

Essay-type survey reveals 'prison-like schools' sentiment

Student-teacher-administrator relationships at DHS were probed in an essay-type questionnaire given to students from Mr. David Frye's government and cultural history classes.

The idea evolved from an article Mr. Frye read that concentrated on the idea that schools are comparable to prisons. This comparison meant that students are treated like criminals who must be watched every minute for fear that they might step out of line.

A student graduate as a mass reproduced product of an institution with standards that must be met. Prison officials work with a convict until they think he is ready to face society again by their standards. But the point is that while students and convicts are working to reach these standards, they are treated like flocks of sheep with nothing to say and no way of expressing their feelings.

This magazine article, with all profanity removed, implied these facts. Mr. Frye became very interested as to how the students at DHS felt.

"The students stimulated the idea of a questionnaire by a discussion concerning our school's prisons. They developed 11 topics. I tabulated the opinions, fed this back to my classes, and discussed it further."

The topic that seemed to get the greatest response was Classroom Atmosphere. Many of the complaints were directed toward having more open discussions with the student and teacher on the same level.

A slavlike and unrelaxed atmosphere is another condition students dislike. Some students feel that they must learn to accommodate a new image for each teacher resulting in a "phony" attitude in each class.

In the area of curriculum, students wanted more classes that stressed life today. Too many classes teach things that aren't needed in this day and age. They also remarked that students have no say in the curriculum when they are the ones who have to choose from available courses.

The responses about the School Day were the usual complaints about too-short lunch hours and mandatory attendance. A four day school week was suggested. Instead of having a three day weekend, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday would be the days off.

The topic of Student Rights received a big response. A common argument was the abolishment of hall passes, re-admits, etc. Students pointed out that a "ticket" is required to go anywhere or do anything in the school.

The idea of students having the right to be educated or not was a big argument. If a student doesn't want to learn, why should he be forced to and waste time when he won't learn anyway?

Students reacted to the area of Student Responsibilities with a different attitude as compared to their previous responses. They said that students can't accept responsibility yet and there are too many immature students.

The remarks directed to Teacher-Student Relationship were in the area of teacher faults. For example, teachers don't look at students as individuals. There should be a way to tell the teacher when nothing is being gained from the class. There is little trust between the two because of a few who take advantages. There isn't enough time for the two to really get acquainted.

The general tone of the topic Administration-Student Relationship was that the administration was distant, detached and cold. Usually the administration plays the role of disciplinarian.



In Memoriam

Mr. Leroy Knuth, math teacher at DHS since 1949, died April 21 of cancer. Memorial services were held last Saturday at St. David's Episcopal Church for Mr. Knuth, who is survived by his wife, Vesta.

Besides his regular duties here, Mr. Knuth sponsored the Hi-Y Club, was director of Student Activities, and served as Co-op coordinator at various times.

A graduate of Western Michigan, Mr. Knuth served in the Air Force in Africa and Italy during World War II.

Expressing his admiration for the long-time teacher, Principal Leonard Mazur said, "We're going to miss the man very much."

THE OBSERVER

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New majority age predicted to pass

"Old enough to fight, old enough to vote," was a common slogan of students. But since that obstacle has been conquered, the signs may read "Old enough to vote, old enough to drink."

If a new bill being considered by state legislators passes, the so-called "age of majority" will be lowered from 21 to 18. This means 18 year-olds would be legally competent and responsible to:

- draw up a will
- buy cars and real estate
- sign legal contracts
- buy health and life insurance
- drink alcoholic beverages
- bet at racetracks
- become involved in estates and trusts
- admit themselves voluntarily to mental institutions
- sue people
- receive medical help without a guardian

Although the biggest anticipated hurdle in passage will be the drinking age, the bill is expected to receive more than enough votes in both houses soon.

Apparently most legislators agree with the author of the bill, Representative Micheal Dively, who said, "If you can vote at 18, 18 should be the legal definition of maturity in other areas."



