

Council Gains New Advisor Principal Challis Resigns

"I enjoyed working with Student Council because the work they do is important and involves all school functions," commented Assistant Principal Dean Challis. After more than 22 years of dedicated service to Student Council, he has resigned as Council advisor.

Last May, Mr. Challis suggested to Principal Leonard Mazur, that someone new be considered for this position. As a result Mr. Mazur chose Assistant Principal Thomas McLennan. Mr. McLennan assumed the advisor duties earlier this month. A major reason for Mr. Challis' resignation is that he feels it is an advantage for the students to consult with someone new. He felt it is not good for one person to hold a position for too long of a time.

Since Mr. McLennan deals mainly with "problem" students, being Council advisor will give him an opportunity to work with other students as well.

"I was surprised to hear of Mr.



MR. McLENNAN

Challis' resignation. I never have known anyone so concerned about students in general than he is," said Student Council President Andy Kokas, senior, when asked his feelings of the change.

Stating his approval of the choice of Mr. McLennan, Andy commented, "The Council feels Mr. McLennan will do well because of his great contact with, and regard for, students."

Vietnam Biggest Problem According to Class Survey

What are the ten most serious problems in our nation today?

Mr. Arthur Brown took a survey recently in his five physics classes to see what DHS students thought.

Students were asked to write down the top ten problems. These responses were combined into categories. The five classes then tabulated answers to make a total of 16 categories.

The top ten, in order are as follows:

- * Vietnam War
- * Racial Disputes
- * Crime
- * Poverty
- * Pollution
- * Inflation
- * Education
- * Population Explosion
- * International Relations
- * Problems of Cities

Receiving fewer votes were Student Unrest, Personal Indignities, Political Problems, Labor Problems, Religion and the Generation Gap.

It is not surprising to see the Vietnam War and Racial Disputes on top, since young people have concerned themselves with these. Crime seems misplaced because teenagers are frequently blamed for vandalism and shoplifting.

Concern for the poverty-stricken ranks high, probably, because most Dearborn students know how fine they have it and they feel sorry for the less fortunate.

Education, which is a problem for many people, is number seven. Among the complaints were the usual comments on inadequate facilities.

Students' Unrest does not appear to be a problem of young people; nor does the overpublicized Generation Gap. Religion with its low rating as a problem is either not thought-provoking, or else it is not the problem religious leaders would have us believe.

Answers to these problems will take time to figure out. The real question is: Can the younger generation find the correct formula?



Brian Smith was awarded athlete of the year for DHS; however, he lost the west end title to Bill Reichel, from Sacred Heart.

The National Merit Scholarship Test will be given Feb. 14 at DHS. The registration fee of \$1.25 can be given to your counselor.

The Jazz Show and Dance sponsored by the cheerleaders, will be held tonight beginning at 7:30 p. m.

Senior yearbook pictures are due Dec. 14. Turn them in to Midge Cumming or Marty Shelly with your name printed as you would like it to appear in the yearbook.

Activity tickets are on sale for a reduced price of \$3.

The Observer

Dearborn High School Dearborn, Michigan November 21, 1969

Persistence Pays Off-- Almost

Impossible Dream Comes True

BY NAN KALDER, MARTY McNABB, AND BARB BAETZ

"It's impossible. You can't do it", they all said.

The next thing we knew his hotel room door opened and out ran Sammy Davis Jr.

It started out as a joke: how could three kids from the Dearborn High OBSERVER Staff get to see Sammy?

After more than 50 phone calls to agents, managers, and hotels, it all seemed hopeless. But after calling the hotel and talking to Sammy himself, things began to look more encouraging.

Although Sammy said "I'd like to get together with you", his agents had other ideas. Excuses why we could not see Sammy ranged from his rehearsing to his sleeping to his new teeth hurting.

Undaunted, we decided to take a chance on seeing him. To find out what room he was in we called the Elmwood Motel where he was staying and, in a "best-friend" voice, asked his room number so we could send him a telegram containing important news.

"Suite C", they told us. That was all we needed. Equipped with Polaroid camera, tape recorder, words of encouragement from other staff members and about a million plans on how to get to Suite C, we left last Friday.

Finding Windsor was bad enough but finding the Elmwood Casino was worse.

Finally succeeding, we headed straight to Suite C. While knocking on his door, we were interrupted by a fat Bavarian lady with a clipboard.

"What do you think you're doing here?" she boomed.

"Sammy Davis wants to see us," we replied.

