

# Student Council Plans Change For Ineffective Constitution

"It's about time for a change. Student Council's not doing the job it should be doing," said Student Council President Mike Kirk, senior, speaking on plans to rewrite the Council's constitution.

The Student Council doesn't meet student needs, according to Mike, and needs to be changed to make it more useful and effective.

In order to give everyone a chance to be involved in the rewrite, a Constitutional Convention has been planned for April 22, 23 and 24. The meetings on Thursday and Friday will begin after school and go on until 5:30. A Saturday meeting will begin at 11 a. m. and will end when the new constitution, which will go into effect next year, is finished.

Suggestions and new ideas will be discussed at the first two meetings and the actual writing will be done at the third. A committee of Council members has been formed to get other school's constitutions for ideas.

"I don't want to rewrite the entire constitution," Assistant Principal Thomas McLennan, Student Council advisor, commented, "but Council members feel this is the best way to make the Council more relevant. The present constitution is at least ten years old."

One major change being planned is the elimination of the Supreme Court. "They don't do much and a committee could be formed to handle

what they do do," Mike explained.

"We also want to change the Council's purpose," he went on, "There are nine aims at the beginning of the present constitution and we would like to change these to one aim of establishing a better relation between the students and the school."

Another idea being considered is changing the Council from a unicameral to a bicameral body. According to Mike, the bicameral Council, if adopted, would probably consist of an elected house and a volunteer house so more students could be involved without having to go through elections.

Mr. McLennan feels the Council should adopt some sort of rules of order. "The meetings need to be more structured," he explained, "We don't want to make rigid rules, but we do need some system to conduct orderly meetings so we can be sure that everybody's listening and not talking."



THE REDWOOD ROOM was the scene of festivity as German teacher Miss Carol Valasek ("What a Dill!") and Mrs. Erika Brenner (far right) led members of the German Club in a spirited dance celebrating Fasching, a German festival which takes place the day before Lent begins.

# THE OBSERVER

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## DHS Students Tell What's Wrong With School

"Dearborn High is basically a nice school--that is, a nice school to look at. But once you enter inside the doors, the atmosphere changes. You see depressed and unhappy students trying to make it through a long, boring class."

Sound familiar? This is a quote taken from a tenth grade student's paper on "What I Would Do Differently at Dearborn High." Students in all grades were given a choice of topics to write on for a sample theme, and many chose this one.

The major complaints of students in all grades were (1) not being able to go out for lunch, (2) smoking in the johns and (3) boy's hair length.

Almost all of the students mentioned something in their papers about the lunch hours. Most students felt that a longer and more liberal lunch period is needed.

One student felt that he shouldn't be forced to "eat in the cafeteria and

force down the garbage" that he is being fed in his 30-minute lunch period.

Another student pointed out that elementary school students are allowed to go home for lunch, unquestioned, and he feels that high school students should be treated on at least the same level. Students also felt that visitors should be allowed to join their friends in the DHS cafeteria for lunch.

The problem of smoking in the johns is one not taken lightly by the students who chose to write on it. The primary concern of most students was getting the johns cleaned up and using them "for the purpose they were intended for," as one senior put it.

The solution offered by most was installing a student smoking lounge or allowing students to smoke in the courts.

On the subject of boys' hair, students admitted that the problem was

lightened by the liberalized dress code. But many students feel that the School Board should not tell them how long to wear their hair--that it is a matter to be decided between the boy and his parents.

One junior girl noted that if girls are allowed to have long hair, boys should be equally allowed. (Men's lib?) Most students indicated that just the principle involved is wrong. As a junior boy explained, "I really don't care about the length of my hair any more. It's just the principle of the school making me look like they want me to look."

Another point students felt should be changed is the requirement and selection of classes. Many commented that gym and science classes should be on an elective basis. Many felt that they were wasting valuable time in these classes that could be spent in a class that the student was interested in.

On the other hand, some students felt that electives should be done away with entirely and the number of credits needed to graduate lowered to accommodate the dropped electives.

One senior expressed his views of the school by merely saying, "Dearborn High just ain't got it." The establishment is wrong and is pounding the wrong ideals into the students' minds, he charged.

Along this same line, another senior wrote, "We are supposed to be created in the image of our cheerleaders and Varsity Club members." This same student wrote that DHS should encourage students to "get a taste of life" and stop plugging "shiny shoes and a cover for your books." "Students at DHS are not supposed to do anything that isn't marked by the 'Good-Housekeeping Seal of Approval,'" she added.

All students agreed on one point--everyone at DHS should learn that people are important.

COME TO THE TRI-SCHOOL DANCE SAT. 8PM. TICKETS: \$1.25

REACT

SEZ



GIVING PRAISE TO Seniors Sue Faydenko and Mary Bloom (standing l. to r.) and Junior Elaine Shumacher and Barb Hilbert, senior, (kneeling l. to r.) for their progress in school is the Emperess, Jan Laskie, senior, in the DHS musical "The Emperor's New Clothes."

## Musical Fable 'Emperor's New Clothes' To be Presented at DHS This Weekend

Looking for a quick escape to fantasy land? Want to forget your cares? "The Emperor's New Clothes" can help.

A musical, the humorous fable satirizes the life of a greedy emperor.

With a cast of more than 100 members, the musical is guaranteed to provide color and laughs with every performance, according to its director, Mr. Phil Mark. "Although the plot is directed mainly toward the under 18 age group, the music and color can be enjoyed by all attending," he points out.

The cast is made up of the entire choral department. With double casted female parts, the main characters include the Emperor, played

by Junior Mark Baker, and the Emperess by Jacque Blagg and Jan Laskie, both seniors.

The Prime Minister is played by Wes Johnson, sophomore, and his wife by Senior Cecilia Martin and Junior Mae Weeks.

