

"A single death is a tragedy,
a million deaths is a
statistic."
— Joseph Stalin

MAYO HIGH SCHOOL ADVOCATE

"The trouble with me is, I
belong to a vanishing
race. I'm one of the
intellectuals."
— Robert Emmet Sherwood

Friday, February 24, 1978

Mayo High School, Rochester, Minnesota 55901

Vol. XII, No. 8

Inflation: not crisis, but grades

by TERRI HERMAN

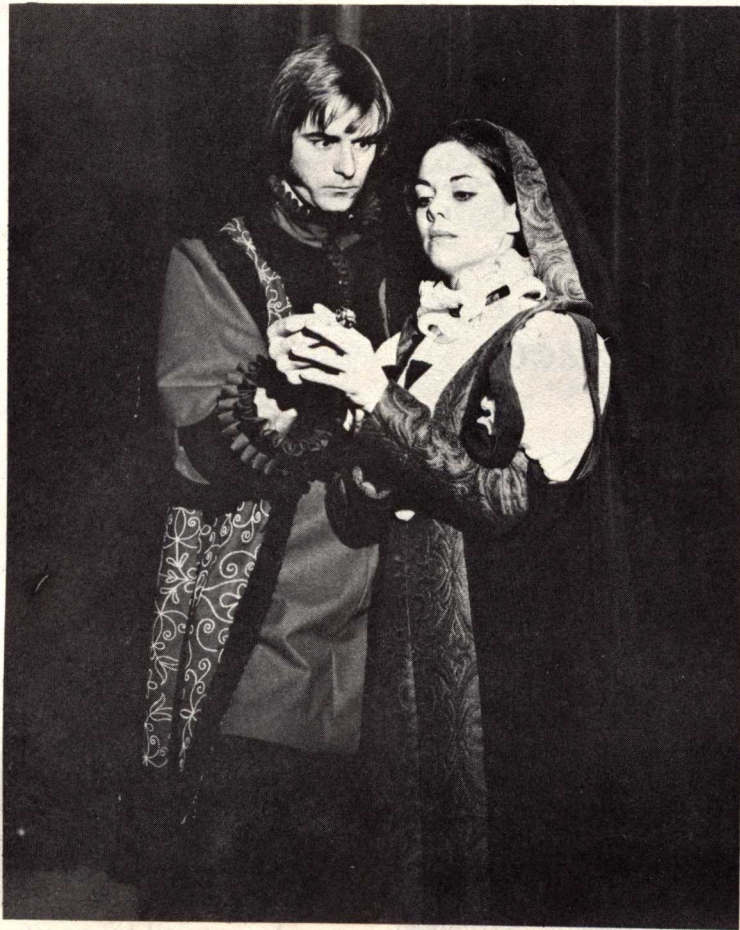
In these days of skyrocketing prices, inflation appears to hit just about everything — including grades. Grade inflation? Is it a sensational new scandal, administration propaganda or perhaps a commie plot.

Grade inflation is none of these. It is simply the fact that the grades received on the most recent report cards were higher than those received by students 10 years ago.

This rarely heard of problem is rapidly becoming a cause for concern and a major topic of discussion among student groups and educators throughout the nation.

In order to observe how grades have inflated in recent years, one must compare them to the "normal" grade curve used in education. One of the reasons the letter grade system was established was the idea that grades were supposed to be a competition among students. In other words, grades were meant to show how well a student compares to the others in the class.

In the letter grade system, the
(Con't. On Page 3)



This is Mr. Slichio in his "active" days at Minot (North Dakota) State College. Here he's portraying Richard III. The young lady is unidentified.

High school and college background aid Mr. Slichio's drama teachings

by PAUL LOFGREN

"Alright cupcakes, let's get to work!"

Many students have heard this voice with the slight Eastern accent speak this order many times. The voice belongs to George Slichio; acting, speech and English explorations teacher at Mayo.

Mr. Slichio, who now directs one of the three yearly Mayo plays, has an interesting history of plays himself.

His first "big break" came in an Edison, New Jersey, high school in a play called "George Washington Slept Here." He was the leading actor's understudy, and when the leading actor became ill before the play, Slichio took over.

After his acting days in high school, he moved to New York and enrolled at the H.B. Studio, a famous acting school. He took acting lessons there, and this led to the production of several radio and television commercials. Also during this time, he worked on various soap operas; "As the World Turns" being the most notable.

When he completed school, he moved to Broadway acting. Mr. Slichio said, "It is difficult to break into Broadway theaters. Auditions and casting calls were endless before I finally got into a show." He was cast in two Broadway productions. He played Chip, the leading role, in "On the Town," and he was a dancer in the chorus in "West Side Story." During his seasons from Broadway, Mr. Slichio

would act in Summer Stock, summer theater programs. He did this for three years.

In 1965, Mr. Slichio began teaching mime classes to youngsters. He said, "This is where I first got interested in teaching as a profession."

After four years in the military, he enrolled in the Minot, North Dakota, State College. There he majored in English, drama and speech.

At Mayo, Mr. Slichio has primarily been teaching acting for four years. He said, "I think most students come into an acting class not knowing what to expect, and find out pleasantly that theater arts are interesting to study. We also get a number of students who become members of the acting company because of the interest developed in acting class."

Mr. Slichio believes that although

fundamentals of acting is one of the four alternatives for the speech requirement, students enroll in the class because "people who sign up for acting are interested in acting to some degree. The interest is stimulated as they progress in the class."

During his four years at Mayo, Mr. Slichio has observed many performers. He said, "I think Mayo has a lot of gifted performers; having taught acting and directed. There is a lot of untapped potential in theater arts at Mayo." He also said, "I'm always very impressed with the degree of professionalism and total commitment of the students who participate in theater arts at Mayo."

Mr. Slichio is now preparing for the spring drama production, "Good Doctor," which he will direct. This play is written by Neil Simon.

Choir goes places by self-fund drives

by SUE GRIFFIN

The Mayo choir has been involved in many money-making projects for their annual trip this spring. The trip to Florida, which will be the longest trip ever taken by the choir, is planned for April 1 to 9, during spring vacation.

"Due to the success of past choir trips," Gerald Smith, music teacher and choir director, stated, "this will be our biggest trip. It gives the choir a chance to perform in different, and sometimes unusual situations, plus it's an educational experience."

