

# Nancy Milford Comes Back To Tell Her Success Story

"Being here today is sort of a fulfillment of an adolescent dream," writer Nancy Milford told a small gathering of students and teachers in the DHS library Nov. 25.

Mrs. Milford, the author of the best-selling biography, *Zelda*, returned to her hometown to speak about herself, her book, and writing.

Wearing brown suede bell-bottoms, a black body sweater, and a string of beads, Mrs. Milford looked more like one of the students in the audience than a scholarly writer.

Seated with a student panel, she proceeded to captivate the audience with her informal and candid approach to the discussion. Panelists were Seniors Pamela Bretz, Karen Kannianen, Ann Collins, and Tom Andrew.

After graduating from Dearborn Born and raised in Dearborn, she became very interested in non-fiction writing while at the "old" Dearborn High. But at that time, her interest in writing was considered "rather peculiar."

High in 1955, Mrs. Milford went on to the University of Michigan. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1959. Later she earned her Master's degree summa cum laude from Columbia University. She is currently working on her doctorate in New York, where she lives with her husband and two children.

The 32-year-old writer credits much of her determination to write will to an early honor, the Avery Hopwood Award, won in her freshman year at U of M.

"For seven straight semesters after that," she laughingly recalled, "I entered several writing contests--and lost every one!"

Six years and two children ago, Mrs. Milford began research on *Zelda Fitzgerald's* life for her Master's thesis. Her interest in novelist F. Scott Fitzgerald's legendary wife stemmed from an interest in his writing.

"I started writing my book through an interest in F. Scott," she explained. "I had never read any biography. It just intrigued me--the kind of person she was."

"There is a great deal of yourself that goes into a biography. Some of it is being willing to sit down and immerse yourself in someone else's life. Some of it is a big drudge."

## Christmas Concert Planned

### Classical, Contemporary Clash

With the sounds of Harry James and Benny Goodman still lingering in the auditorium from the Jazz Show, the music department is putting the final touches on music for the Christmas concert to be held this Sunday at 7:30 p.m. There is no charge.

Participating in the program will be the choir and senior ensemble under the direction of Mr. Phil Mark, and the symphony orchestra conducted by Mr. Tony Russo.

The concert will offer a wide vari-

ety of classical and contemporary sounds ranging from Bach to Bacharach. One of the modern compositions chosen by the choir is, "Christmas Fanfare," by Cardon Burnham, with percussion accompaniment.

Also being planned are the "Purcell Bell Anthem," to be performed by the senior ensemble and strings, and four pieces for choir and orchestra combined.

The featured number will be the "Halleluiah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah."



AMONG THE DOZENS of books signed by Mrs. Milford during her visit, was that of a former English teacher, Mrs. William Watson, now teaching at HFCC.

# Curtains Present Only Hang-up For 'Summertree'

With only six days left before the opening of "Summertree," this year's all school play. All phases of the play are being quickly polished in readiness for Thursday night's performance. "Everything is going really well," assured Student Director Sue Halwachs, senior.

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# THE OBSERVER

Dearborn High School Dearborn, Michigan December 4, 1970

## SIRS Attempts To Bridge DHS Communication Gap

Student involvement, boring classes, and destructive "competition" were only a few of the topics discussed when Principal Len Mazur and Assistant Principals Harry Faull and Tom McLennan met with representatives from 20 DHS clubs Nov. 19, in an evening of "Communications." The program was planned by the SIRS Club.

Much of the dialogue stemmed from Mr. Mazur's query: "How can we make this school the kind of place the students want it to be?" He mentioned that many students feel "trapped" in boring classes. This he would like to change. Mr. Mazur believes there is a place between two poles where both ends--in this case the students and the administration--can be happy and tolerant of each other.

Mr. Mazur brought out the fact that communication between administration and students at DHS is poor. Mary Elwart, president of A. F. S. and representative of the OBSERVER at this meeting, suggested that the "rap sessions" be continued so students could know school officials as "people rather than figureheads."

A representative of the Political Club asked, "Which speakers may we bring into the school and which may we not?" He believed that if both sides of an issue were presented no harm could result. The Political Club would like to have speakers from

groups such as the Panthers, the John Birch Society, and Women's Liberation.

In answer, Mr. Mazur explained that the speaker can't advocate a crime or the overthrowing of the government. Mr. McLennan pointed out that if the speaker were to urge someone to violate the law, Mr. Mazur, as the central figure in the school, could be held personally liable and could be prosecuted.

