbar  
Karen Sinman



photo by Beth Markowitz



## girls' cross-country

Despite the fact that there are only three other girls' cross-country teams in the Hockomock League, the Sharon team has the potential for a very good season. Their record for the past two years is 15-1, which is impressive by any standards, especially when coupled with the fact that there are always less than 10 people on the team. This year's team is no exception. It is primarily a young team, comprised of three seniors (Kelly Boyle, Leslie Cooper and Pam Hanson), one junior (Sharon O'Brien) five sophomores (Mary Beth Zeigler, Michelle Guy, Roberta Myers, Coleen O'Brien, and Julie Parker) and one freshman (Barbara Courtade). This year, the team is fortunate to have a Swedish exchange student, Eva Lindblad, also running for the team.

Their first meet was an easy victory over Foxboro, and they hope for many more.

-Leslie Cooper

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## Hockey Corner

Bruins Center Steve Kasper says he's ready for the '81-'82 season. The 1981 7th Player Award winner reports, "I'm not setting any specific goals for myself, just get out there and play my best." He was 20 on September 28. ... Johnny Bucky, after 23 years in the NHL, was inducted into the Hall of Fame September 15. Chief is doing the color announcing on WITS during the B's games. ... Will the Bruins have a shorter summer vacation next year? Coach Gerry Cheevers hopes so. This year it's "No more Mr. Nice Guy." ... St. John's Prep star, Bobby Carpenter, has signed a multi-year contract with the Washington Capitals, whose GM is Max McNab, Peter's dad. Will Carpenter be wearing a Bruins jersey in the future? ... The B's signed Chicoutimi's 18 year-old star, Normand Leveille, to a multi-year contract. ... Root against Colorado this year. We obtained their #1 draft choice for center, Dwight Foster, and if they finish in last place, we can pick up a franchise in the whiz-kid, Bellows, from Kitchener. ... Gil Perreault broke his ankle in a Canada Cup play (which Russia won) when Canadian teammate Wayne Gretzky slid into him against the boards. Good news for the B's though, since we'll be meeting Buffalo eight times this season. ... Jim Craig won't see action until October at the earliest as a result of a broken knuckle suffered in a pre-Canada Cup play. If he needs surgery, he could be out for the season, leaving the bulk of goal-tending to the aging Rogie Vachon. ... Brad Park's knees are doing fine. "Smooth as ice," he says. ... Terry O'Reilly is taking it light in the corners. He's still nursing a separated shoulder suffered late last season against Quebec October 8 at the Garden.

Following game dates are listed below:

|                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| October 10 at Hartford    | November 5 Vancouver        |
| October 11 Washington     | November 7 at Quebec        |
| October 14 at Chicago     | November 8 Minnesota        |
| October 16 at Colorado    | November 12 Edmonton        |
| October 17 at Los Angeles | November 14 Pittsburgh      |
| October 20 at St. Louis   | November 15 at Buffalo      |
| October 22 at Detroit     | November 19 Hartford        |
| October 24 at Montreal    | November 21 at Toronto      |
| October 29 Montreal       | November 22 Quebec          |
| October 31 NY Rangers     | November 24 Islanders at NY |
| November 1 Hartford       | November 26 Philadelphia    |

- Shelly Angers

## Sharon Football Off to a Bad Start

The Sharon Eagles were beaten once again by the North Attleboro Rockets, bringing the Eagles' record to 0-2. North Attleboro started off well as they capitalized on a Sharon fumble, making it 7-0. When Sharon received the ball for the second time, it looked as if they were going to move up field when the ball was fumbled again. North Attleboro capitalized again and made it 14-0. The Eagles, who were stunned, started to play football, but North Attleboro was playing better and scored another touchdown at the beginning of the second quarter. But Sharon wouldn't die - they finally played Eagle football. The offensive line, led by captains Lloyd Crossman and Bob Laurie, controlled the line of scrimmage, giving time for Jeff Cosgrove to throw the ball to prime receiver Jason Davenport. The Eagles scored, and at half-time they trailed 21-6. The second half was controlled by Sharon. The defense shut North Attleboro out completely, giving the offensive more time to do their job. In the fourth quarter, Sharon finally reached the end zone again on a nice run by Ron Brown Baskerville, who had hurt his knee early in the game. The final score was N.A. 21 and Sharon 12. Sharon will be ready to play at the first quarter instead of the second.