SENIORS ANN SPIELMAN and Carl Gagliardi were among those trying out this week for three one-act plays to be presented as the spring Thespian production. The plays, "Black Comedy," "The American Dream," and "Sandbox," are being casted, directed and produced by students.

Survey shows pollution, Viet Nam world's most pressing problems

"I think America's biggest problem at present is the people. The society. Society is like a boat that never slows down. Those struggling behind, burdened with the luggage, never quite get there, and miss it completely, for it doesn't wait. It goes on happy, content, uncaring and unfeeling..." Nancy Niver, junior.

Mr. Brown's Natural Science III and Physics I classes took a survey recently based on the ten worst problems of the world today.

- The results, in order, were;
- Pollution
 - Viet Nam War
 - Economy
 - Crime
 - Population Explosion
 - Drugs
 - Racial Tension
 - Poverty
 - Student Unrest
 - Education System

Other problems that received fewer votes, in order, were: Urban affairs, destroying of natural resources, disease, space exploration, the generation gap, the political system and Women's Lib.

One year ago the same survey was taken by DHS students. The results of that survey follow:

- Viet Nam War
- Racial Disputes
- Crime
- Poverty
- Pollution
- Inflation
- Education

A great change can be noted. No one problem is in the same order of importance, some problems have been dropped entirely, while others have been added to the top ten.

Generally, most students agreed that "so many of our nations problems are actually connected and only appear to be separate."

In Memoriam—David Kowitz, 21, U.S. Navy CYN3, was killed by sniper fire Friday, April 16, on the outskirts of Saigon.

A 1967 graduate of Dearborn High, and student at Henry Ford Community College until he volunteered for a one-year tour of active duty as a member of the Naval reserves, Kowitz became Dearborn's sixtieth Vietnam casualty.

New age of majority sought

BY CINDY GEVERT

An 18 year-old is considered intelligent enough to vote for President but not for county drain commissioner. An 18 year-old can be sued in a court of law but cannot sue without the consent of his parents or guardians.

Fair? Not really, but it is even less consistent. An 18 year-old is thought to be mature enough to fight for his country and perhaps die in the process, but in Michigan he cannot legally make a will.

In Michigan, a person may not buy life insurance on his own until he reaches 21, yet 45 per cent of the male population is married by the age of 21. This means that they cannot provide for their family in case of an accident.

A bill proposed by Governor William Milliken and due to come up for vote soon in the State Legislature would change these inconsistencies and lower the age of majority to 18.

Along with the already named changes, 18 year-olds would have the right to sign a contract, buy health insurance, become involved in estates, drink alcoholic beverages, receive medical help without the consent of their legal guardian, and commit themselves to mental institutions.

It is about time that young adults in the 18 to 20 age group are given the rights and privileges that come with reaching maturity.

For years these people have had to be responsible for all criminal actions because by that time, they were considered "old enough to know right from wrong." It is a double standard when they are old enough to know right from wrong when they are in the wrong, but not when they are in the right.

Selective Service Act nears expiration as students continue war against draft

On June 30, 1971, the present law calling for a draft expires.

A volunteer army could exist as of July 1, 1971 if this law is not renewed.

These facts are rarely known to most individuals. Among the DHS students surveyed, only approximately ten per cent were aware that the draft currently threatening them may soon be ended.

Many groups are beginning to take action on this situation. The Michigan Council to Repeal the Draft, in Ann Arbor is the main local group. Letters and petitions to Michigan senators and representatives are also becoming more numerous as the June deadline draws near.

Although President Richard Nixon favors only a two-year extension of the draft, many Congress members support the volunteer army plan.

Former Defense Secretary Thomas Gates proposed this plan which is also supported by Senators William Proxmire, Barry Goldwater, and George McGovern, among many others.

Since 1951, the draft has been extended every four years. Congress, however, has the power to amend the Selective Service Act, and thus create the volunteer army.

Arguments against this army range from the point that it would be too costly, to the destruction of the national security.

In contrast to these ideas, facts show that \$3,000 is saved each time one man volunteers, rather than another drafted. Also, Canada which follows the volunteer army plan tends to be a very secure nation.