Mr. Smith also said, "I want everyone to know that the money is raised by the students. There is no school financial aid. We earn it by ourselves, and what we don't earn is paid from our pockets."

The choir presented a 3-D movie, "Creature from the Black Lagoon," early in the school year. The movie was generally regarded as a success. "This movie thing is an annual event for the choir," Mr. Smith said. "And, 'The Creature' has been the most successful profit-wise. We got a great response from the kids."

The choir also plans to present another 3-D movie on

March 2, designated '50's day, which is also a choir-sponsored project. This movie will be "It Came from Outer Space." Mr. Smith also expects a large attendance at this movie.

After the first 3-D movie, the choir sponsored an evergreen sale, which Mr. Smith believes came out "fairly well."

The annual candy sale followed the evergreen sale. The candy sale continued this year as a perennial success.

The next project planned by the choir is a magazine sale. Popular magazines, such as *Sports Illustrated* and *Seventeen*, will be sold by subscriptions. This is expected to be one of the best fund-raising programs. Also, the spring vocal concert is scheduled for March 16.

"We're travelling by Amtrak to Orlando, Florida, and we're staying at the Kahler," Mr. Smith said. "We're planning on performing at Cypress Gardens and other locations, and (we) also plan on seeing Disneyworld and the Kennedy Space Center. This should be the best trip yet," Mr. Smith smiled. The accompanying chaperones for the trip will include Mayo parents and teachers.

'Anything Goes' most massive drama effort

The musical comedy "Anything Goes" will be presented in the Mayo High School auditorium tonight and tomorrow night, and according to the play's director, Dwain Johnson, it will be a unique show in many ways.

Mr. Johnson, or more often called, "Mr. Jay", is predicting a sell-out each night because of fast initial ticket sales.

He cited several reasons why the show is popular. "The timing for this play is good because of social and economic factors," he said. "In the 30s and 40s, people were using theater as a form of escape to forget the problems of the depression and the war. By the time the 60s had arrived, theater was

investigating many sociological problems, and many people felt guilty about it." Mr. Johnson believes that theater mirrors society, rather than vice versa as some directors believe.

Mr. Johnson feels the trend to "fun theater" is returning. "Parents and kids will enjoy 'Anything Goes'. We're working with some of the best quality music we've dealt with in Cole Porter, and a very enthusiastic cast and crew."

Over 100 students at Mayo are involved in this drama and musical production, including actors, chorus, orchestra, back-stage crew and, for the first time in a Mayo play, tap dancers. "Anything Goes" will be the biggest production in this school's drama history.



The winter play, "Anything Goes", opened last night with a full house — Sellouts are expected to tonight's and Saturday night's performances. This view shows the most cast members present on stage throughout the whole show.
(Photo by Paul Lofgren)

PARTY CAUCUSES Tuesday, Feb. 28th

If you will be 18 by Nov. 2 of this year, you can vote, and actively participate in the Republican, Democratic or American party caucuses. Locations of these precinct caucuses can be obtained by contacting the County Auditor's Office at 285-8145.



by PAT O'NEILL

It's a shame this band won't be making any more music because of the deaths of most of the band's members in a plane crash several months ago. "Street Survivors" was the last, and probably best, effort by Lynyrd Skynyrd, which was touring when the October 20th accident occurred near McComb, Mississippi.

One of those killed was lead singer and songwriter Ronnie Van Zant, and it's doubtful that anyone played more of a part in the group's success than Van Zant.

Rolling Stone magazine compared Lynyrd Skynyrd's success to that of Jim Croce's, the singer-songwriter who was killed four years ago. "Both were just about to peak when they were killed tragically."

The band was formed in 1973, and named after Van Zant's much-hated physical education teacher, Leonard Skinner. After top 40 acceptance in 1974 with "Sweet Home Alabama," the group began touring up to 300 days a year and enjoyed a string of top-selling albums.

"Street Survivors" featured some of their best southern rock the group was famous for. The standard "American Bandstand" line — "It had a good beat and you could dance to it." — applied well to Lynyrd Skynyrd. A good example of this is their current release, "What's Your Name."

Van Zant's death, in particular, is a great loss to progressive rock, and he influenced many other people in the music industry as leader of the group, much in the same fashion as Burton Cummings of Guess Who, Cory Wells of Three Dog Night and Robert Lamm of Chicago.

Letter

We were friends...

To the Editor:

Please print this poem for me. I hope many people will see themselves and try to better themselves.

We were friends,
At least I thought we were.
We had fun together
Until you turned against me.

We both liked guys,
And had the same soft crushes.
Then when I was asked out
You didn't like him or me.

You started a rumor
And told the whole world.
You treated me like a leper
Though the rumor wasn't true.

You made people believe
Things that weren't true.
Now, everyone's on my side,
No one can believe you.

I don't want a reputation
I hope you don't either.
But, to do this to me —
What are you trying to prove?

Let me ask you something.
How can you stoop so low
By doing childish things we did
When we were six years old.

Sure, I have my faults,
But then tell me who doesn't?
I try — that's all I can say —
Not to lie and not to hurt.

Please don't get me wrong.
I still want to be friends,
But tell me one thing.
How do I trust you
When we were friends . . .
And you did this to me?

Name withheld
upon request



Leon Wilkerson Allen Collins Ronnie Van Zant Gary Rossington Artimus Pyle Billy Powell



Exclusively On
MCA RECORDS

Letter

Student Council criticized on basketball refunds

To the Editor:

Our Student Council has done it to us again. In the Feb. 3 school bulletin, one item was written as follows:

BASKETBALL — Due to lack of interest, the intramural basketball program has been cancelled. You may stop in front of the Commons during A or B lunch to pick up your refund next Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday (Feb. 6-8).

It is now much later, and not only was there no one in front of the Commons during any lunch on any day during that week, but only one person on our basketball team has yet seen a \$7 refund. The remaining four of us are still waiting.

Are these the kind of people we elected to the council this year? I thought not, but my opinion is rapidly changing. There is one thing I am sure about this council. If I could do it over again, my votes would not, in any way, be the same.

Robert Nelson
with teammates Todd Johnson,
Robert Helgeson and Scott Gill

Letter

Student Council president criticizes "jerks" and "slobs"

To the Editor:

I was in the Commons after school several times during the past few weeks. Each time I observed custodians cleaning up trash which had come from the concession stand. It appeared that there must not be any garbage cans in the area. However, there were several, and in plain sight.

