



tiger talk

Happy spring vacation!

SCHOOL WILL BE dismissed today at noon and will resume on Monday, April 10. The Old Hickory staff will also take a holiday, so the next issue will not be out until April 21. The editors wish all Jackson students and faculty a safe and enjoyable spring vacation.

Exchange students

SIXTEEN FOREIGN EXCHANGE students from the South Bend, Mishawaka and Penn districts, will be hosted by Jackson on April 13. Each foreign student will spend the full school day with a Jackson student.

They will visit individual classes so that they can not only study the differences between Jackson and their school, but they will also have an opportunity to make new acquaintances. Their countries range from Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Yugoslavia and Japan to Greece, Paraguay, Chile and Colombia.

The idea was conceived by Jackson's foreign exchange students. As Ana Estrada pointed out, "We have gone to Penn, Mishawaka and Bremen high schools and now is our chance to answer their questions about Jackson."

Marie-Alix Roy commented, "Some of the other schools are much older, and I would like to show the others how Jackson is different."

Lotte Hendriksson laughed, "Now it is our turn to show them how much better Jackson is!"

Coordinator of the program, Mrs. Sylvia Kercher, says to all, "Come on, Jackson, let's give them a warm welcome and make them feel at home."

CA talent winners

THIS EVENING at the Calvary Temple junior Linda Bradberry and freshman Cheryl Bradberry will compete at the regional Christ's Ambassadors Talent Contest sponsored by the Assemblies of God International.

Linda and Cheryl received the honor of attending the regional contest when they won the local contest last Friday.

Linda won in the keyboard solo competition with an original medley. Cheryl won in the vocal division with the solo "I Wished We'd All Been Ready."

Industrial Arts convention



MR. DALE EMONS, Jackson industrial arts teacher, is attending the American Industrial Arts Association national convention this week. The five-day convention in Dallas, Texas, involves leaders and teachers in the field as well as members of various industries.

Gold key winners

THREE JHS SENIORS have won gold keys in the annual National Writing Contest sponsored by Quill and Scroll, international honorary for high school journalists. Bill Borden won a news writing award for a story which appeared on the Tribune's Next Generation Page; June Thomas also won in the news category for an OH story about senior Dave Marshall's efforts to save the trains. Mike Powers won his gold key for getting one of the highest scores in the nation on a current events quiz. All are now eligible to apply for one of the Edward J. Nell Memorial Scholarships, worth \$500.

NBC reporters

FIFTEEN JACKSON JOURNALISTS will be part of the NBC news team that covers the May 2 Indiana Primary election returns. As soon as the polls close, these reporters, each assigned to a different local precinct, will telephone NBC in New York with the voting results. One student also has the job of checking at the courthouse for the number of eligible Democratic and Republican voters in each precinct. They will be paid for their services.



OFF TO INDIANAPOLIS last weekend for the state meeting of the Office Education Association were these Jackson members with their sponsor, Mrs. Bernice DeVries. On the steps of the bus are Cathy Bloom and Debbie Stout. Below, from left, are Cathy Whaley, Elaine Coryell, Sue McGinnis,

Pam Woodcox, and Rhonda Brown. Lyn Barber (not pictured) also made the trip. They left at 1:30 p.m. Friday with OEA member representatives from other South Bend schools, stayed at the Hilton in Indianapolis that night, and attended contests at Ben Davis High School on Saturday.

(Photo by Marty Katz)

OLD HICKORY

Vol. VII No. 24

Andrew Jackson High School, South Bend, Ind. 46614

March 31, 1972

Students visit special ed centers

Last week three students from Jackson toured area facilities for children with speech and hearing problems.

Mary Bastian, Annette Grande, and Tom DeShone visited an audio-visual center, attended special classes at O'Brien school, watched teaching sessions at Cline - Morris school, and toured Logan Center.

According to Jackson's head counselor, Mr. Everett Holmgren,

a constitution is being prepared for a special education club for students interested in that field. He said the club hopes to explore various area programs for children with special educational needs. It will be open to anyone interested in joining.

Mary Bastian commented that after the tour she was more aware of exactly what speech and hearing therapy was "because we actually

sat in on speech sessions while the teacher worked with students on articulation and nasality."

Mary was also surprised at O'Brien School by the deaf children's ability to communicate.

Tom DeShone found the program extremely interesting and was impressed with the one to one ratio of teachers to students at the Cline-Morris school.

They'll be helping out any way they can

After three weeks of collecting food supplies for the relief of flood victims in the West Virginia dam washout disaster, the Youth Fellowship of the First United Methodist Church plans a trip to the disaster area during spring vacation to take food and "help in any way we can."

Jacksonites Dave Hugus, Emily Morris, and Joan Evans are among

the 60 to 65 youth gathering food-stuffs.

Major grocery stores in South Bend are used as collection centers where people may donate canned foods, blankets, and money.