- Joe Fillion



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# ENTERTAINMENT

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- 1) Herb Alpert & The Tiajuana Brass's hit, Spanish Flea, was often heard on an ABC game show loved by number one, two, and three bachelors. Name it.
- 2) Bette Midler had a piano accompanist in the early 70's who never wrote her songs. Name him.
- 3) Match the Band to the Film

|                    |                                    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| The Monkees        | <u>The Last Waltz</u>              |
| The Rolling Stones | <u>Quadrophenia</u>                |
| The Band           | <u>Head</u>                        |
| The Who            | <u>Give Me Shelter</u>             |
| The Ramones        | <u>Rude Box</u>                    |
| The Police         | <u>Rock &amp; Roll High School</u> |

- 4) TRUE or FALSE
  - a) The Doors have played in Boston.
  - b) Woodstock took place in New Jersey.
- 5) Singer Rick Springfield whose summer hit was "Jessie's Girl", plays a doctor on a soap opera. Name the character and the show.
- 6) Name the following Stars:
 

Both lived as neighbors in Ontario, Canada, as kids, one was helpless and the other liked free men in Paris.

- 7) Match the Song to the Film

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Simon & Gafunkel's "Scarborough Fair", "Sounds of Silence"   | <u>Midnight Cowboy</u> |
| Franke Vale & The Four Season's "Can't Take My Eyes Off You" | <u>American Gigolo</u> |
| Barry Manilow's "Ready to Take a Chance"                     | <u>The Warrriors</u>   |
| Joe Walsh's "In the City"                                    | <u>The Deer Hunter</u> |
| Blondie's "Call Me"  | <u>Foul Play</u>       |
| Neilson's "Everybody's Talkin"                               | <u>The Graduate</u>    |

- 8) George Young of Flash and The Pan has two brothers in a popular band. Name the brothers and the band.

### Red Rider - As Far as Siam

Red Rider, in its first major effort, has come out with a high quality, middle to hard rocking album.

Red Rider's members are Rob Baker, drums; Peter Boynton, piano, synthesizer, organ, vocals; Tom Cochrane, lead vocals, rhythm, guitar; Ken Greer, electric, steel and six string guitars; and Jeff Jones, bass guitar, background vocals.

All cuts on this album are related to war and military duty overseas. The most airplayed of these cuts are "Lunatic Fringe" and "What Have You Got to Do (to Get Off Tonight)". "Lunatic Fringe" is a ballad dedicated to the memory of Raoul Wallenberg who saved thousands of Jews from the German Nazis during World War II, who in turn, wanted to put an end to his heroics.

"Lunatic Fringe, I know you're out there. You're in hiding, and you hold your meetings.

We can hear you coming. We know what you're after.

We're wise to you, time; we won't let you kill the laughter."

Other notables on the album are "Cowboys in Hong Kong", "Thru the Curtain", and "Ships."

An overall good album consisting of basically good rock-oriented material, As Far as Siam is a nice piece of vinyl.

- Larry Ross



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## Coming Attractions

### COMING ATTRACTIONS

- Oct. 2 - Prince of the City - Starring Treat Williams  
 Oct. 2 - Paternity - Starring Burt Reynolds  
 Oct. 2 - The French Lieutenant's Wife - Starring Meryl Streep  
 Oct. 9 - Rich & Famous - Starring Candice Bergen and Jacqueline Bissett  
 Oct. 9 - True Confessions - Starring Robert DeNiro and Robert Duvall  
 Oct. 16 - All the Marbles - Starring Peter Falk  
 Oct. 16 - Priest of Love -  
 Oct. 23 - Chariots of Fire - (British Film)  
 Oct. 31 - Halloween II - Starring Jamie Lee Curtis

\* Courtesy of Sack Theatre Corp.  
 Dates subject to change.