This litter problem did not start last week, last month or last year. This problem has existed since I came to Mayo, but not to this degree.

We, as students of Mayo High School, should not tolerate the "slobs" who need to have others pick up after them. If we do tolerate the garbage the faculty certainly will not, and the students will lose the concession stand.

I believe we must remind ourselves that the concession stand is a privilege. The school does not owe us the concession stand, and they are not obligated to maintain it. It would not disappoint, or be difficult for, the administration to permanently close the stand.

This is not a threat — it is a fact. Look what happened to all of the assemblies, the privilege of open halls and the pink chairs in the Commons. These are just several privileges we had, and allowed a minority of "jerks" to ruin.

If we cannot recognize and respect this privilege, we will find a closed concession stand. Why should we tolerate a few "slobs" who ruin our privileges?

Mark Utz, 12
Student Council President

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The ADVOCATE is a student-run, student-written newspaper for Mayo High School. The ADVOCATE will be published and distributed 13 times during the 1977-78 school year. Complaints regarding this newspaper's coverage or reporting of events should be brought to the editor or adviser of the newspaper.



The editor's notebook

by ROSS CORSON

During the course of each school day, there are six points in time which I dread. These points in time are not, as some might believe, at the beginning of every class period, but at the end of every class period.

Now, don't get me wrong. It isn't that I necessarily enjoy my classes so much that I don't want to leave. It is that I must leave the safe tranquility of the classroom and enter the savagely dangerous jungle of the second floor hallway.

There are just so many hazards, barriers and threats one must face in the Mayo hallway between classes that it becomes a major task to walk in it.

The hallway is really not so bad in itself. In fact, an invigorating stroll in the hallway at 3:30 p.m. can be quite nice. But, at 10:12 a.m., that same hallway is filled with almost 1,900 students, with only 25 having the same destination.

A typical between-classes walk — or, more appropriate, scramble — is more breathtaking and sensational than anything one could experience in a classroom. This is not to say, however, that such a jaunt is safe, healthy or fun.

The wide range of experiences encountered in a walk between classes is practically incomprehensible. Normally, one should expect to endure traffic jams, tailgating, speeding, slowness, collisions and side-swiping by fellow students. (This column is not concerning itself with what some people might classify as indecent behavior in the hallway.)

You will be spared the agony of reading several ridiculous solutions, except for one not-really-ridiculous idea. Don't laugh at this idea because it does make sense.

A monorail-type system could be constructed through the center of the hallway. With this program, a student could leave his or her class, hop on the continuously-operating monorail, hop off at his or her locker, hop back on the monorail, hop off at a new location and enter the next class.

This arrangement would alleviate the hallway traffic situation, and would be efficient in moving students to and from classes, lockers and stairways. The only drawbacks that might exist is a hazard every public transportation suffers from — graffiti.

Letter

Girls' swim captain defends elections

To the Editor:

This letter is a reply to Mrs. Cleereman's letter that was published in the Feb. 3 ADVOCATE, headlined: "Girls' Swimming Team Chooses Captains Unfairly." When did the democratic system for voting, the secret ballot, become unfair? It has always been the right and the privilege for ALL teams, both boys' and girls', to elect their captains and the arrogant statement by Mrs. Cleeremans that she would appoint the captains sounds extremely dictatorial.

There is a misunderstanding that if you're good, you are awarded by being a captain. Hard work and perseverance are rewarded with a school letter. Being a captain is the result of an entire team election based on leadership ability.

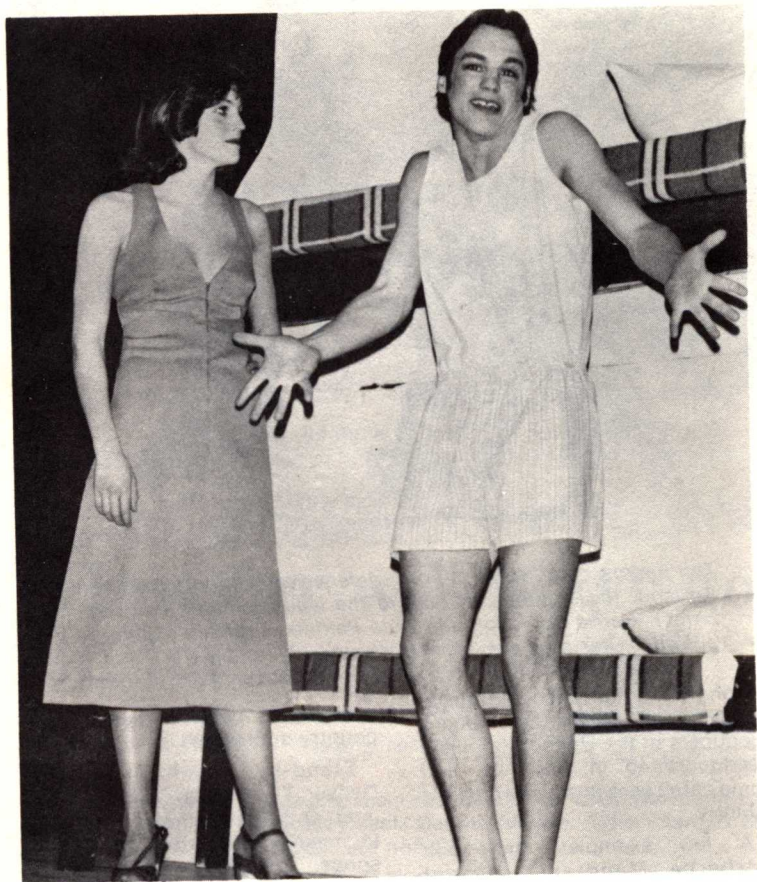
All the girls worked together and trained together to be able to perform their best. EVERYONE contributed to the teams' winning season, even those who were not blessed with extra talent.

As for the maturity of the teams, the discipline of our grueling sport speaks for itself about the girls' maturity and intelligence. Last years captains didn't go to the state meet, so why suddenly the scathing criticism of the team now?

Labels such as "not mature, jealous and spoiled brats" are pretty strong accusations considering that Mrs. Cleeremans has absolutely no connections with the team. Luckily, the swimming coaches, Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Bailey, have taught the entire team better sportsmanship than this inappropriate, inaccurate and meddling sourgrapes attitude expressed by Mrs. Cleeremans.