Students do not have direct power to over-rule this law. The power they do hold is that as potential voters the legislators will lend an ear.

Joining groups, signing petitions,

and writing letters, are the three ways for students to voice their opinions. In Michigan, Senators Phil Hart, and Robert Griffin are the targets of the non-draft supporters. Representative John Dingell would be the man to contact in this area.

A volunteer army could not be created over night. Hard work and dedication are necessary to repeal this law. One month is a very short time for those who chose to declare their opinions, but it at least gives those a chance whom are willing to give it a try.

White and blue collars differ


'Joe' - a film revealing culture and society prejudices

BY JAMES NELSON

A loud-mouthed blue-collar worker called Joe, an arsenal of every prejudice in New York, happens to get hold of the fact that a high-class, weak-natured Madison Avenue adman has murdered his own daughter's dope-pushing boy friend. The two men are joined in an unholy alliance influenced by Joe. They are alike in hating hippies, though the adman doesn't concern himself with Joe's other bigotries as much as he might. There is no blackmail between them--only a chilly brotherhood.

The two men go on a binge together, smoking grass and having girls, during a search of Greenwich Village for the adman's runaway daughter. At the end, there is a colossal shoot-up by both men in which they kill every single person in the hippie commune, including the daughter, who is shot unwittingly by her father.

"Joe" has one of the very few film plots to recognize that class is deep-seated in white American life, and there is a whip sting in its observa-



Observer
Editorial Comments
"I may disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." —Voltaire

OPEN END

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE THIS WEEK TO FIGHT POLLUTION?



TOM

"Quit smoking for a week."
Tom Higgins, senior

"Took my car out of the state for a week."
Dave Petix, senior

"Junked my '60 Chevy."
Jim Straub, senior

"Didn't throw my butts in the street."
John Broome, senior

"Bought deposit beer bottles last week."
Bill Brownley, sophomore

"I swallowed my gum."
Mary Nichols, senior

"Cleaned Barb Ramsey's lawn."
Pam Pelton, junior

"Held my breath for a week."
Don Berry, junior



JIM



PAM



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Prince of a dog leads teacher's life

Lots of students think they lead a dog's life at school, but consider a dog who leads a teacher's life.

Prince is a dog like that. He's Mr. Al Harris, social studies teacher's, leader dog. Ph.D. (friendly dog) or Big Jim, as Prince is sometimes called, is part German Shepherd and part Labrador Retriever and, according to Mr. Harris, is perfect.

The big, black dog and his master first met more than five years ago at the Leader Dog School in Rochester, Mich. Prince had already been trained to lead the blind, and at the school he and Mr. Harris had to learn to work together.

"He's trained to respond to certain words like forward, right and left," Mr. Harris explained, "but he reacts mostly to the sounds or to the tone of my voice. If I say something sound-

ing like forward, he'll go forward.

"If we're in a store and I want to go upstairs, I'll say 'stairs' and he'll find some. When we come to an intersection, if it sounds clear, I'll tell him to go, but he won't go if there are cars coming. He doesn't read the traffic signs or lights."

Every school day, Prince follows basically the same routine. After he wakes up, he goes outside for relief ("clinically speaking"). He then comes in and eats a milk bone on his favorite blanket. "Any throw rug is a blanket," Mr. Harris explained.

He eats breakfast, waits by the door for his harness and comes to school. At school, Prince usually sleeps through the classes. Sometimes he has nightmares during which he furiously wags his tail, whines, and kicks his feet.

Even though Prince is "perfect" now, he wasn't always this way.

After school, he goes home and eats dinner. He then relaxes by chewing on a rawhide bone which, according to Mr. Harris, "is his most favorite thing in the whole world."

Prince sleeps on what Mr. Harris calls his "night blanket." He only uses this blanket at night and won't go on it during the day.

"When he was little, he used to do things like get in the garbage or wet on the floor--once in the china department at Hudson's," Mr. Harris recalls.