### Body Heat \*\*\* 1/2

Body Heat, starring William Hurt, Kathleen Turner and Richard Crenna, is a great drama. Ned Racine (William Hurt) falls in love with Matty Walker (Kathleen Turner), a rich, beautiful, and married woman. They meet secretly at her home because her husband works out of town. One night at one of their meetings they decide that it would be best if he were dead. Without revealing any more of the movie, we just want to say the ending is very unpredictable. It is rated "R" due to language and sex, but we rate it a "9". It's an excellent movie.



- Jean Sullivan  
 - Deb Menzer

### The Moody Blues: Long Distance Voyager

It's been said that nothing's sacred anymore, and the Moody Blues prove it. Their classical sound of past efforts - "Days of Future Past", "Every Good Boy Deserves Favour", etc. - has been replaced by a pop rock sound. Missing is the sound of the London Festival Orchestra, prevalent on "

It's been said that nothing's sacred anymore, and the Moody Blues prove it. Their classical sound of past efforts - Days of Future Passed, Every Good Boy Deserves Favour, etc. - has been replaced by a pop rock sound. Missing is the London Festival Orchestra, prevalent on Days of Future Passed; and in its place are keyboards, a sign of changing times.

Though their traditional sound has been replaced by a contemporary rock composition, they have come through their long voyage unscathed.

"The Voice" is the first cut of the album and was heavily airplayed over the summer. A medium rocker, it effectively pulls off the Blues' new sound. Other mentionables are "Talking Out of Turn", "22,000 Days", and "Nervous".

Although this album is likely never to contain a classical equal to "Nights in White Satin," the songs, overall, are good and show that the Moody Blues still possess enough talent to be able to rush into the 80's and compete with the "has-beens", "ares", and "will-bes."

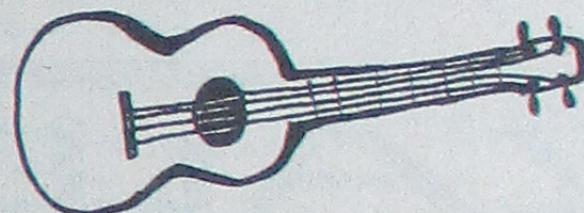
- Larry Ross

## Up Coming Concerts

### UP COMING CONCERTS

- |            |   |                            |
|------------|---|----------------------------|
| Sept. 29   | The Kinks                               | Boston Garden              |
| Sept. 30   | The Kinks                               | Providence                 |
| Oct. 3     | E.L.O.                                  | Boston Garden              |
| Oct. 3     | Blackfoot & Def Leppard                 | Orpheum                    |
| Oct. 8     | Roberta Flack                           | Boston Park Plaza          |
| Oct. 9     | Peter Tosh                              | Hotel Center               |
| Oct. 10&11 | The Pretenders                          | Berklee Performance Center |
| Oct. 11    | Journey                                 | Orpheum                    |
| Oct. 19    | Dan Fogelberg                           | Providence                 |
| Oct. 21    | Earth, Wind & Fire                      | Providence                 |
| Oct. 14-26 | Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus | Boston Garden              |
| Oct. 28    | Foreigner & Billy Squire                | Boston Garden              |
| Oct. 31    | The Tubes                               | Orpheum                    |
| Nov. 7     | The Rolling Stones                      | Hartford Civic Ctr. Conn   |
| Nov. 7     | Frank Zappa                             | Cape Cod Collisium         |
| Nov. 11    | Journey                                 | Providence                 |
| Nov. 20    | George Thorogood & The Destroyers       | Bradford Hotel             |
| Mid Dec.   | AC/DC -- 2 shows at                     | Boston Garden              |
- (Dates for AC/DC will be coming!)