- Other issues discussed were:
- What can be done about boring classes.
- When and where could the "rap sessions" be held.
- How could more students be enticed to come to these meetings.
- What should be done to curb the Edsel Ford-Dearborn High destructive "competition" every year during the football season.

Mr. Arthur Brown of the Science Department and the only teacher attending, presented his solution to many of the problems at DHS: "Students must take a stand. If a student does something wrong, it should be a student who reprimands him or her. Don't be afraid to object to a

peer's foul language or to smoking in the bathroom. Grab the offender by the collar, hold him nose to nose and tell him you object."

The cast has been practicing two hours a day, five days a week for the last two weeks getting their characterizations straight and running thru their lines in rehearsal. They've also spent many hours at home memorizing their lines. Mr. Dean Sloan is in charge of the play this year, and of yet, no one but the six member cast, the student director, and himself have seen the play performed.

The set crew has been working for three weeks preparing the stage, lighting, and curtains for the play. Their only concerns now are about the tree, the mainprop of "Summertree," and the curtains which will have to be rented because of the poor color and condition of DHS's own.

Everyone concerned with the play is quite optimistic about it. The play is about a young man who dies in Viet Nam and his thoughts in recalling his life. Senior Mike Kirk, who has the lead role as the young man, feels it's the "first time Dearborn High has gone this far in serious acting."

Sophomore Marcia Rimai, playing the young man's mother, is the

youngest member of the cast and had these thoughts after seeing the play: "I felt perturbed about it...it's not fun-like...it's recent...pertinent...and it's a realistic situation."

Tickets are on sale now for \$1.50, or \$1.25 with an activity ticket. The curtain rises at 8:00 Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in the auditorium.



PREPARING TO EAT an "all-organic, high-energy" Thanksgiving feast, in preparation for the weekend festivities, are, from left, Stacy Bezirium, Marcia Wood, Alice Plato, and Barbara May, seniors.

# Difference Not Noted by Enrique

Coming from the hot, sultry country of Honduras to the cold, damp state of Michigan one would probably expect a drastic change. But according to Enrique Zelaya, senior, there isn't too much difference "except in the temperature."

Enrique, one of the AFS exchange students, states the difference this way, "It is colder here and in Honduras there is only summer and winter. Other than that there isn't too much difference."

The big difference, though, is in the schools. "In Honduras the teachers change rooms, not the students. Also we have 12 classes a semester instead of six. Some weeks we have a class for three hours a week then other weeks we'll have it for two hours. I may have English, literature, philosophy, psychology, physics, chemistry, and math in one semester."

He went to Homecoming and thought it was nice but said it was too short. "In Honduras a dance will start at 8 or 9 p. m. and won't end until around 2 or 3 a. m. I got home from Homecoming around 2:30 a. m."

Enrique is from the capital city,

Tegucigalpa. The only difference between his home town and Dearborn, he says, is that "the city is in the middle of the mountains. "You look around and all you see is mountains."

He studied English for four years, but said with a laugh, "I didn't learn anything. When I came here I couldn't speak English and had to learn it."

In most respects he is no different than anyone else at DHS. He likes his classes, but with a smile added, "Study hall is my favorite."

"When I first came here I didn't like football, but I do now. Back home I play soccer." Enrique was having a little difficulty figuring out how football got its name. "Football should be called handball because you have it in your hand and soccer should be called football because you kick it with your feet." But when reminded you run with a football and asked why shouldn't it be called runningball he just shrugged and laughed.

He flew from Honduras to Miami and all during the flight was hoping to get hijacked. Since the plane didn't, however, he's waiting for his return trip home to see if anything happens.

"On the way to Detroit, we stopped in New York City for four days. We were tourists and did many things," he chuckled.

He is staying with Senior Pete Cravens and his family. "I like my family good," he commented. But then with a smile and a teasing glint in his eyes, the laughing Latin added, "I don't know if they like me though."



Photo by Paul Hartmann

ENRIQUE ZELAYA, FOREIGN exchange student from British Honduras, is shown seated with his "family". They are (l. to r.) Pete Cravens, senior at DHS, Mr. Cravens, Enrique, Mrs. Cravens, David and Richard Cravens, sophomore at DHS.

# Task Force Begins Drug Abuse Series

Why should a person turn to drugs? How can you help someone on a bad trip? Why can't many young people talk to their parents about problems?

The Public Drug Education Program of the Community Task Force on Drug Abuse in Dearborn is dealing with these and similar questions at six evening drug training sessions held in the Board of Education meeting room at 4824 Lois Avenue. Three of these sessions have already taken place.