Tracy Williams, 11

Editor's Note: Tracy was one of the girls elected to be a captain on next year's girls' swimming team.



Grade inflation

(Con't. from Page 1)

grading curve states that seven per cent of all the grades given should be A's, 24 per cent B's, 38 per cent C's, 24 per cent D's and five per cent F's. However, this year's first quarter grades show a very different situation. Of all the grades given, 27 per cent were A's, 31 per cent B's, 21 per cent C's, eight per cent D's and five per cent F's (the remaining eight per cent included incompletes, passes, and other aberrations). The difference is obvious.

Does this mean the grades have inflated to the verge of worthlessness? Lloyd Collopy, Mayo assistant principal, explained that teachers give high grades because they have good students. He stated, "It is unfair to think of students at Mayo in terms of the normal curve, and grade them accordingly, because Rochester is not a normal city. Education is stressed more in Rochester because of the high percentage of doctors and professional people. It must also be taken into account that these norms compare all schools, and that the educational standards at Mayo differ greatly with those of an inner city school."

Mr. Collopy also believes that giving good grades to students is OK, "as long as you don't mislead them. It would be grossly unfair to the student to give him A's if he was only capable of B or C work." He also said that it would be unjust for a person to attend college and start receiving C's instead of the usual A or B received in high school.

Does grade inflation affect the way colleges look at the grades? According to James Wignes, director of admissions and records at the Rochester Community College, grades are still important, and the best indication of a student's abilities. He said, "There are more A's and B's now than in years past, but our views and admission standards have not changed."

It therefore appears that grade inflation is presently not a serious problem. The number of A's a student receives is looked upon just as importantly as before. Of course, the classes are also important. After all, it's much easier to receive an A in underwater basketweaving than in advanced composition.

1. Cindy Stonnington get "into" orchestra.
2. David Weeks is transformed into an oriental.
3. Randy Hertle anticipates his stage performance.
4. Ian Crooks can't understand the situation he's in with Carol Karnes.
5. Lisa Johnson gives a "spraying" to an unidentified actor before the play.
6. Cathy Gray "winds up" a dancer.

(Photos by Paul Lofgren and Lisa Peterson)



Coming Up

FEBRUARY

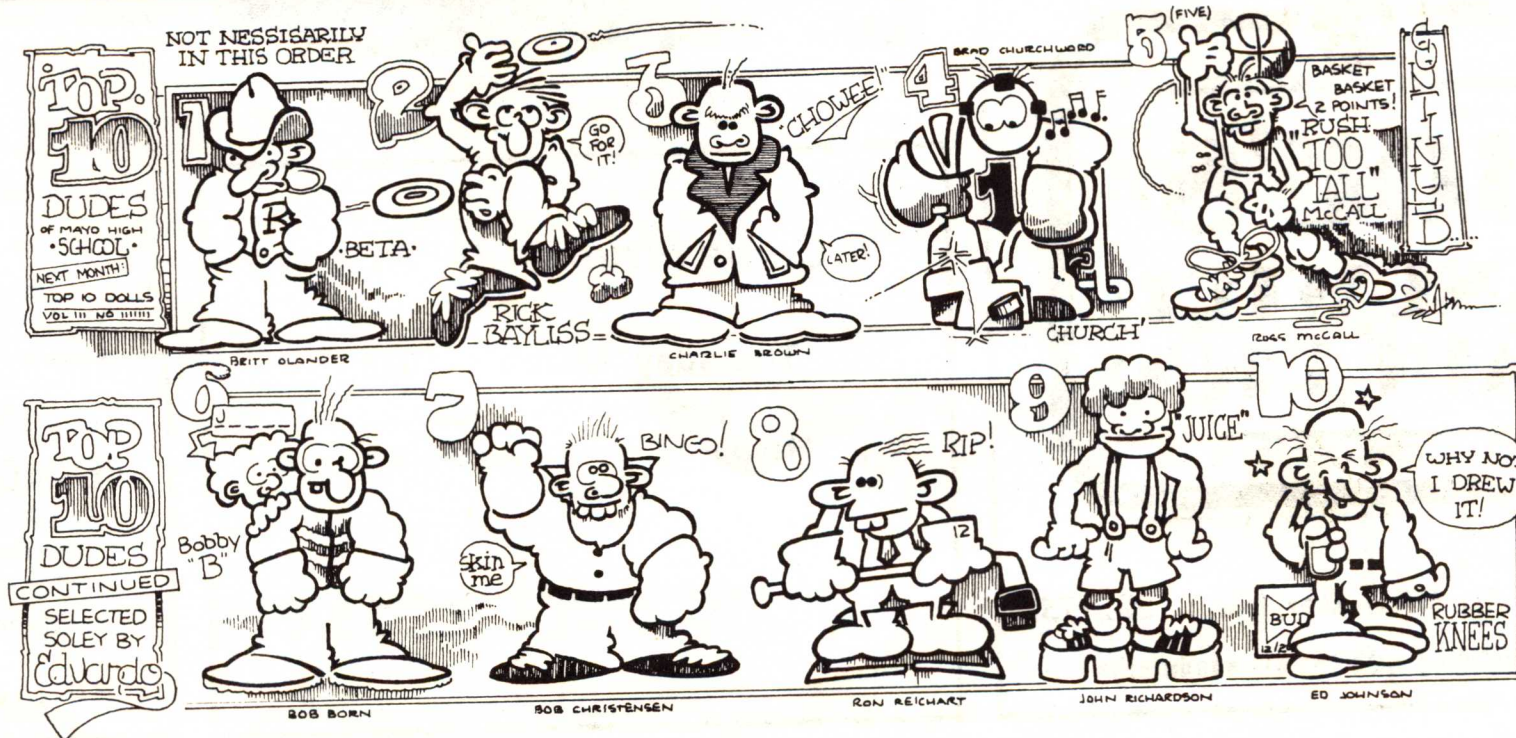
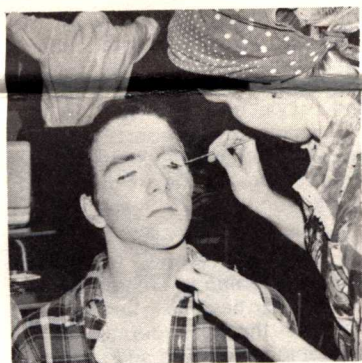
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|---|-------------------|
| 25 Boys' Hockey Sectionals | Met Sports Center |
| Girls' Sub-Sectional Gymnastics — Pine Island | |
| 23-25 State Wrestling Meet | |
| Winter Play | Aud. 8:00 |
| 27 Hockey Semi-Final Sectionals | |
| National Honor Society | Aud. & Cafe. 8:00 |