Compiled By  
 Peter Rinnig



### Tom Petty Concert Review

This Summer was probably my best ever. One of the key points was the Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers concert on August 19 at the Providence Civic Center.

Joe Ealey opened, and wasn't bad considering some of the backup groups I've seen in the past. He played a lot of hard rock, and the sold-out Civic Center didn't seem to mind him.

When the star of the show came out, the crowd went wild. Tom Petty kept saying, "We're gonna play for a long, long time," and he did. They played seven songs off the new album Hard Promises.

Tom got a lot of help from his great band, with Mike Campbell on lead guitar, Ron Blair-bass guitar, Benmont Tench-organ and piano and Stan Lynch on drums. All of the songs were outstanding, but perhaps his two best were "Breakdown" and "Refugee."

The best thing about the concert was how Petty involved the crowd in his music. I was a little disappointed that Stevie Nicks wasn't there, but Tom's five encores made up for it. "American Girl" was done magnificently. I look forward to seeing Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers on their '82 tour.

- Victor Miller

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### Bad for Good

"I know that I'm gonna like this forever,  
I'm never gonna be what I should.  
And you think that I'll be bad for just a  
little while,  
But I know that I'll be Bad for Good."

Bad for Good, begun four years ago as Meatloaf's second album, was released about two months ago. Since Meatloaf, who had vocal problems, couldn't sing any of the songs, his songwriter, Jim Steinman, decided to do the album on his own.

The similarities are unbelievable between this album and Bat Out of Hell. Todd Rundgren's band, Utopia, backed up on both albums, which Todd produced. Jim Steinman wrote the lyrics for both, and Richard Corben (who made the movie Heavy Metal) was the artist who did both album covers.

Bad for Good pits boy against girl in the song "Dance in my Pants" as Bat Out of Hell's "Paradise by the Dashboard lights." The title song is almost an updated version of "Bat Out of Hell", and "Stark Raving Love" sounds exactly like "All Revved Up and no Place to Go." Jim Steinman succeeded at making a fantastic album. He tells of today's teenagers' loves and frustrations like no other album has in the past year or two.

With the record comes an ep of two songs, a beginning and ending song for the album. This isn't even worth listening to. If you like Meatloaf, this album is up to par with his.

- Peter Rinnig

### \*\* Night School

The trend in slice and dice films has greatly diminished over last year's crop. Most had the same basic story as John Carpenter's 1978 film Halloween; (Halloween II opens in Boston on October 31.) And then there were a million variations of the classic shower scene with Janet Leigh in Hitchcock's 1960 film, Psycho. Night School, originally entitled Terror Eyes when the filming began, is a low budget film, shot on location in Boston. The film is distributed by Paramount Pictures.

Night School involves the students of Wendell College in Boston. The night school students, all female, are in danger of a killer who decapitates his victims and leaves them in the weirdest places, for example, the main fish tank at the New England Aquarium. Unlike Friday the 13th, Night School does not have many killings, and puts the killings of the girls on the back burner to deal instead with the detective assigned to the case. The actor who plays him is an unknown, and I hope he stays that way. His acting was terrible and, furthermore, he looked like Richard Gere's character of Julian Kaye in American Gigolo. Incidentally, the decapitated heads looked as if they had been bought at Jack and Jill's Joke Shop.

Familiar sights in Boston include Faneuil Hall Marketplace, the New England Aquarium and Beacon Hill. There are moments in the film which are funny to someone who knows Boston. For example, the detective drives an Audi from the middle of Faneuil Hall saying he wants to see an art exhibit at the Civic Center - sure!