The money will be used to buy more food and blankets. The youth group is hoping to collect a hundred crates of canned food.

Reception centers will include Broadmoor, Thrift-Mart and Kroger's Wednesday, April 5.

According to Dave, three or four people will go to West Virginia in a truck carrying the collected supplies on April 6. The church, headed by Bishop Rubin H. Mueller, hopes to bring more of the youth group along.

Paper of the Weak planned

"Paper of the Weak" is the title decided upon by the journalism class for their own newspaper being prepared for publication on Friday, April 14.

Under the guidance of student teacher Mr. Eugene Policinski, they have chosen a staff to write copy and sell ads.

Editor-in-chief is Lisa Infalt; news editor is Linda Bradberry; and sports editor, John Whisler. Page two editor Jan Stickley plans to make

her page one of "entertainment and amusement," including a Place the Face picture. Page three, the opinion page, will be edited by Fred Meyers and Mike Powers.

Pat Lefler has been chosen business and advertising manager, and the rest of the class will serve as reporters and copy editors. According to Mr. Policinski, the newspaper will be "an experience in high school journalism." It will be sold for 10 cents.

Hoosier State representatives chosen



Mark Schurr



Donna Diltz

Juniors Donna Diltz and Mark Schurr have been chosen delegates to Hoosier Girls and Boys State.

Donna will attend the program at Indiana University, Bloomington, June 25 - July 2. Mark will stay at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, June 10 -17.

The purpose of the week-long conventions sponsored by the American Legion is to educate young people in duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of citizenship and to give them an opportunity to learn the problems of government.

Marla Wilkin was chosen as alternate for Girls State.

Nixon, Muskie get support

Thousands of Indiana 18-20 year olds will be eligible to vote in the upcoming May 2 primary. How will these new voters affect the outcome of the Indiana primary?

Some experts predict that many young voters will vote just like their parents. Others fear that students will vote for radicals and irresponsible candidates. Even worse is the feeling that the students won't vote at all.

To discover who students will vote for in the primary, we polled 200 Jackson students last week. We conducted the poll in the same way as the primary is conducted in Indiana. Voters chose which party to vote in, and then voted for one candidate from that party.

The results were:

REPUBLICANS
Nixon-97.6%
McCloskey-2.4%

DEMOCRATS
Muskie-38%
Humphrey-22.4%
Wallace-19%
McGovern-8.6%
McCarthy-8.6%
Jackson-3.4%

Of the total vote, Nixon came out on top:

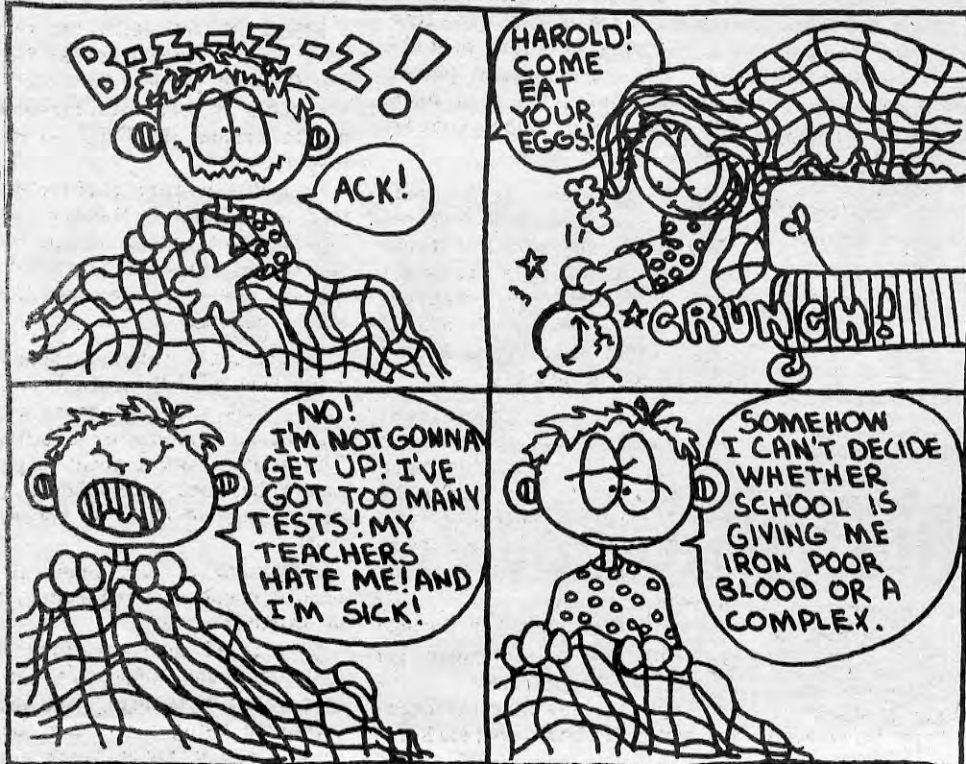
R. Nixon-66.5%
D. Muskie-12.1%
D. Humphrey-7.1%
D. Wallace-6%

D. McGovern-2.7%
D. McCarthy-2.7%
R. McCloskey-1.6%
D. Jackson-1.1%

Except for an unusually strong Nixon vote, Jackson students appear to fit in with national opinion for all ages.