MARCH

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1-3 Girls' Sub-Sectional Basketball Tournament | R.C.C. |
| 2-4 State Boys' Basketball Tournament | |
| 4 Hockey Sectional Finals | Met Sports Center |
| Boys' Swimming Sectionals | |
| Girls' Gymnastics Sectional — Winona | |
| Jazz Festival | Mayo All Day |
| 7 Girls' Basketball Regionals — Faribault | |
| Southtown Singers Assembly | Auditorium |
| 8-10 Science Fair | Cafe., S. Center, Aud. |

In the next ADVOCATE:

The ADVOCATE will begin sponsoring a contest, starting with the next issue. Be sure to read the next issue, and attempt to win a valuable prize by using your brain.





What is your pet peeve about teachers?



"Trying to solve the student discipline problem by giving more homework."
William Douglas, 10



"The majority of them are really bored with their jobs, and they're not enthusiastic."
Meg Edmonson, 11



"When they don't care enough about their subjects to teach it well."
Patti Christensen, 12



"They're not personal enough."
Cathy Gray, 10



"Not enough individual interest in students."
Justine Jordan, 11



"They rarely ever listen to a student's viewpoint."
Phil Helder, 12

What is your pet peeve about students?



"Students who won't admit when they're wrong."
Dwain Johnson, television production



"I don't have any."
Jean Erdman, library secretary



"Absences and the make-up work afterwards."
Eileen Jones, English



"People who are sick and breathe on me."
Nancy Simon, nurse



"Students who are absent on test days."
George Hemenway, social studies



"Not attending school."
Mr. Davis

Are you a 'closet country' fan?

by PAT O'NEILL

Coming to the Twin Cities in the next few months: Jimmy Buffet, Sha Na Na, Art Garfunkel and "Angel;" complete information can be obtained by calling WHIM (What's Happening In Music), a non-profit music organization, at 612-823-8207.

If you check with your friends, teachers, relatives, parents and enemies, chances are you will discover quite a few "closet country" fans (country music fans who won't admit it) and/or "progressive country" fans (country music fans who are proud of it).

Just a few years ago, it was "out" for anyone under 30, particularly teen-agers, to listen to country music. There were, of course, times when it was inevitable when "Hee Haw" was the only television show on a given night except the "news" and "Wild Kingdom", or if you had to sit in the waiting room of a country-loving doctor or dentist. Even today, most kids aren't big country music followers. But, if you find yourself liking the recent music of Kenny Rogers, Willie Nelson, Dolly Parton or a handful of others, you aren't alone.

Country music has recently undergone major changes. For the most part, the "twang," traditional symbol of Nashville, is gone.

The Steele guitar is still used, but



The juniors gang up on a poor, defenseless sophomore. Ellen Kurland, the sophomore, falls to the ice as juniors Lisa Penninger, Carrie Sorenson and Kula Pathoulas remain skating in a Winter Olympics girls' hockey game.

(Photo by Paul Lofgren)

no longer is a vital part of the music. Today, many of the best record producers in the United States are headquartered in Nashville, and some of the best-produced music is country.

A few examples stick out: Barbarba Mandrell's current release, "Woman to Woman," is receiving airplay on rock and even soul radio stations. She's been a country music singer for years. Mary MacGregor's "Torn Between Two Lovers" was a contemporary and country smash. So was "After the Loving," by Engelbert Humperdink. (He symbolizes country music as much as Los Angeles symbolizes clean air; the point being his music is been

accepted by a wider audience — the country audience).

Stand-by talents like John Denver, The Eagles, Olivia Newton-John and Glen Campbell, continue to make money from "crossover" songs. It's the new breed of country/pop singers that have led the movement. Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson have been leaders in the progressive country field. The Amazing Rhythm Aces and Linda Ronstadt continue to break down the barriers, as do Anne Murray, Ronnie Milsap and even the lush-sounding Carpenters.

Maybe some day rock music and country music will be one in the same.

Weatherman John Borgia special, unique

by PAT O'NEILL

His Brooklyn accent is what identifies him immediately: "Dis is John Borgia wit da forecast fo Rochesta an vicinity."

Borgia, 36, has been with the National Weather Service at the Rochester Airport since the summer of 1976. Before coming to Rochester he was a weather specialist in Delaware for 15 years. He is one of perhaps 2000 actual weatherpeople in the United States (not including the high-paid clowns who point at maps on the tube).

After spending his teen-age years as a member of a Brooklyn street gang, he joined the Army. There he received his training for weather forecasting, and became an accredited meteorologist.

Borgia isn't exactly sure what interested him in meteorology, but he said that he doesn't regret the years he has spent at the job.

The hours working with the weather service can be rough, and often wear a person out in only a few years. All the weathermen do work on a rotating schedule. A typical week could see Borgia working in the daytime, evening, or all night; and occasionally working 16 out of 24 hours.

Through advanced radar systems at the weather service, the meteorologists can check conditons in a 5-state region, along with compiling the Rochester and area forecast, which is updated every six hours. If a storm or tornado should hit, the meteorologists at the airport are usually

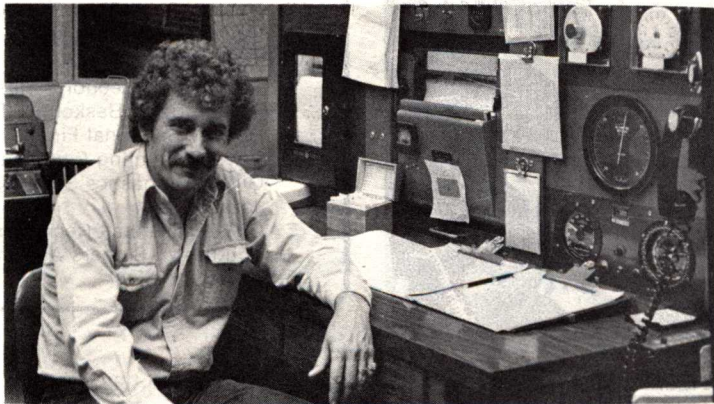
the first to know. They warn the public through a special hotline which is connected to all Rochester schools, hospitals, radio stations, and public buildings. Long range forecasting, pilot reports, climate data, and other aspects of the job keep the meteorologists busy most of the time.