"But he's outgrown that now," he added. "He's easy going and not the least bit aggressive. He's always friendly. He's just an all-around good guy."



Photo by Paul Hartmann

EVEN CROWDED HALLS are no problem for Mr. Al Harris, social studies teacher, and his leader dog, Prince.

Hearing Aid: teens do not hang up on your hang-up

Having trouble rolling all your problems into one? "Well, we don't hang up on your hang-up." This is only one of the many slogans for Hearing Aid (HA). It is "a people's rap line," according to one senior boy who has been an important figure in HA since it began about nine months ago.

The Community Task Force, an organization geared to combating drug abuse, was the original sponsor for HA. It will also be supporting the new drop-in center which will be opening in the fall, hopefully. HA started as simply an idea. With the aggressiveness of about ten interested young people, the organization became reality with the help of Mr.

Ralph Hartshorn of Dearborn Schools Psychological Services.

With task forces, funds, and volunteer help, HA opened on August 8, 1970 and grew from being a shaky organization into a well-known, three-line set-up. HA now has approximately 35 active operators, most of them DHS students. When asked, the operator said that anyone interested in supporting the program could find out more by calling the line anytime it was opened.

The phone calls range from general raps to potential suicides.

The operator laughed as he recalled, "In the beginning we had a lot of boy-girl problems. We all felt like one of the infamous three: Ann Landers, Dear Abby, or Ellen Peck."

The HA veteran sobered, however, as he related that no one treats any call as a joke, no matter how trivial it may seem.

Friday and Saturday nights are busy ones in the HA phone room. During the week, phone calls slack off somewhat and the operators leave at midnight.

The operator explained that the hours are 6 p. m. to 12 on weekdays and 6 p. m. until 2 a. m. on weekends. "However, some of our operators have stayed until all hours of the morning talking down LSD and mesc (mescaline) trips," he clarified.

HA is presented by kids for other kids. The young people do all the organizing and answering of the phones. The operator explained that troubled kids can call with no worry of getting busted or exposed.

HA is out to help, not to harm. "We give them straight facts, bad or good, and our own personal opinions backed up by experience and knowledge. This doesn't necessarily mean advice, but an expanded viewpoint from many sides of an issue."

The operators are trained and screened. They are also reviewed frequently by the central committee to assure adequacy. HA does not hesitate to drop operators who are not doing a proper job answering the calls.

When asked if he was pleased with the success of HA, the operator said he felt that more publicity is needed "in order to reach everyone."

If you're feeling down, or have a hang-up, the number to call is 565-1400 or 565-7245 for Hearing Aid, "a people's rap line."

'Donald Duck is a Fowl mouth' Some graffiti artists are too!

"The words of the prophets are written on the subway walls," proclaim Simon and Garfunkel in their song "Sounds of Silence."

Have you ever gone john-hopping? Since we are somewhat short on subways in Dearborn, anyone seeking "the words of the prophets" must resort to this.

It would seem there is a new field of literary expression to gain the status of a legitimate academic pursuit. At a New York University two credits may be earned in a course in graffiti. There is nothing new, however, about the practice of recording one's words of wisdom for posterity. Graffiti is as old as the rocks on which it was first carved. The word itself is an Italian one coined to refer to the scribbles on the walls of ancient Rome.

A review of the current literature to be found on the walls of the local school include gems involving:

- Derogatory references to our cross-town rival school.
- Snide comments about some of our administrators.
- The usual assortment of lovers' hearts complete with all too easily identifiable initials.
- Poetic inspirations such as those by one soul who was so carried away that she inscribed no less than 22 verses of "One Hundred Bottles of Beer on the Wall, Take One Down and Pass It Around."
- The tally of a certain Don Juanita (who must have been something of an acrobat) used the ceiling for her scorecard of conquests. At last

reading the score was five down and one to go.

In a burst of put on self-righteousness, one wit wrote: "People who write on public property are sick in the head." This was seconded in even larger letters and concluded by a more literal-minded author: "What are you talking about? You wrote on it first, dummy."