However, opinion may change by the time the primary rolls around. If the economy doesn't stabilize itself, the environment doesn't get cleaned up, and the war doesn't wind down, Nixon may not come through with as much of the vote as he now appears to command. Also different Democrats may come out on top in their race. May 2 holds the answers in Indiana.

THE MORNING BLUES AGAIN...



Letters to the Editor

Students mad about everything

Dear Editor,

After reading 23 of your nationally awarded All-American papers I feel it is my duty as an "All-American" reader to tell you that I heartily disagree with anyone who can call this paper interesting. It lacks interesting stories, articles and editorials. It used to be something to look forward to -- not anymore!

It is so distant from what I think a school paper should be. I think it should have more human interest stories--less about the new mall, city planning, redevelopment and the like. Why not put in more pictures of student activities and life: kids at lunch, talking in the gym? Use your imagination, if you've got one, rather than a bunch of mumbo-jumbo that the majority of the students could care less about. Couldn't the editorials pertain to school life rather than unrelated brown-nosing award-appealing masses of big words?

My general complaint is that this paper has headed itself more in the direction of trying to win awards rather than maintain a favorable rating amongst the student body, the original audience for the Jackson Old Hickory.

I think that the editor has let his impressive position in the publications department go to his head, thus preventing him from being able to see clearly the true interests of the student body.

Sincerely yours,
Ame Place

Dear Editor,

I would like to register a complaint against the lack of teacher supervision during the noon lunch period in the gymnasium. During the last few weeks my friends and I have been forced to find cover behind the bleachers in an effort to avoid being hit by basketballs. One of us has been hit twice, though not seriously. However, several people sitting in the bleachers have had their heads smashed up against the wall by a basketball, much to the delight of the people involved in the throwing.

A single teacher in the gym could pre-

vent this from happening. A teacher could also prevent the spraying of fire extinguishers all over the floor and students. It seems to me that it is an obvious point that a person should be able to spend his lunch hour relaxing or studying instead of cowering in a far corner of the gym for fear of being struck down.

Richard Cullar

Dear Editor,

I would like to bring up an unfair practice carried on at lunch by some students. What I'm referring to is the way many selfish JHS'ers cut into the cafeteria line because they can't wait to eat like everyone else. In my own case, I have just a half-hour to eat lunch and get to work and usually it turns out to be a lot less time because of people who crowd in front of the line.

When the lunchroom supervisor is standing by the cafeteria line I don't have any trouble with these students but when he is is another part of the lunchroom I end up really having to rush so I'm not late for work.

All I can ask is that Jackson students have a little bit more consideration.

A Senior

Dear Editor,

What seems to be the problem with our senior class? It seems a waste that someone didn't realize long ago that we were broke. It's too late now to try to have a good fund-raising project. I would like to know who's responsible for sleeping on the job. If some people had been alert, this wouldn't have happened.

This should be a lesson to all future seniors. The senior prom should be something to remember. So have a good one! Don't wait until prom night to figure out your finances, and then cry on the juniors' shoulders to support your prom. Wake up senior class officers! It's on your shoulders now.

A Concerned Senior,
Guss Zeiger

Term papers terrorize innocent senior student

by Paul Tash
OH Editor-in-chief

One day as I unsuspectingly walked into senior English class, the words "Working bibliography" and "rough draft" jumped off the blackboard and assaulted me. I also noticed for the first time that my teacher looked remarkably like Attila the Hun as she fiendishly grinned. "Aha," I deduced, "we're going to do more today than discuss the social significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls."

Then she let us have it with all the tact of a Sherman tank. "Okay, class, before you are the 613 steps to a perfect term paper. Follow them exactly and you ought to pass. Miss one or two of them, and we'll notify your next of kin at no extra charge."

On closer examination, I discovered that they'll have to cut down six national forests just to make enough paper for this monster. In addition to the minimum of 197 bibliography cards, you must have enough notes to write a sequel to CRIME AND PUNISHMENT; and remember students, only one note to a card. Then there are the rough drafts, final drafts, final bibliography, footnotes, and cover pages. The thought hit me that if they recycled all the paper that goes into one of these monstrosities, Bell Telephone could print enough phone books for Chicago, Indianapolis, and Detroit combined.

Like most other innocents, I was convinced that my teacher was making this assignment solely for my benefit - to better prepare me for a career as a professional footnoter. Then it hit me. There could be only one other reason for all this paperwork - my trusted teacher owned stock in a paper company!