Borgia said, "My main priority is to let people know when the weather is going to change for the worse. It can be done in any number of ways — through radio stations... or people can call us any time."

"But, I'm looking forward to a new system the weather service will be operating soon, which is a weather radio station which broadcasts continuous weather information," Borgia said. According to Borgia, the weather station will be located at the airport, and will broadcast not only regular forecasts, but also agricultural weather and statistics. This station will only be received on special radios which are available in some Rochester retail stores. Borgia said, "We'll cover an area of about a 40-mile radius, and have the capability of interrupting regular information at any time that bad weather should move in."

Borgia admits that he is far from the stereotype of the average weatherman wearing a white collar. He would possibly like to leave weather forecasting, and live secluded with his family — "probably in Idaho."

His youth, experience in the military, and his years as a government worker have made him weary of the many rules and regulations imposed on people. He said, "I think life is too complicated, especially for high school and college kids who sometimes aim for the wrong goals." But, Borgia is also fast to admit that he'd probably do it all over again if he could.



Rochester weatherman John Borgia sits at his control panel, where he doesn't control the weather, but where he discovers what the weather is doing. (Photo by Wayne Brakke)

"It Came From Outer Space"

Thursday, March 2, 1978

7:00 and 9:00 P.M.

Mayo High School Auditorium

\$1.50

This 3-dimensional Movie is Sponsored by the Mayo Choir

STOP IN:
THE MACHINE SHED

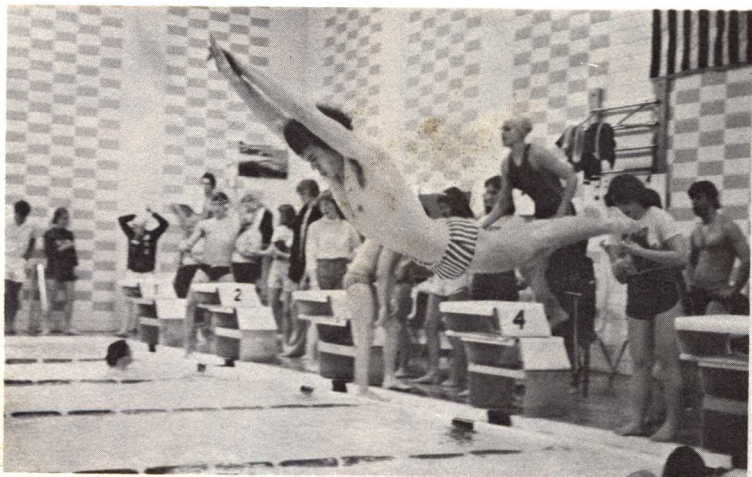
Pinball and
Electronic
Machines

Apache Mall



31 4th St. S.E., Rochester, Minn. 282-7574

The little building with the big sandwiches



Chris Schutt makes a springing start in the 400 freestyle relay vs. De LaSalle.
(Photo by Kent Miller)

Swimmers strong because of depth

by JOE LAUGHTON

Swimmers on the Mayo boys' swimming team have deservedly built up an image of superiority. The team's unbeaten record reflects that sort of reputation.

Coach Dennis Sievers gives a different perspective of the team's success by saying, "Maybe we won't have the best swimmer in an event, but we'll have at least three in the top ten of the conference. We win because we have greater depth."

That insight from Coach Sievers is rather striking, as one takes into consideration what the Mayo swimmers have accomplished this season.

All conference rivals have been "sunk" by the Mayo tankers. That

includes important wins over what Sievers considers Mayo's more threatening Big Nine foes.

"There's no doubt about it," Sievers asserted. "Our better performances have been in our biggest meets. We've beaten Winona, Albert Lea and JM. We had to be sharp for those big ones."

Outside of conference action, the Spartans have been just as dominant. Mayo won both of its only two non-conference dual meets of the season (defeating Golden Valley and Prior Lake). Two invitational first place crowns have also been earned by the Spartan tankers.

What keeps these swimmers going? How do they ever keep the team's undefeated season intact?

"They're dedicated — they're willing to sacrifice a little extra," Sievers said. "They're willing to put in workouts twice a day. Other schools probably work out only once a day."

The swimmers' desire to work hard possibly stems from the good relations between the coaching staff and the swimmers, according to Sievers. Coaches Jane Oman (diving), Kent Quackenbush (junior varsity... also known as the "quack pack"), as well as head coach Sievers, keep the atmosphere pleasant.

"We coaches try to be easy going with the kids," Sievers said. "We treat them as friends as well as athletes. Maybe try to help them find jobs — things like that."

Post-season prognostication — How far will Mayo go in tourneys, meets?

by JOE LAUGHTON

BOY'S SWIMMING — "Regular season domination won't be the same now."

The Mayo boys' swimming team has constantly been defeating its opponents, but according to Coach Dennis Sievers, "The chances of getting the entire team to state are non-existent."

"We'll win the conference meet alright," Sievers predicts, "but we'll be real lucky to get 10 kids qualifying for state."

"The biggest problem is getting individuals qualifying for state," Sievers said. "It takes a first or second place finish to advance to state."

"We've got a good region of individuals, it'll be extremely hard to get our swimmers to state," Sievers stated.

Advocate Analysis: The Mayo swimmers have been relying on depth all season — getting important points by capturing place finishes beyond first or second. With a region full of strong individual competitors, it'll be tough to get points along the first to third place lines. If the Spartan tankers can put out a number of high finishes, the chances of going to state as a team would be more realistic.

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS — "Young talent may surge to good things."

The Mayo girls' gymnasts are on the undefeated trail, and never losing their tracks. "We should win the sub-section unless Red Wing makes improvements," Coach Joanne Bartsh forecasted.

"We're definitely a contender in the region," Bartsh said. "We do worry about Faribault, Albert Lea and Owatonna."