Not believing us, the fat lady left (we thought for good), but seconds later returned with the motel manager (who we'll call Mr. X), two burly looking guards and a maid. We decided to escape and seek refuge in our car while mapping new strategy. Casing the place and finding how many exits were possible for Sammy was our next move. There was only one and that was by coming out on the balcony. We stationed our car to afford a perfect view of his door.

Our next step was finding out when he'd be leaving his room. Estimates varied from 3:15 to 8:30. We decided to wait it out, but after three hours of freezing outside, we tried to put another plan into action.

The door to the boiler room was open, so we ventured in. Inside was some of Sammy's luggage. At this

point, Mr. X, realizing we had left our car, began looking for us and discovered us in the boiler room, an area off limits to everyone but "authorized personnel".

"Get out!" he ordered. We did, but not until we took note of Sammy's home address labeled on his trunks (always look for alternatives!).

As a final attempt, we went up to the balcony, only to be kicked out by Mr. X. again. We decided to leave and come back Sunday when Sammy was to do a matinee performance at 3.

Sunday at 2 we were told he was backstage at the Casino. We asked everyone from the maitre de to the butcher for directions to the dressing room. They wouldn't let us back there, so we tried the motel again, waiting in our former position, guarding his door.

after less than 10 minutes, his door opened. His manager and bodyguards came out followed by Sammy. We couldn't believe it!

After realizing that it was really him, we asked if we could take a picture.

"Yeah baby", he replied leaning over the rail, smiling.

We took it and met him in the lobby for another picture and to shake hands.

Three minutes was all the time he could spare to talk to us. He was already late for his show. Sammy then ran through the parking lot and into the dressing room, and we went to the lobby of the Casino to wait.

The next obstacle was financial: not enough money to see the show.

We told the maitre de our predicament, and after we stood in the lobby looking sad, he let us in free.

What started out as a big joke ended up being a big joke--not on us but on the agents, managers, and all the people who said it couldn't be done. We did what they said was impossible. We met Sammy Davis Jr.



Photo by Barb Baetz

SMILING BROADLY IN "a picture that couldn't be taken" with a "person who couldn't be met" are (l-r) Marty McNabb, Sammy Davis Jr., and Nan Kalder.

Bearded Wonder Runs Taut Ship



MR. JAMES BROOKS, THE SUBJECT.

Forty students, each studying at a separate table cluttered with books, mustard, and dried-up lima beans does not exactly present a picture of New Orleans during the Mardi Gras. But if Mr. James Brooks happens to be the study hall teacher, plenty of aggravation and motivation is provided to create a suprisingly unusual hour.

The very presence of the bearded wonder sets many students searching for solutions to the many restrictions placed upon them. Rule No. 1 is the most difficult to accept: "All forms of fun are prohibited."

In the past, this rule has been overcome by simulating a study-group. This pleasant affair, one of the few activities permitted, in-

volves four students discussing a common study-topic, at the same study-table. ('Study' is a frequently used prefix in study hall circles).

Pretending to read newspapers is a great way to exchange several stories of the day among study-group members. Laughter may be stifled by inconspicuously holding the newspaper over one's head. But the problem arises when previously stifled study-guffaws break the newspaper barrier and Mr. Brooks comes study-running.

However, repeated violations of the study-group privilege may result in isolation of the victim, believed by Mr. Brooks to be the instigator. At first, only an oral isolation is imposed.

But when a genuine trouble-maker persists in disturbing his surrounding study-comrades by blinking too loudly, a gravely serious isolation is inflicted--Siberia, so-called because of the utter shock it sends through every spine in the class.

Siberia, as its analogy, is a place of desolation. The effects upon its forced inhabitants are not easily seen at first, but after a few weeks, they are enough to keep the 'fortunate' remainder subdued. What was once a friend has become a fiend. Large, shifty eyes, shaking hands, and a general twitch that cannot be described in words are but a few



GARY WARREN, THE AUTHOR.

of the characteristics found in those who foolishly dared to press Mr. Brooks.

After several Siberians have been drafted, fear causes a number of usually routine happenings to become hilarious. Watching the hands of the clock go 'round can be a riot. And when the masking tape gives up on a large poster, more than one teacher is required to calm students' fits of laughing.

Even more exciting is Mr. Brooks' entrapment of a student outside the study hall. Unknowingly, the outsider did one of two intolerable things: (1) he walked by, or (2) he bought an apple. For either violation, he must undergo a five-minute interrogation under the glare of bright lights and the threat of a rubber hose.

All things taken into consideration, a vivid imagination can change study hall into a Mardi Gras.