Other lead characters include Gretchen, who is portrayed by Barb Watts, junior, and Darcy Dean, senior. Rudolf is played by Junior Jim Jacob, and the General by Jamal Aliah, senior.

For those who missed the performance last night, there is a showing tonight at 7:30 and on Sunday at 2 and 7:30.

Tickets will be sold at the door for \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children.

# Twist of the Old Tradition

BY MARTY McNABB

As the cyclone of controversy rages throughout DHS concerning the senior party, all thoughts of tradition have been disregarded.

In the past, the party has been planned and run entirely by the parents without help or interference from students. But now, in this age of dissent, all traditions seem to be cast aside.

Since 1960, parents have played host to each graduating class by giving them a party the night of commencement. This year was to be no different. The parents accepted full responsibility. They began planning the affair, which includes a large buffet and two bands.

After a poor turnout of parents for the first meeting (50 showed up), Mrs. Bruce Dean, then chairman, decided to spark parents' interest through the students. She called a meeting to elicit their support.

The meeting went from bad to worse, with students acting rudely and immaturity. Assuming one of the privileges traditionally reserved for the parents, the students childly booed and jeered their objections to the theme, "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" taken from the Wizard of Oz. The theme was considered by some to be a "kiddies' theme," not suitable for graduating seniors.

Apparently these students have forgotten they are guests at this party, and that one does not tell the host how to run his party.

The Seniors should be grateful to these parents, not critical. They should have the brains, the heart, and the courage to realize that someone is doing something nice for them.

## Girl Fears First Snow

# Strange Sights in Snowy Season Stifle Student



"QUE ES ESTA palabra?" Stella asks her American "sister" Fran Lebamoff, senior, as she points to a word in an English dictionary.

## Girls Volley for Championship

The Senior Girls Volleyball Team maintained their undefeated record as they won the Detroit High School Invitational Tournament on March 3. The tournament, held at Henry Ford High School in Detroit, was sponsored by the Detroit Parks and Recreation Department which hosted eight teams.

Dearborn competed against five of these teams, playing two games with each. Having to win only two-thirds of the games, Dearborn took first by being the only team to win all ten of their games.

"We played varied skilled levels of teams from very poor to fairly good. Our team looked professional to the other teams," Mrs. Lou Stehlik, coach of the team commented.

"I think snow is wonderful but very, very cold. I thought if it hit me it would hurt," laughs Stella Caro, senior exchange student from Uruguay.

Stella, hosted by Senior Fran Lebamoff, constantly comes in contact with American customs and way of life. "The young people of Uruguay just love American soul music, which, to us, is sung in a foreign language."

In Uruguay the parties have some similarities to ours. They usually dance or sit around and talk. If not off to a party, it's to the "baiter," a nightclub for young people, where they dance from 11 p.m. to 3 or 4 a.m. "Our parents aren't very strict about the time we have to be home."

The Uruguay school system holds meetings for the students concerning the country's national politics. In this way she thinks the youth of Uruguay have a better knowledge of their country's government than most American students. "I think Amer-

For this victory, individual trophies were presented to Coach Stehlik and team members Ann Collins,

Denise DeWulf, Becky Dickieson, Stephanie Longuski, Cindy Lozon, Jean McKitrick, Carol Nowak, and Heather Sell, all seniors.

The girls are now the Southwest section champions and are to play the winners of the Northeast section for the Detroit area high school title. "They can beat any high school team around," Coach Stehlik said.

Their next tournaments are the Woman's Michigan Volleyball Association Tournament in Flint on March 20 and the Great Lakes Tournament to be held in the Matthau Building at Wayne State University on March 28.



SWIM, SWAM, SWUM, and now receiving the trophy for the fourth consecutive Sauk Trail Meet is co-captain Doug Bell, senior, along with Junior Tom Szuba, and Coach Jack Johnson. Presenting the trophy is Coach Bill Elliott, of Wayne, director of the meet.

# Tankers Reach for Top Crown After League Meet Victory

The state title-bound Dearborn High swimmers overpowered their opponents for the fourth straight

year, to capture the final league meet title before the disbanding of the league.

In the finals held last Friday night, the tankers totaled 118 pts. to runner-up Edsel-Ford's 96. Ypsilanti finished third at 37 pts. and the host team, Wayne, was last with 15.

Through the years of participation in the Sauk Trail League, DHS swimmers remain undefeated by winning each of the four league meets in which it took part.

The first state title by a DHS swim team is being sought tonight and tomorrow in East Lansing.

Dearborn is regarded as one of the top schools taking part in the state meet. Coach Johnson expects the toughest competition from Birmingham, Groves and the defending class A title holder, Ann Arbor Huron. If all goes well, this could truly be the year of the Pioneer.

ican youth are more concerned about the problems in the city, but while you have problems with drugs and racism, we have people who want to overthrow the government.

"The thing I have noticed the most about the youth of America is that they smile a lot," exclaims Stella. "There are so many people in Latin America who have the wrong idea about the USA, so when I go back home I'm going to tell them (some of them anyway) they've got it all wrong!"



BOB

WHAT DOES THE AMERICAN FLAG MEAN TO YOU?

\*\*\*  
"It represents our country and the freedom we are protecting."  
Sue Lanci, sophomore

"When it's on Raquel Welch, it means an awful lot to me."

Bob Londos, junior

\*\*\*  
"It represents the 50 states of America."  
Cindi Koelb, senior



JIM

\*\*\*  
"A symbol of a peaceful place to lay around and dig it."  
Dave Kuznicki, senior

\*\*\*  
"It's something good to keep me warm at night."  
Jim Nelson, senior

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"Betsy Ross."  
Nancy Laux, senior



CINDY



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