Being the type of film it is, Night School is fair and better than the trash of the past. It's the first slice and dice movie that made me leave the theater thinking about the future of the characters. Also, the film was less gory than others and had an interesting plot. It's not bad and it's not good, but simply an improvement over the junk that came before. Night School does have many flaws. I thought the writers, among others, could have taken a course in killing without decapitation. Albert DeSalvo, a.k.a. the Boston Strangler, hasn't been busy lately and could have helped.

- Bruce Griff

## ZALES VALUABLES!

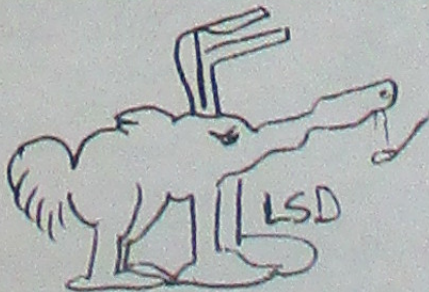
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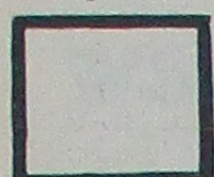




# HUMOR

## CONTEST!!

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1. Only those people born between the months of June and July (non-exclusive) may enter.
2. All entries must be submitted by Sept. 1, 1981.
3. Only applicable in states with an X in its name.
4. All entries will receive an official letter of participation.

### BENJI III \*\*\*\*\*

This movie is so current that nobody has heard of it yet. Our own SHT scoop-reporter commented that although the plot was non-existent, this pedigree was so cute that staring at his picture for two hours was a thoroughly enjoyable experience. We recommend you to see this in the theaters, because even our picture doesn't do justice to him.



### Editorial (not necessarily feeling of this paper)

I find it increasingly insulting that people all day long are using bad language in this school. The school committee should do something about this. Students should not be using such vulgar terms and should not be allowed to. Hall monitors should be hired to censor all conversations in and around the school. Students should not have the freedoms of real people. This is school, not a democracy. This is America, not a free society.

Thank you.

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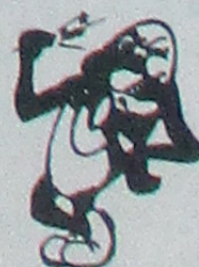
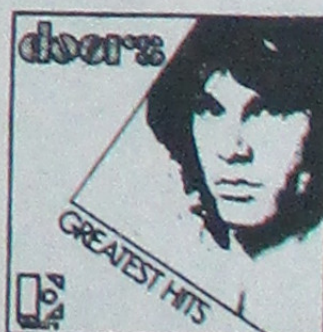
### TOP BOOKS

- 1.) For The Birds - Otto Bonne
- 2.) I Survived The Titanic - Sy O. Relief
- 3.) Anti-Preppie Handbook - Al E. Gator
- 4.) New Fashions - Seymore N. Ever

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# THE LAST WORD

A Page of Opinions and Ideas



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ADVISER TO THE NEWSPAPER: Mr. Tony Pane

## Out With the New In With the Old

GERALD GAMM

We, the class of 1926, are publishing this Year Book, for the first time in the history of the Sharon High School, as a memorial of our few years of school life together.

So was taken a bold new step. In the euphoria of post-War enthusiasm and of gilded prosperity, the 15 members of the class of 1926 created a yearbook celebrating themselves, their school, and their times. The book--The Caerulean--is dedicated to the principal, "a Christian gentleman...and devoted master." Its pages are filled with descriptions of the senior play (about prohibition), clubs, and sports; in addition, poems, jokes, a class will, a class history, and a prophecy are included. The blue and gold (the school colors) book is most fascinating, though, in the series of senior pictures and accompanying descriptions. When else but in the Roaring Twenties would one be called "the vamp, flapper, and jazz baby"?

Twenty-five years later, in 1941, the name of the yearbook was changed. Being "the earnest desire of the present staff to present not only a new and original book, but a new name as well," the name "Marsengold"--derived from the words maroon and gold, our school colors and senior, our class year"--was offered. Published in the darkening days before our country was plunged into war, the yearbook is the history of a school employing a faculty of 18 and catering to but 50 seniors. It includes--besides the predictable material--cartoons, class favorites (best movie was the just-released Gone With the Wind), and 32 categories of senior superlatives!