Slightly more inhibited efforts are to be found on the walls of some local restaurants. Self-improvement is the theme of one: "Heighten your mind to the third power."

Graffiti buffs in this area are fortunate in having the unofficial world expert, Bob Talbert, nearby. The monthly round-up in his newspaper column includes something for everyone:

- "Grass is nature's way of saying HIGH.
 - Captain Kangaroo wears a jump-suit.
 - Prejudice is just a pigment of one's imagination.
 - Navaho Indians are rug addicts.
 - The devil does a nice business for such a lousy location.
 - Flat-chested women come from under-developed nations.
 - Is a pole vault where people in Hamtramck keep their money?"
- Is graffiti a gain or a loss to society? Some people would probably say it is a gain, because it is a way of communicating with the public and becoming aware of their opinions by a mere glance at a wall. Still, to others graffiti is nothing but the defacing of a perfectly good wall (tell that to Ancient Rome).

'Ugly man' dance climaxes contest

Who will be the "ugliest" man at Dearborn High? Will it be Senior Peter Tippitt, Junior Tom Szuba, or Sophomore Tom Schriefer?

The big announcement will be made tonight when the DHS Student Council presents its sixth annual "Ugly Man" Dance from 8 to 11 p. m. in the Redwood Room.

Music will be provided all evening by Seventy-Five, formerly known as Winterwood. Tickets, on sale today and in limited numbers at the door, are \$1 with an activity ticket and \$1.25 without.

Traditionally, this dance acts as a kick-off to the Dearborn Clean-up Campaign. Accordingly, all funds raised at the event will be used for this purpose.

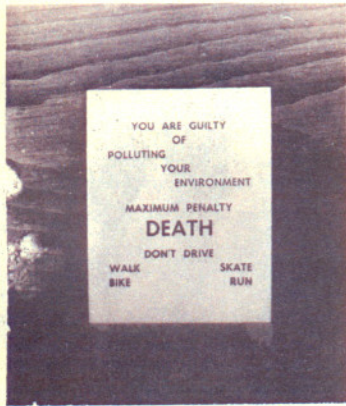
Peter and the two Toms were chosen by their respective classes last Friday during first hour. Since the criteria for becoming the all-school "ugly man" is who can collect the most money from his classmates, each candidate has been begging for handouts all week! The winner will receive a special prize for his efforts.

May the best beggar win!

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SENIOR GARY PRESTON slaps a fist on an air-polluting car in the DHS student parking lot during Earth Week.



Petite Pam Keris excels in tennis and gymnastics

Tennis anyone?

After going to the tennis courts repeatedly to watch her parents play, Pam finally decided to get into the act, despite her small frame. She took lessons from the tennis coach at Henry Ford Community College, then entered her first local tournament two years ago, the Detroit News Novice Tennis Tournament, and placed second for the age group 14 and under.

The summer of 1970, Pam played at Kalamazoo for the Whiteman Cup. After winning the first round, she was matched to play Plums Bartkowitz, whose sister, Peaches, is one of the top players in the U.S. Pam lost to Plums, but she gained valuable playing experience.

Pam registered with the United States Lawn Tennis Association, which organizes the major national tournaments, in order to play in these organized tennis matches. During the summer, the U.S.L.T.A. ranked her twelfth in the state for the 15-16-year old division.

"You can tell how hard you work because when you play in a tournament you feel relaxed. But when you haven't practiced, you really know it," commented the petite young lady.

Practice makes perfect, and Pam practices everyday in the summer, but tapers off to about once a week in the winter months. This is attributed to Pam's other interest, gymnastics.

Arriving at school every morning at 7:30, Pam works out with the help of Mr. Jack Dunworth and Miss Shirley Heydrick on floor exercise, gymnastics, and acrobatics. Her second competition in gymnastics was held in Lansing, last Friday with one other member of the girl's gymnastics class at DHS.

Plans for this summer are almost completed when she will attend the Ohio Wesleyan College tennis camp for two weeks and then travel north to Garylane to practice with the Wolverine Gymnastics group.