A talk with Mr. B.Z. Work, president of Perfect Paper Inc., confirmed my worst fears. "It's true," he admitted, "all English teachers own stock in paper companies. That way we can always count on them when business is slow. During the freshman and sophomore years they start making students waste paper by having them write on just one side and double-space. This senior term paper bit is just the coup de grace."

Crushed by this revelation, I still could not accept the fact that my beloved teacher had sold me out for a few shares of stock; I had to hear it directly from "the horses mouth," so to speak. Grasping for some values to hold onto, I asked her if what Mr. Work had told me was true.

"You betcha, kiddo," she callously replied.

"In that case," I asked, choking back the tears of disillusionment, "could I skip the term paper if I just buy 1000 reams of typing paper?"

"Forget it," she answered. "I've got another 50 shares of Terrific Typewriters."



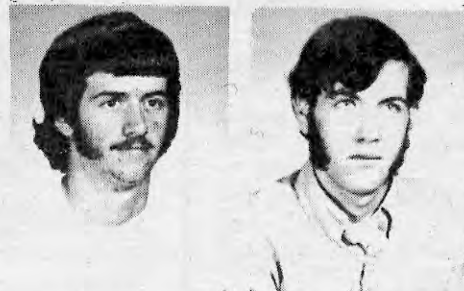
Gasoline Alley



by Dick Butler
and Mike Hitson

Who drives the fastest car at Jackson? What make of car is the best? Old Hickory reporters sought answers to these and other questions by interviewing several of Jackson's car "buffs" on the subject of auto mechanics.

Juniors Brian Kinner and Mike Carmichael have been working on cars and engines, as Mike put it, "ever since we've been able to pick up a wrench." Brian usually specializes in the mechanics department while Mike works primarily as a driver.



Brian Kinner

Mike Carmichael

When asked who drove the fastest car at Jackson, Brian and Mike answered differently. Brian believes that senior Bob Grant owned the quickest car, a 302 Camaro, until it was stolen and set on fire. He added, however, that he thought Carmichael's car, a 427 Corvette, would have been beaten off the line by Grant's car but that Carmichael could have beaten him in a distance run.

Carmichael replied that Dave Dutrieux, who drives a 429 Mach I, and John Til-

ton, with a 428 Macn I, would be evenly matched with his own car for top speed honors at Jackson.

Brian, who owns a 1964 Chevy Impala, thinks Chevrolet makes the best cars. "The small block Chevy engine is superior to any other small block engine and it is more popular," commented Brian. He added, "Chevy parts are always the cheapest and easiest to get your hands on."

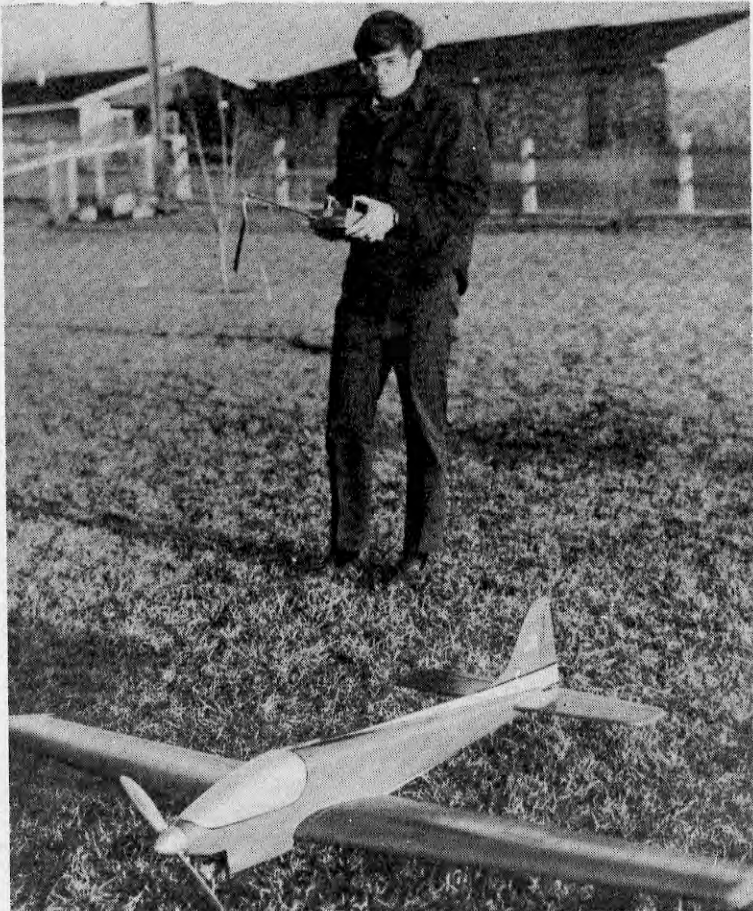
Students like Brian and Mike who are interested in cars often take the auto mechanics course at Jackson taught by Mr. Richard Praklet. However, to be eligible for auto mechanics, a student must take power mechanics first and maintain at least a C average. Mr. Praklet stated that the standard may have to be raised to a B average due to the large number of students who want to get into the auto mechanics class.