Advocate analysis: Those talented girls' gymnasts have met every challenge so far, and there's no reason why they can't continue in regional and state competition. Having competed against good competition within the Big Nine Conference, the Spartan gymnasts proved they can withstand the pressure, and win. They'll meet many of the conference teams again in the regions, so they'll know what they're up against. Note: The Mayo girls competed in an invitational against two strong gymnastics teams from Minnetonka and Fargo, North Dakota, earlier in the season. That experience should aid them.

HOCKEY — "The goal to make state will really be earned."

The Mayo hockey team will have its work cut out for them in sectional action. The sixth-seeded Spartans in Section One have been placed in a bracket which includes two of the three Bloomington powerhouses. All three Bloomington teams are seeded above Mayo (Kennedy fourth, Lincoln third and Jefferson second).

"We're going into the sectional tourney with a realistic approach," said Coach Lorne Grosso. "We're going in looking for the upset. We have to play more than 100 per cent. Attitude's going to be 90 per cent; work is going to be the rest of it."

"We're going in with the thought that any team can win at any time," Grosso said.

Advocate Analysis: The road to the state tournament will be a rough one for the Spartan sextet. First, Mayo must coast by the anticipated opening game opponent, New Ulm, whom upset Red Wing 6-5 earlier. Then the next step would be against Bloomington Lincoln in the quarterfinals — the third seed in the tournament. If Mayo comes away winners in that one, another Bloomington school must be faced (Jefferson). If both of those teams can be ousted, it would be a feat in itself. If Mayo is fortunate enough to reach the finals, the opponent would be none other than JM. John Marshall is rated second in the state, and they'll be looking to stand behind that rating.

If Mayo reaches the state tournament, it'll definitely have earned it.

BOYS' BASKETBALL — "It's all over."

There are no predictions to be made here, Mayo's basketball season for this winter is now history. In the opening round of play in Sub-Section One at the Rochester Community College's Rockenbach Hall, John Marshall eliminated Mayo right away in a 44-38 contest.

The general consensus among tourney officials is that the bid for the Region One doorway to state is a toss-up. Mayo had a shot at it prior to the loss to JM.

Because of the four-way tie for the Big Nine title, there had to be a coin flip to determine Mayo's first-round opponent.

"We had no preference," Coach Wally Brunswold indicated. "The tough part is to win the first one. It's the second season. Once you lose, it's all over."

Spartan sports capsule

GIRLS' BASKETBALL (1-13)

The girls' basketball team at Mayo has had a rough year, losing all but one of their 14 games. Mayo met John Marshall on Jan. 31 and the Spartan girls blasted the Rockets off the court 53-32. In a close game at Albert Lea, Mayo was defeated by one point 42-41. Faribault visited Mayo, and the Falcons went home with a 10-point victory 57-47.

HOCKEY (13-5)

The Mayo hockey team is on its hottest winning streak of the season. They have won five games in a row to give them a 13-5 record, second best in the Southern Minnesota Hockey League. Mayo defeated Farmington and Red Wing by identical scores of 7-1. In both games, senior center Ron Reichart scored three goals. The Spartans met Minneapolis Breck at Graham Arena and skated to a 6-1 win. Once again, Reichart scored three goals. Mayo then defeated Madison Memorial 5-4 in overtime. Madison Memorial is rated fourth in the state of Wisconsin. Jim Alexander scored four goals in a 10-2 win over Owatonna.

BOYS' BASKETBALL (11-6)

This year's boys' basketball team has suffered considerably, due to a

lack of experience. But the team has still been able to produce an 11-6 record and hold fifth place in the Big Nine. This season has also been exciting, with many games being decided in the final minutes. Mayo travelled to Waseca only to come home with a 67-58 loss. Doug Kieth scored a career high of 18 points, but it was not enough to overcome a fine Waseca team. Faribault came to the Mayo gym and the Spartans pulled off a thrilling 43-42 victory. Russ McCall and Ed Haw combined for 25 points and Todd Radam scored 10 points, four more than he had scored the entire season. Russ McCall scored 25 points to lead the Spartans in a 51-40 victory over Austin.

BOYS' SWIMMING

Mayo's undefeated boys' swimming team maintained their winning ways by defeating Minneapolis De La Salle by a 121-51 score. Mayo's 400 freestyle relay team set a pool record of three minutes and 25 seconds. The Spartans swept the top three places in four of the nine individual events. The Spartan swimmers travelled to Austin and defeated the Packers 113-69. Mayo swept two of the events and took first place in six

of the 11 events. Mayo met John Marshall and sunk the Rocket swimmers 108-69.

WRESTLING (4-13-1)

This has been a rough year for the wrestling team at Mayo. But even though they have had a bad year there still have been a few outstanding performers on the Spartan squad. The Mayo wrestlers travelled to Mankato East and won their fourth meet of the year 28-18. Apple Valley visited Mayo and trounced the Spartans 51-6. Bad luck followed the Spartans to Faribault where they were smoked 45-3.

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS (8-0)

The girls' gymnastics team at Mayo is having a very successful season. They are undefeated in dual meets and have placed no lower than fourth in invitational meets. Winona travelled to Mayo only to go home losers 105.3-76.35. The Spartan gymnasts visited crosstown rival John Marshall and defeated the Rockets 97.95-80.35. Mayo pulled off a squeaker at Albert Lea 96.65-96.45. The Mayo girls travelled to River Falls and took fourth place out of 15 schools. In a triangular meet at Pine Island, Mayo defeated Pine Island and Byron, 94.7-69.65-60.3.

Skaters 14-6; best record ever

by JOE LAUGHTON

Three misfortunes acted as "spoilers" for an otherwise fine season for the Mayo hockey team.

1. A slow start got the squad moving in the wrong direction, as it won only two of the first five games.

2. Two losses to defending state champion John Marshall were the obstacles that interrupted Mayo's bid to take the Southern Minnesota Hockey League Southern Division title.

3. Injuries to defensemen during the latter part of the season temporarily slowed down the defensive squad.

Despite this list of unfortunate occurrences, the hockey team came through with the best regular season record in the school's history (14-6).

That was accomplished through a schedule of tough opponents on a schedule that was primarily suited to prepare the team for post-season tournament play. Coach Lorne Grosso hardly made that tough schedule with the purpose of piling up a super record.

"Against those tough opponents, we played well. We weren't out of very many — with the exception of the Ramsey and JM games, in which we lost by 8-2 scored," Coach Grosso said.