Football Players Awarded Honors

This year's football season came to a close when awards were given to deserving seniors for their outstanding efforts. Awards were given at the Football Banquet held Nov. 19 in the Redwood Room.

This year's Most Valuable Player Award went to Jack Lorente, halfback, who piled up 1176 yards for average carry of 6 yards per carry. Len Krzyzaniak received the Most Valuable Lineman Award, for his outstanding job at offensive and defensive tackle.

Brian Walsh's great efforts at halfback did not go unrewarded, as Brian received the Most Valuable Back award. Brian came through when called upon in key situations by making 15 first downs.

The Guts Award, which is given out for just what it says, goes to the gutsiest players. Bill Kalbfleisch, defensive end and Bob Roosevelt, both received this Award.

The Paynter Award, given to the unsung hero was given to Lindback Dave Nicol.

This year's Loyalty Award, which is given to the person who is loyal and stays with it, was given to Gus Floyd Disbrow.

Junior Varsity awards were given out by Head Coach Bill Rice and assistant, John DeYonke. Honors for the Most Valuable Back went to sophomore Tom Muldowney, halfback, while the Most Valuable Lineman Award was given to John Mier, sophomore tackle.

Gift From Spirit World

Local Boy Receives Psychic Power

Walter Vanderbilt is an Edsel Ford senior. His only claim to fame is that he claims to see "funny things" and sometimes he can predict the future.

Walter isn't sure exactly what his power is, but he says that it's something psychic. Walter tried to demonstrate his power to some of the Observer staff, but drew a blank because the "atmosphere wasn't right." He did make some startling predictions, though.

Walter granted the Observer an interview. Following are some questions and answers from the interview.

Q. Just what is your special ability?

"It's hard to describe how I feel in terms of normal senses, but it's kind of like a nervous feeling, then strange thoughts flash into my mind."

"Sometimes it's like I can see what's to happen in the future. For example, I knew that Dearborn would beat Edsel, so I won a few bucks off some guys."

Q. When did you first discover you had psychic powers?

"I was playing by the railroad tracks in Selma, Ala. where I was born. A nice lady dressed in white and gold came floating out of the sky and landed near me. She said she was my mother who had died when I was a baby.

She told me to hurry away from the tracks because if I stayed there I would get hurt. She told me she would keep an eye on me while I grew up, and that when I was older she would

give me something very beautiful.

I didn't see anything unusual for a few years, and when I was about thirteen I began developing the powers I have now. I think that my power to see things other people can't see is the beautiful gift my mother promised me."

Q. Do you think the woman you saw was a ghost?

"I'm not sure just what I saw that day in Selma, but I'm sure it wasn't a ghost. I've seen what I thought were ghosts. They appear to be like mist, sort of dreamy and transparent--they hang around the Rouge River a lot. Whatever I saw that day, definitely was not a ghost, I think I really saw the spirit of my mother."

Q. Do you see anything important coming in the near future?

"I'm not sure if I should say anything about the future."

Q. Ah, come on Walter...

"Well all right. Two things have been bothering me for a couple of weeks now. First, "I had a dream that Nebraska will be devastated by grasshoppers in July or August of 1970. "Secondly, I get a strong feeling every time I see President Nixon that there will be an attempt on his life--soon but I can't tell if it will be successful."

Q. Have you done anything about your feelings?

"I don't know what I can do for Nebraska, but I wrote Nixon a letter warning him. I haven't received a reply yet. I hope he takes my warning to heart. Heaven knows, no one wants Spiro for a president!"

OPEN END

WHAT IS THE ONE THING YOU WOULD DO TO IMPROVE DEARBORN HIGH?

"Get a new apple machine."--Sue Halwachs, junior. *****

"Get rid of Barb Baetz."--Mike Bathurst, senior. *****

"Throw a Molotov Cocktail in the Observer Red Room."--Fred Hatch, junior. *****

"Add another dimension to the already good attitudes toward one another here at Dearborn High."--Principal Len Mazur. *****

"Add a smoking room to get rid of the ashes in the johns."--Dean Gilbert, junior. *****

"Get a bicameral system in school to improve the student governing body."--Steve Rupe, sophomore. *****

"Have a longer school day and a three-day weekend."--Robert Rupe, sophomore. *****

"Add free form education. Take any classes you want, as much or as little as you want it."--Jim Krahn, senior. *****

"Do away with cliques."--Beth McLaughlin, senior. *****

"Get more people like me."--Boris Morris, junior. *****



SUE



MR. MAZUR



STEVE



ROBERT



JIM



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