Both Brian and Mike suggested that a local drag strip be built in order to cut down on street racing. They agreed that it would also make money. Mike commented, "I'd be out there every day."

Editor's Note - We invite letters to Gasoline Alley. If you have any car questions or comments, drop them in the Letter to the Editor box across from Room 229, addressed to Gasoline Alley.

Old Hickory

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CHECKING TO MAKE SURE the plane is level, Dennis Hoffer pushes the control button of his Sky Sweeper Mark II, hoping for a smooth take-off. Hoffer belongs to the Tri-Valley Radio Control Club, as does junior Dave Yates. (photo by Greg Nicholos)

Plane crashes common for this flying buff

by Donna Diltz
OH Staff writer

The white Cessna Skylane was steadily decreasing its 80-mile-per hour speed and its 500-foot altitude while it circled the runway to get in a good landing position. The plane's pilot, Dave Yates, pulled up the nose of his machine on its control box. But his movement wasn't quick enough and the plane dove to the earth. It was too late for Dave to do anything about the crash.

"It's a common occurrence," explained Yates at the receiver end of a radio-controlled plane, "for aircraft of this type to have accidents."

"For a successful flight, a pilot must have a good plane and engine - but most important, he must skillfully manage his controls."

Yates put down his 9 1/2 x 9 1/2 x 2 1/2-inch receiver with its long antennae and walked toward his nose-damaged plane on the Tri-Valley Radio Control club lot. The 10-acre field is maintained by the club Yates belongs to. Obviously the six-pound balsa wood plane with five feet of wings would need a great deal of work before it could fly again.

"But I don't mind the repair jobs," Yates said as he examined the hacked off front of the plane, "because I like to work with my hands. The skill of maneuvering an unattached object in the air makes flying radio-controlled planes even more fun."

"The radio-controlled plane functions on a transmitter," he said, explaining how the craft is operable without strings.

The transmitter sends out wave lengths on 13 to 15 different frequencies that force the cervos in the motor to direct the plane, he explained.

While Yates loaded the splintered pieces into a box he told of the monetary details behind his hobby. "Probably the biggest fault of this sport is its expense. The body and engine kit for a plane with wheels and landing gear equipment costs about \$100; \$350 will buy a good radio transmitter."

Gas for an aircraft is \$5 per gallon admits Yates, "but one gallon will last a weekend flyer about a month."

Despite the expensive equipment, Yates claims he's just playing with toys until this summer. "I hope to start working on my pilot license soon," he says. "My parents have no objections. In fact, they would rather I flew the skies than drove the roads."

Promise them anything... but sir, watch the scalpel

by Stacey Burling
OH Staff writer

It's nearly eight o'clock on a Saturday morning. Slowly, the groggy-eyed members of Junior Achievement's WJA-TV sleepwalk into the WNDU studio.

Today "There You Are," a new skit to rival the past relics of "Rock of Ages," will be filmed. Reporters Walter Klondike and Mark Wallace will visit the scene of the world's first heart transplant to be performed by Dr. Barnyard.

AFTER A FEW minutes of general confusion, everyone begins to ready the studio for the filming. Rick Xaver of St. Joseph's lines up one of the two \$60,000 Norelco cameras while Geoff Roth, one of nine Jackson members, adjusts the \$90,000 videotape machine in a back room.

Costumes are a do-it-yourself thing and cast members are busy trying to make themselves look like doctors and nurses. Sophomore Robin Hill's makeshift uniform consists of one of her father's white shirts which barely covers her hot-pants. Surgical masks are made by tearing up some not so sterile rags. Tom Keays, who is playing an anesthetist, tries to look a little more professional as he ties his hair back in a pony tail.

A cart is readied with some rather unorthodox surgical tools: a hammer, an oil can, a fork, a nut-cracker, a stapler, a hacksaw, a serrated knife, a flyswatter and a pair of yellow playtex gloves.

MEANWHILE, THE PATIENT, co-director of art Kevin O'Brien, is being prepared for the opera-

tion. He lies quietly on the operating table while a sinister group converges around him and attaches yards of colored wire to his body with masking tape. Later, Kevin exclaims, "They taped my hair!"

Throughout the organized chaos, production manager Kim Guidi of Mishawaka runs around with an orange mug full of coffee, giving directions. For seemingly no reason at all, he yells, "Roll 'em!" Then, he announces, "I love to say that...Roll 'em!" Guidi explains that he shouts a lot. "I have to. It's my job."