"Our goaltenders did well in

those two games. You can't blame them," Grosso stated. "Those games were lost basically because of defensive lapses and defensive mistakes."

The lack of defense was hardly noticeable, however, as only five teams were able to score more than three goals against Mayo.

The Spartan skaters, on the other hand, usually exceeded six goals in games against Southern Minnesota Hockey League opponents.

"As a team offensively and defensively, this was the best balanced squad ever at Mayo," Grosso stated. "It had the best attitude, and it was definitely the most hard working team."

"The line that scored the most was the (Ron) Reichart-(Tom) Newman-(Jim) Alexander line," Grosso said. "We left that line alone, but during the last seven games, we were changing lines — switching guys around."

"The (John) Johannson-(Jeff) Borgen-(Jim) Fischer line really improved during the course of the season in helping out in scoring," Grosso determined.

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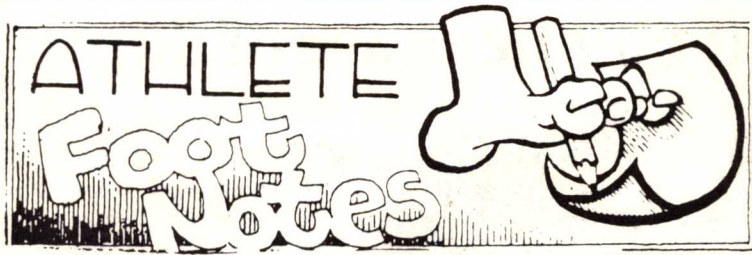
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by JOE LAUGHTON

A NOT-SO-MODEST PROPOSAL

In late January, several football and track athletes worked hard selling tickets for the third annual dance of the Mayo Booster Club.

It was planned that the proceeds from the dance would go to raise money for purchasing a scoreboard and track clock, which would go on the present track-football field area on the northeast part of the Mayo campus.

This writer praises these efforts to better Mayo's facilities. But the process of this fund-raiser brings to mind another possible goal to raise money for: an all-weather track.

I'm not suggesting that this would be an easy task. As a matter of fact, this sort of fund-goal to shoot for would be extremely difficult without an intense effort to keep it "alive." It has to grow to be the "talk of the town."

Since a fund-raiser of this nature would be expensive, it would have to take the teamwork of many people. The work and commitment to this activity won't be an overnight ordeal. It would probably take from a number of months to a number of years. That's why many should get involved. Not an elite group of students, not a select committee, but EVERYBODY.

Basketball team surprises, takes "second" in Big Nine

by JOE LAUGHTON

The loss of key seniors from last year's state tournament team didn't give this year's Mayo boys' basketball team much of a chance to successfully defend its Big Nine Conference crown.

Things started as anticipated as the Spartan cagers promptly lost their first two conference games to Red Wing and Winona back in November.

The surprises came. The Mayo boys struck gold with seven wins out of the next 10 conference games. A four-game Big Nine win streak ignited the success out of that bundle. Mayo had a lot to say about who was going to win the conference.

The dust settled on Feb. 10, the last date of conference action, with four teams tied for the Big Nine title. Mayo wasn't one of them.

"The conference went pretty much the way we thought it would be," Mayo coach Wally Brunswold said. "The teams that won had the most returning lettermen."

Technically, Mayo finished second in the Big Nine. The four conference winners each had 9-4 records, while Mayo's 7-6 conference mark was the next best.

"Second place is not all that bad if we can't be first," Brunswold said.

"We didn't have any returning people," Brunswold reminded, "but we've been in every ball game. We think we've come along to play good ball."

The Spartans this season had its share of close games. Eight of the 19 games were decided by three points or less. Mayo won six of those "close encounters."

We played exceptional defense this year," Brunswold said. "It takes good defense to be competitive. Being aggressive in being competitive," Brunswold added.

"We haven't been a high powered offense," Brunswold said. "We were searching for the right combination switching our young sophomore (Kurt) Hamlin, (Arden) Hegland, (Eric) Soe, (Todd) Radam and

(James) Harris; into the line-up."

"If we can get the scoring, we'll win. If we don't, we usually lose," Brunswold said.

"We lack one good strong leader who'll take charge and score us 20 points every game," Brunswold mentioned while seemingly forgetting Russ McCall at the time.

Brunswold quickly added that "Russ hasn't reached his maximum maturity yet." Right now, he's a big, tall aspiring growing player. It won't be until college when Russell will reach his biggest point," Brunswold stated.

What McCall has done this season is average 17 points a game (more points than he scored on the varsity all of last year). Russ became the first Mayo player to win the Big Nine scoring championship.

Ed Haw was also among the leading scorers in the conference. "Ed's a fine guard shooter — probably one of the best outside shooters in the conference," Brunswold said.

Another key to Mayo's success this season was the playing of forward Doug Keith. "He's the best rebounder in the league," said Brunswold. "If we can't rebound, we can't win games. Doug has been doing it for us."

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Two of Mayo basketball's best: Russ McCall (L), and Denese McKay. (Advocate Photos)



FE-MAYO SPORTS

by SUE GRIFFIN

This year, the student-faculty basketball game will be played March 14. This year, the game will probably end just like it has in recent years, with the male faculty defeating the male students.

Notice that I wrote "male" faculty and "male" students. This annual game always sees the males competing, but never the females. Why not have a female faculty-female students basketball game as well?

If such a game should occur, it would only be the second time the female faculty and female students had competed in a sports competition. Last year, there was a female student-faculty game that raised money for the March of Dimes.

A female student-faculty basketball game would definitely be a major step towards further equality between girls and boys in sports. Also, such a game would be just as entertaining and exciting as the male student-faculty basketball game.

Instead, or in addition to, a basketball game, there could be a female student-faculty volleyball game, because more female faculty members might prefer volleyball. Also, rather than having a full female student-faculty basketball game, an arrangement might be made in which one quarter of the male student-faculty basketball game could be set aside for the females.

**FACULTY vs. STUDENTS
BASKETBALL GAME**
MARCH 14 - MAYO GYM
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WATCH OUT!

The Student-Faculty hockey game will be held at Graham Arena at a later date — More details later.

Car of the month



This is Larry Grimm's sharp looking 300 Ford pickup, which is chosen as Car of the Month. It has a six cylinder engine, nine-inch rims, and a roll bar to match. (Photo by Wayne Brakke)

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