These two yearbooks--the 1926 Caerulean and the 1941 Marsengold--are only two shining jewels in a crown of yearbooks spanning three generations. Almost all of the yearbooks spanning these fifty years are veritable time capsules. Each captures the imagination and ingenuity, attitudes and feelings of that year's senior class.

For--almost by definition--a yearbook cannot be an institution like a debating team or a drama club. Rather, a yearbook should be like the phoenix of yore, arising from its ashes to be reborn every year. A yearbook should not be restricted by policies of previous years or by tradition. Precisely because a yearbook is the history of one group of seniors (and--to a lesser extent--underclassmen), it should be governed by innovation instead of by imitation.

The past few years have seen a stagnation and lack of free expression in the Marsengold; the yearbook no longer has reflected the character of the class. It is time for the albatross of imitation and tradition to be shed, for its stranglehold has killed the creativity of the yearbook.

Certainly if any class could, the Class of 1982 can shed the cocoon of the past few years and produce a yearbook, which, like a butterfly, will soar in creativity, innovation, and beauty and be an inspiration to future classes.





# A Far Cry From Right

KARL SUCHECKI

The name of the Moral Majority may ring a bell, but what's the story behind the name?

Rev. Jerry Falwell, the leader and founder of the Moral Majority, has been on what he calls his "Clean Up America Campaign," trying to stamp out what he considers immoral. He has attacked abortion--"Abortion on demand is legalized murder..." and pornography--"Pornography, particularly in television and literature is brainwashing the American public into accepting as normal, what is abnormal."

He urges Americans to report any literature that is "immoral, anti-family, or anti-American in content" to the Moral Majority so that they may decide to push for the banning or censoring of the book in question.

The types of books challenged or banned with the backing of the Moral Majority include such classics as The Diary of Anne Frank, A Farewell to Arms, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The Scarlet Letter, and the two most surprising books I discovered--The American Heritage Dictionary and Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, due to their definitions of such words as "bed" being defined as both a noun and a verb.

In Rev. Jerry Falwell's campaign against sex education he has lashed out against a book called Women Our Bodies Our Selves, A Book by and for Women, published by the Boston Women's Health Book Collective. This particular book dealing with female sexuality is translated into twelve languages and is used in sex education classes worldwide. Jerry Falwell says to parents about Women Our Bodies Our Selves, "I don't know what this country is coming to when some of our schools openly teach that premarital sex is not sinful, and that the moral values you and I grew up with are outdated and backward." He then asks, "Do you want your children or the children of your loved ones reading this type of immoral trash?"

Apparently his words have an impact even here in Massachusetts. Last March in Spencer, parents tried to remove Women Our Bodies Our Selves from their high school's sex education classes.

The New York Times reports that "70 percent of challenged material is altered, restricted, or removed."

America does not need a Big Brother (the Moral Majority) looking over our shoulders and deciding what the youths of America should or should not read. The Moral Majority seems to be trying to escape into the past in search of an American Utopia, but when its leader says, "In recent months, God has been calling on me to do more than preach--He has called on me to take action. I have a divine mandate to go right into the halls of Congress to fight for laws that will save America," you have to doubt his judgment.

The Puritan-type society they envision, where everybody goes to church, sex isn't taught in schools, and premarital sex is taboo was in the past. The past is gone forever. Sex is taught in schools, not everybody goes to church, and premarital sex is not taboo.

Whether it is right or wrong is really irrelevant. The Moral Majority may have discovered newly found power with the election of Ronald Reagan, but they do not have the right to freeze time or shape our destiny. The sooner the Moral Majority realizes this the better off we'll all be.