Though the summer is only a few

months off, Pam is anticipating it not only because of her plans, but because she will be able to sleep in!



PAM DEMONSTRATES HER winning style as she whumps the ball across the court.

Ecological activities flourish during Earth Week

Roller skates, posters, an assembly, bulletin boards, a bottle and paper drive and bikes were all part of Earth Week for ecology-minded students at DHS.

Signs proclaiming "Roller skates don't pollute!" were put up to urge students and teachers to stop driving. Although the response to this wasn't overwhelming, many more students than usual did ride bikes or roller skate to school.

An assembly was held on Tuesday of Earth Week centered on the theme

"YCU"--you who have polluted and destroyed. Dr. Richard F. Ward, geology professor at Wayne State was the featured speaker.

All during the week, new posters, showcases and bulletin boards denouncing pollution were were put up in classrooms and halls. These ranged from a showcase full of junk picked up around school to a German bulletin board saying "Schmutz ist schlecht." (Dirt is bad)

Three garbage trucks full of litter were collected by 45 sophomores who spent last Friday cleaning up parts of Outer Drive and Cherry Hill. "I was surprised," Sophomore Katy Baetz commented. "I thought we'd find mostly bottles and cans, but we found mostly plastic straws."

To prove that Earth Week activities are far from being bottled up, the SIRS are sponsoring their fifth bottle and paper drive tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of the school.

Bottles and jars should be rinsed out and have all metal tops and bands removed. They will be taken to U of M Dearborn where a contest is being held to see which area high school can collect the most glass.

From there, the bottles go to a factory in Charlotte to be re-cycled into new glass.

Papers collected go to a factory in Taylor Township. There they will be shredded, baled and then sold to paper manufacturers to be used again.

For the first time, the SIRS will collect steel and aluminum cans. Before they are brought in, they should have labels and both ends re-

moved and be flattened.

They will be sorted, compressed, melted down, made into blocks and sold to metal companies by a factory in Livonia.

"We had our best turn-out at our best drive on the Saturday before Earth Week," said SIRS President Gary Preston, senior. "We got about 1.5 tons of glass and 2 tons of paper."

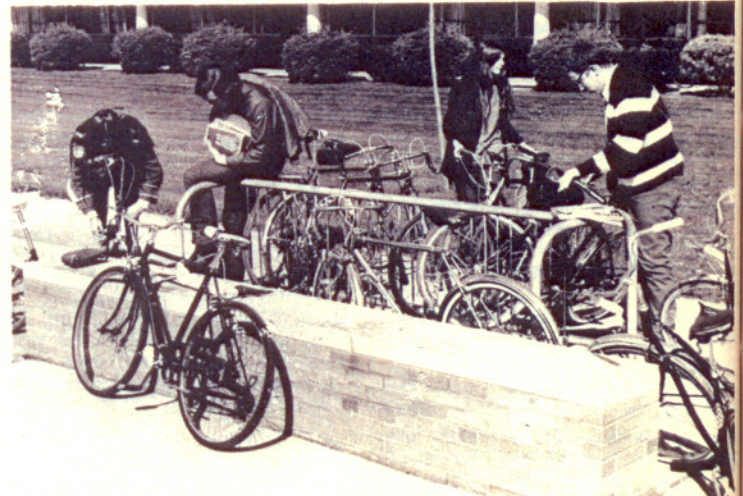
Cars, trucks and drivers are needed to take the glass, papers and cans to their destinations. Anyone interested and available for driving should contact Gary at 563-6873 or Barb Ramsey at 565-8693.



DISCARDING OLD NEWSPAPERS during a paper drive sponsored by SIRS is Senior Debbie Crocker.



ADDING CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM to the Journalism I class Earth Week bulletin board at the end of B-hall is Senior Stacy Bezirium. The informative board's theme is "Facts of Life--Actions to Take." It gives startling facts such as, "The Rouge River is the second most polluted river in the U.S."



AS THE SAYING goes, "Every little bit counts." And these DHS students are doing their bit to combat pollution by riding their bikes to school instead of driving.

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