At 10 minutes to 9, everyone is ready for a run-through. The first of many setbacks occurs when the supposedly anesthetized patient laughs as the incision is made with the serrated scalpel. The cast prepares to start over.

AT 9:10: "Stand by for run-through." After about 30 seconds, a false cue ruins it this time. The next attempt fails too as on-the-scene reporter Mark Wallace, played by Bob Morton of LaSalle, laughs while sneezing profusely over the operating table.

Afterwards, Guidi advises president Jim Skwarcan, who is Walter Klondike, "Make it a little more dramatic, Jim." In the background, company members who are uninvolved in this skit try to catch up on their sleep on some off-camera couches.

At 9:25 the fourth run-through goes well, and cast members get ready for the first take. Some are kept busy cleaning the hacksaw while Dr. Barnyard (Joe Kocy) stares at his fake blood-stained gloves.

Finally, the call comes, "Quiet! Stand by." But it's all for nothing; Bob Morton laughs again. The sixth and seventh tries are just as fruitless. The anesthetist gets tired of his pony tail and his hair falls in mad disarray.

Sound man David Bashover pushes the wrong one of his myriad buttons and blows the eighth and ninth attempts. Director Mark Heller wryly comments, "I want to compliment you all on your fine work this morning." The tenth try goes the way of the first nine and Tom Keays forgets his lines during the eleventh.

FINALLY AT 10:11, the team tries again. Success at last! Now, the finished product is shown in the studio while company members huddle around the TV, watching themselves.

At 10:18, the filming of the first skit is officially finished and everyone gets ready for the next one. It only took two hours and 18 minutes to complete one five-minute segment.

"Hercules, which also appears tomorrow in 'Beyond our Control,'" took at least 9 hours without sound dubbing or subtitles. The satire about a group of pancakes that took over a house was the product of about 45 hours of work.

According to last year's production manager, Sue Denning, it's all worth it.

"I learned more here in practical experience than you would in four years of college," she says. "They're using one of our tapes for a class in Mass Communications at I.U."

Taureans don't really shoot the bull

by Frankie Kirkwood
OH Astrologer

Reckless. Rash. Impulsive. Extremely impatient and independent. And, no doubt, optimistic.

Anyone born between March 21 and April 20 is an Aries. And the above terms probably describe his personality. Arians are known as extroverts. They prefer glory to money, and usually have a creative, pioneering spirit.

So it's only fitting, then, that Arians are happiest doing social or political work.

Aries, the first sign on the Astrological wheel, rules the head--the part of the body most susceptible to pain.

It is, in short, a fiery sign whose planetary influence is Mars (the planet on the rise during this per-

iod of the year).

The second sign of the astrological wheel, Taurus, is the sign of the bull. It encompasses everyone born between April 21 and May 20. An earthly sign whose planetary influence is Venus, Taurus rules the neck and throat--areas of the body often plagued with congestion or inflammation.

The Taurean is what the sign indicates: bull-headed. A stubborn person noted for his stability of character, the Taurean is slow to anger--but once aroused, he will rage.

Taurus is generally home-loving, unbeatably loyal, and nature-loving. He is extremely happy and will probably possess that well-scrubbed, Ivory soap appearance. Admittedly, the Taurean is hap-

piest in a clean-hands job, such as clerical or executive work.

Before people can be characterized under a zodiacal sign, it must be understood that the descriptions are general and not completely accurate for every person born under a certain sign of the Zodiac.

The characteristics presented here can only give a general idea of the personality of those born under a certain sign. In other words, saying "All those born under Virgo are critical" makes as much sense as stating, "All Italians are sexy."

Ford's Dairy Queen



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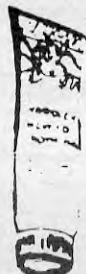


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Gary Brokaw billed as next ND basketball great

by John Whisler
Jacksonian Sports editor

Austin Carr - a name that is immediately associated with Notre Dame basketball greatness.

Gary Brokaw - a name that within a couple years could also become synonymous with basketball greatness at Notre Dame.

Brokaw, a 17-year-old freshman, is a 6'3" jumping-jack from New Brunswick, N. J. In high school he averaged better than 30 points a contest and had a single game high of 60. His senior year he was named to numerous All-American teams.

He says he chose Notre Dame over such other colleges as UCLA, Southern Cal., Marquette and Ohio State because of its national exposure and "mainly because I had heard Notre Dame had a good law school." Law is the field he wants to enter.

Prior to the start of the season Gary gave area fans a preview of what was to come when he rifled in 31 points in a 62-52 loss in the frosh-varsity game.

His high point game of 43 came against Illinois, but, according to his coach, Frank McLaughlin, his best game came against a previously undefeated Marquette team, where his 28 points and superb floor leadership led the freshman to a victory.