## A Word From Above

MR. DAVID SCHEIN

Many students expect the new principal to radically change the school which they view as "just a series of classes and rules." They may be disappointed. Some movement toward expanded student freedom should occur, but it is folly to advocate elimination of necessary rules and regulations. Learning requires an orderly climate and a simple code of rules protects it.

The problem that many schools face is the maintenance of a proper perspective on such matters. When an organization is over concerned about rules, it probably is not paying enough attention to thinking creatively about how students learn. It views its students as objects to be shaped rather than as human beings to be approached with trust and understanding.

I do not believe that Sharon is guilty of this narrow perspective. However, it is apparent that past events are a legitimate basis for the cautious approach to the amount of freedom provided for Sharon's students. The community is entitled to hold the schools accountable for proper student behavior. At the class meetings, I challenged all of you to continue to demonstrate the responsibility and maturity that has impressed me since my arrival in Sharon. As poor behavior created today's conservative attitudes good behavior will be the basis for future modifications in the rules.

What we can do to change the school right now is the legitimate concern many of you have expressed. My response is to start by cooperating with class officers and advisors to create new activities. Alternative school days with outside speakers, exchange programs, service programs, field days, etc. are important events in broadening the student's perspective and are appropriate learning activities. The junior class breakfast program is a practical example of improving the life of the students.

I'm sure that the faculty and community will applaud and support your efforts. Now is the time for creative and well planned student proposals. I'm waiting to hear from you.





## Campaigning for King

### LAURENCE AT LARGE

I went to eat lunch with the Governor the other day. As he started to charge the meal to the state, I asked if it wouldn't be better for us to pay for it ourselves.

"Why?" he answered.

"If you're caught charging big lunch checks to the state again you might get in more trouble. That could ruin your re-election campaign," I said.

"It's already ruined," he added. "The saps of this state would never vote me in again."

"I see...but why are you running all those ads?" I queried.

"So more people will contribute to my campaign

and I can collect some extra money."

"Oh, of course. But if you charge this lunch, the press will be all over you and that will be bad publicity. Isn't it worth it to you to pay?"

"No way. You see, the press is too busy giving the other candidates trouble because they know they don't have to waste their time on me."

"I get it now," I said. "You can keep collecting campaign contributions, you can keep billing the state, and you don't have to worry because the press is searching for real corruption in government."

"Exactly!" he said as he signed for the lunch

To the editor:

I recently received a letter from two former students and would like to share it with your readers. The letter was from Lien and Thanh Chuong, who now live in Connecticut with their brothers.

Perhaps not many in Sharon remember Lien and Chuong. They arrived in our school last year, not only "new kids in school" but also new immigrants to our country. Quiet and gentle, they seldom spoke unless spoken to, and when they tried to communicate, they were often frustrated because they hardly knew any English at all.

Yet, the Chuongs made friends at Sharon High, and their letter is full of gratitude and friendship towards us. "I think of you often," Lien writes. "Please say hello to every teacher and to our classmates. We miss them so much. Thanks a lot that they helped us. We enjoyed to know them." Her brother, Thanh, adds, "I have been very sad to miss you... and my beginning at Sharon High School. Some of the (students) here are unmannerly. They make fun of my name. They use small pieces of paper to throw at my back. I miss my teachers, my friends..."

I wonder how many of us knew the Chuongs. I wonder how many of us learned about their incredible journey to this country as Vietnamese Boat People. I wonder how often we stopped to think of the peril, the hunger, the thirst and the loneliness they encountered along the way to these United States. "Last week at school they had two new Vietnamese students... they just come from Vietnam for one week and don't speak English at all," Lien tells me. "It's terrible how some of us are when we first come to the U.S.A. We try to help."

Somehow, Sharon High helped the Chuongs, and for this we should be grateful. It is, for me at least, the kind of exchange in which we get far more than we give.

Sincerely,

Maureen C. Wartski

Those wishing to write Lien and Thanh please address your letters to:

Lien and Thanh Chuong  
49 Franklin Street  
Wallingford, CT 06492



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