Miss Johanna Bielecki and Mr. Ralph Hartshorn, school social workers, conduct the training sessions. "While the series is designed primarily with adults in mind," Miss Bielecki explained, "teen-agers also are welcome. We need teen-agers to air their views with the adults."

This will be the second time the series has been offered. The first series was initiated at the request of adults working with the operators at "Hearing Aid," the crisis phone service for youth.

Each of the sessions emphasizes a different aspect of the drug abuse problem. These sessions are held from 7:30 to 9:30 p. m. Wednesday evenings. The three remaining dates are:

- Dec. 9--"The Marijuana Issue--What We Think We Know and Don't Know"
- Dec. 16--"Understanding Today's Youth"
- Jan. 13--"What is Youth Trying To Tell the Older Generation?--Alternate Life Styles, Values, New Services for People"

# Winter Blows Sports Indoors

Even though the football season is over, the sports calendar at DHS continues to rotate.

Tonight the DHS basketball team will clash with Grosse Pointe South in the first game of the season at Grosse Pointe. According to Coach James Vanderhull, it will be a tough game but we can win.

Returning lettermen Bill Reiger, Eric Ponds, and Bryan Lowry, seniors and Junior John Renko will be the backbone of the team this season. Two sophomores, Barry Copeland and Art Hammonds, will add to the power of the team.

Last year the season ended with a 7 win, 11 loss record. "We hope to improve this year, but it is too soon to make any predictions," says Coach Vanderhull.

A captain a week will be this year's system instead of the usual single captain for the whole season. At the

end of the year an honorary captain will be chosen by Coach Vanderhull.

Skill and support are the two major factors that will contribute to the success of the team. Each student can be involved in the sport by being at the games and cheering the team onto victory. The boxed games will be at home and need school support and attendance to back the team for success.

Dec. 8	Livonia-Churchill 15 Fordson
Jan. 9	Ann Arbor Pioneer 22 Wayne 29 Ypsilanti
Feb. 19	Edsel Ford 23 Livonia-Bentley

# Radio Club Grows

Radio Club has made great strides since its conception in the spring of 1969. One of the club's major accomplishments is the steady playing of music in the cafeteria at lunchtime. This is the first time music has been played every day at DHS.

WKNR radio station in Dearborn has donated 85 LP's and singles to the club for playing at lunchtime. If anyone has a record he wishes to hear at lunch, he can bring it in, and it will be returned at the end of the hour.

In the beginning, it was thought that a radio station would be the ultimate outcome of the work done by President Gary Gardner, senior, and his staff. It was found, however, that this was too large a project for such a short time--two years--and not enough money could be raised.

"We would have needed at least \$5,000 to start with, and more to keep it running. It was just too big," explained Gary.

"We need more members, especially sophomores, to carry on the work of the club when the seniors must have leave next year," commented Gary.

He and club sponsor Mr. Richard Corriveau have hopes of expanding the club to include the study of Film-making and other forms of communications media.

Anyone interested in radio broadcasting and different forms of media are urged to join as soon as possible by contacting Gary Gardner.

# Letter to the Editor:

To: Students of DHS, the best high school students anywhere!

Some students and I were talking about the problem of pollution and lavatory loiterers. We greatly disagreed on what should be done. I want to ask more students to consider this problem.

Do you believe that some of the same kids who loiter in our school lavatories are the kids who:

1. Smoke in the lavatories? (Break the law.)
2. Smoke pot in the lavatories? (Break the law.)
3. Throw garbage in the lavatories? (Damage property.)
4. Leave a mess in the cafeteria? (Litter)
5. Are mature, well-adjusted, thinking and useful people?
6. Park their car carelessly in the student lot?
7. Damage your cars and steal in the student lot? (Break the law)
8. Drive carelessly on your highways?
9. Throw trash out of their cars? (Break the law)

10. Are immature, maladjusted, thoughtless and useless people?
11. Cause about \$10,000 damage every year at Dearborn High?
12. Will be in traffic accidents?
13. Will be involved in major crimes in your lifetime?
14. Will spend time in mental or penal institutions during your lifetime?

You don't believe that, do you? Are you one who is a participant in that small minority group? Do you identify with them? --join them? No! But you have to live with them, don't you? They are growing up in your generation. They have destroyed your lavatories. You are the ones who are paying and will continue to pay and pay in lost freedom.

What are you, the majority, going to do about it? Turn your head and say, "It's a bad law." Or, "It doesn't affect me." Or, "It's an insignificant problem."

I ask you----

Arthur Brown,  
Science Teacher

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