The freshman team contained but three scholarship players, Brokaw, Dwight Clay, and Pete Crotty; the rest were walk-ons. Hence, the squad's 12-5 season mark surprised a lot of people, including Brokaw.

"I was a little disappointed at the beginning of the year to find only two other scholarship players besides me," confessed Brokaw.

"But during the season we gradually gained confidence and started playing well together as a team. So I think we really did well."

Gary was more modest in his appraisal of his own performance.

"I think I had a decent year, but I also think I could have done a lot better," said Brokaw. "I had hoped to shoot 50 per cent from the field and 80 per cent from the line, but I don't think I quite made it."

He also admits that he has a couple of areas he needs to work on: shooting and defense.

Coach McLaughlin is more lavish in his praise of Gary.

"He has such great quickness and ball-handling ability," his coach says. "He not only shoots 50 per cent from the floor and pulls down nine rebounds a game, but he is also a great team player."

With the adoption of the freshman eligibility rule by the NCAA, freshmen will be able to participate in major college basketball at the varsity level.

On this, Brokaw commented, "I think the rule is good for Notre Dame because it should help in their rebuilding program, but I myself don't like it."

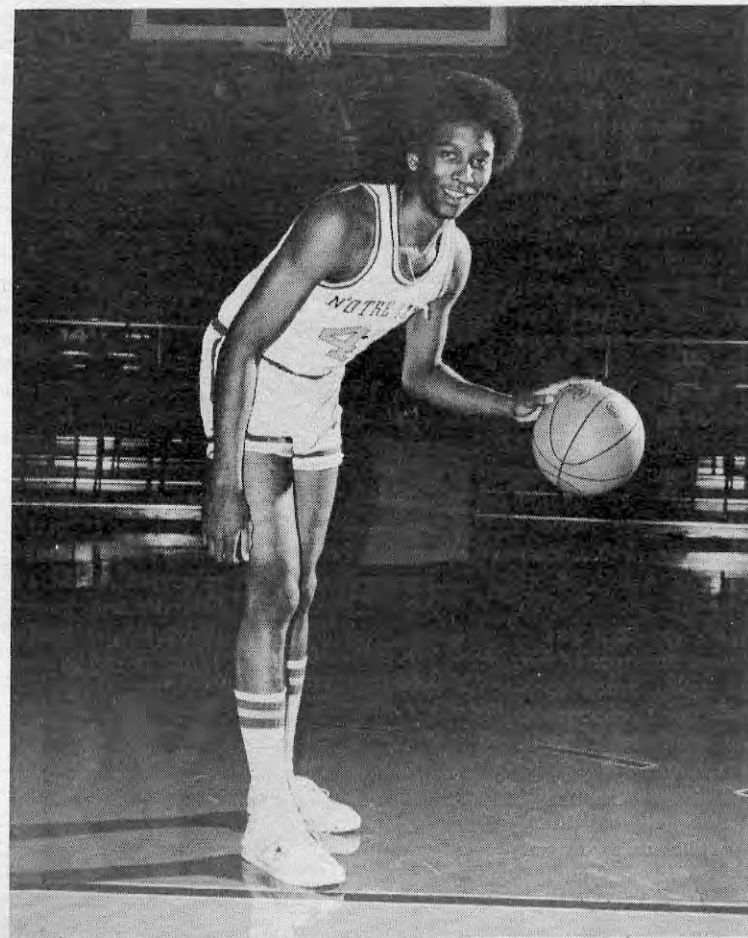
He added that while he didn't know about other freshmen, he personally didn't feel he would have been able to handle it.

"There is a world of difference between home and here. The studies are so much harder and the pressure is a lot greater, too. It really started to build up the second half of the season."

Coach McLaughlin was not at all surprised by Gary's comments.

"This is Gary Brokaw. He's such a great person; he's easy to coach and he's always looking for advice. He's interested in the team and just people in general.

"If he keeps the same attitude he has now, he should really be a great player."



NOTRE DAME FRESHMAN basketball star Gary Brokaw practices ball handling at the Athletic and Convocation Center. (photo courtesy of the Department of Sports Information at Notre Dame)

NCAA eligibility rule stimulates arguments

by John Whisler

On Jan. 8, 1972, the National Collegiate Athletic Association voted to make all freshmen eligible to play basketball and football effective August 1.

This move immediately stirred up a wave of debate among both high school and college coaches all over the country.

To discover the views of coaches in our area, I interviewed several local coaches.

First, I talked to high school coaches, asking them if college recruiters have put any extra pressures on them or their players as a result of the new rule.

JACKSON BASKETBALL head mentor, Joe Kreitzman, stated that there were no extra pressures on him but he did comment concerning his senior star, Alan Smith.

"I've been contacted by ten schools and only one of them has put on pressure of any consequence. A guy from a small school came to me and said that they needed a guard who could shoot and they thought Alan could fit this role immediately. But, that's about as far as it went."

Another high school basketball coach, Jim Miller of Penn, gave his views.

"We haven't had any more pressure than normal. I think that only the superstars will really be affected by the rule, which is the reason why we haven't had any players affected. We teach our kids to be winners and not superstars."

THE THIRD HIGH SCHOOL basketball coach I contacted was Bob Donewald of St. Joe concerning his star senior, Tom Abernethy.

"There hasn't been any extra pressure on me or Tom from re-

cruiters yet, because we didn't allow any recruiters to come during the season. So it's just starting to become a factor now. Recruiters probably will use this as a tool to attract players and it's something Tom will have to decide for himself."

I then asked Smith and Abernethy about the pressure and whether or not they would like to play varsity basketball their freshman year.

ACCORDING TO SMITH, there hasn't been much pressure on him because most of the schools that talked to him were junior colleges. "I don't even think many schools like the rule," he added.

He also said that he wouldn't want to play because "freshmen should have a year to get used to the longer and much tougher college game."

Abernethy said "They don't promise anything; they just say, 'you may be able to play varsity if you really work hard!'"

ABERNETHY SAID he has received over 100 offers from such schools as Indiana, Purdue, Florida, and Maryland, but he hasn't talked to many yet. He also added that the new rule really doesn't matter to him because "you have to be really great to make it."

I also put the same question to a couple of area high school football coaches, Jackson's Wally Gartee and Marian's Bob Otoloski.

Said, Coach Gartee, "I haven't noticed any pressure, at least not yet anyway. Greg Landry has signed a letter of intent to Butler, but no extra pressure was put on him; in fact, the new rule wasn't even mentioned."

COACH OTOLOSKI also stated that the pressure had not become a key factor, but that it was mentioned just because the other schools are using it. Thus they don't promise anything. "Take one of our players, Bob Paar, for example. Indiana University said they could use a good punt return man and they thought Bob would have a 'good opportunity to make it,' but that's as far as they would go."

The same coaches gave their own personal views on the rule.

GARTEE: "I'm against it and I think most colleges will be, too, because, let's face it, any big school that has to use freshman football players for its varsity is really hurting. Perhaps there will be certain extremely talented freshmen who may play, but their maturity will be the determining factor."

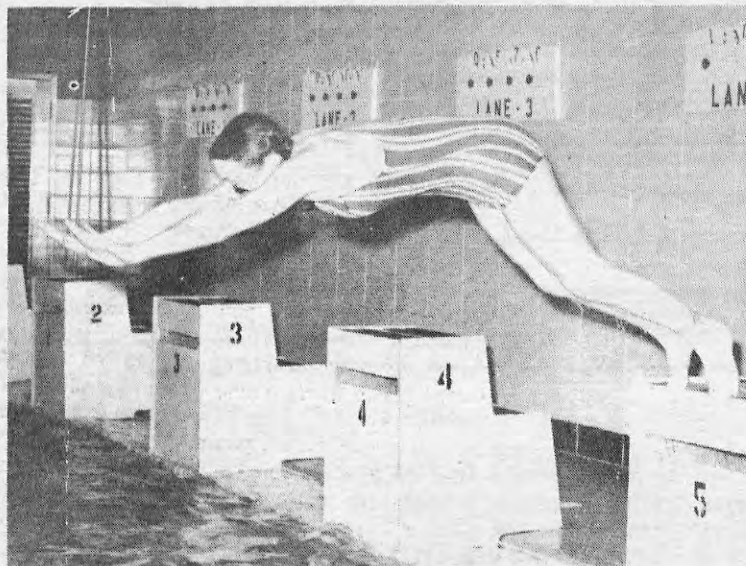
Otoloski: "I can understand the use of freshmen by a college for economic reasons. It would cut down on scholarships, but I'm against it as a coach because I want the best type of high school football program I can get and this rule could detract from it."

I ALSO ASKED Notre Dame basketball coach Digger Phelps and football coach Ara Parseghian just how extensively they will take advantage of the rule.

Phelps: "We will use the rule to attract players, but I think our 6-20 record this past year speaks for itself. We have to rebuild our program and this is the best and fastest way to do it."

PARSEGHIAN: "I'm not really for or against it but I think most people don't realize that freshmen have been eligible to play in all other sports, so what difference could it make in football and basketball? We will use freshmen, but since they will miss spring practice, their possibilities of making it are limited."

Editor's note: Coverage of Jackson spring sports will be brought up-to-date on April 14 in the paper of the Week. Golfers will qualify for team positions during spring vacation.



DEBBIE GRADY DIVES off the starting block in preparation for last Saturday's State meet at Elkhart. Debbie placed third in the 50-yard breaststroke and fourth in the 100-yard breaststroke while the team tied for seventh place. (Photo by Jon Meek)

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