

Nor'easter

Northeast High School
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Without lockers or building 17, many students congregate around campus for socializing (left).

Books, however, are another problem which NEHI students have become accustomed to this year. Kimberly Popwell, a sophomore (right), carries several books around school, as do many other students.

Photo by Erwin Hoffman



Empty promises, full book bags

By Ed Mehl III

The opening of building 17 is going to be delayed past the beginning of the second semester, but should not be much longer after that. The work on the heating/cooling system is mostly completed and is not experiencing many more setbacks.

The delay in the opening is due to the discovery that the roof also needed work done. It was decided that it would be best

to have this done while the work on the heating system was being completed, according to principal J. Tom Zachary.

This work, unlike the work to the heating system, should prove to be relatively simple. Since it will be started while other work is being done, there should not be any time missed until building 17 is re-opened.

The plans for the "re-occupation" of F-wing are not very far along, however, a few decisions have been made. Lockers

will be available to relieve the burdens of carrying textbooks to classes all day long.

Seniors who generally receive the privilege of having first choice of lockers in building 17 will have to wait this year. The students in Mrs. Gloria McLean's first period class turned in a record amount of canned goods in this year's holiday canned good drive and get to pick lockers before the traditional Senior class choice. Students will be pleased to know, however, that if they already have lockers on the hill, they will still be able to choose

a locker in building 17 after it re-opens.

The rooms in building 17 will most likely be returned to the teachers who occupied them in the years before, according to Zachary, but a few changes may have to be made to accommodate the amount of new teachers Northeast received this year.

How the re-occupation is to take place or how quickly it will happen are the factors that have not yet been decided. Even after the work being done is completed, the building will need to be cleaned out, although it is possible that this may be done after re-occupation is complete.

Early graduation...

an available cure for senioritis

By Pam Allen

On January 18, 1985, twenty-two seniors said goodbye to Northeast and hello to the "real world" as they graduated early.

According to Ms. Denise Hart, registrar, twenty-two is the highest number of seniors to graduate early in two years. Last year, approximately five or six seniors chose this cure for senioritis. Next year, the number of early grads is expected to skyrocket.

"The term 'early graduate' is misleading," said Hart. "The majority are 'late graduates,' seniors who were supposed to graduate the semester before but were required to stay another semester to gain the credits they needed in order to graduate."

Some seniors, like Vicki Cleveland and Kristi Bolling, graduated early to get a head start on college. For the last two weeks of first semester, Cleveland was attending St. Petersburg Junior College as well as Northeast. "It was rough trying to keep up with the homework and tests from Northeast and homework from J.C.," said Cleveland, "but I think it will all be worth it in the long run because it's giving me a head start on college."

Kristi Bolling said, "The basic reason why I decided to graduate early was so that I could get a head start on college. If you go to a Florida college, you have to take one summer session during your four years. This way I'll have my summer session finished and I'll still have a vacation. This also gives me a chance to earn some

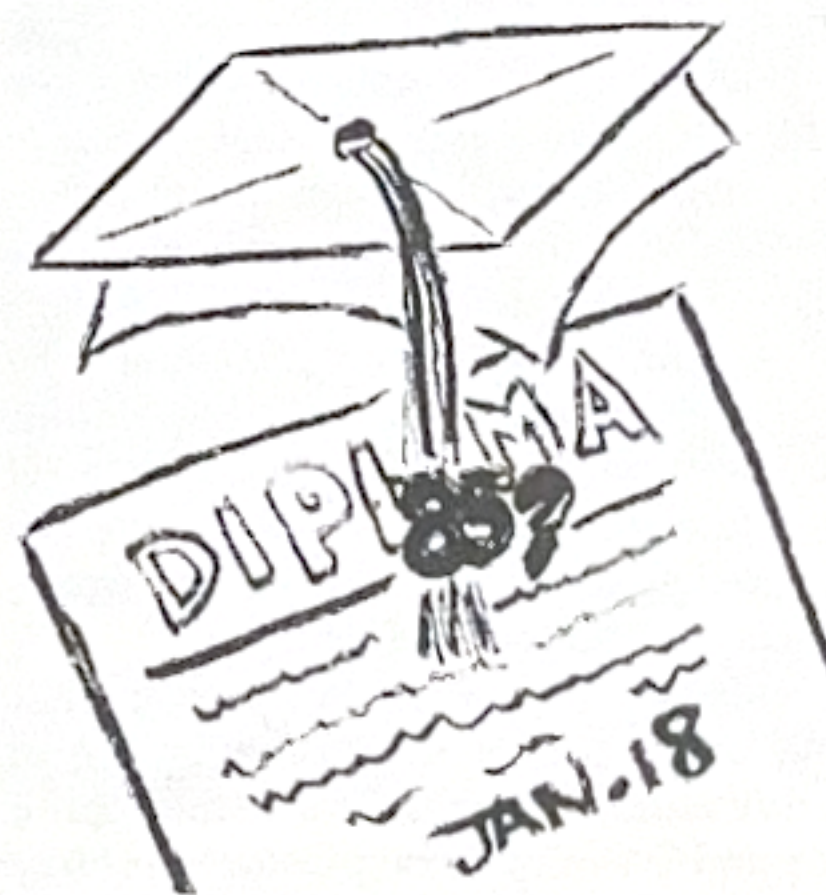
money and travel. As an early grad I am still able to attend all of the school functions such as Prom, senior breakfast, and Grad Nite. It is also nice to finally be out of high school."

Chris Cassler's — another early graduate — reasons were different from those of Bolling's and Cleveland's. "I found that high school was in my past and it was time to progress into something different. I also didn't want to put up with all the hassles from the dean's any more."

There is a vast number of seniors who had the required number of credits but who decided to stay on for a second semester. Julie Unger is one of these people. "I had the opportunity to graduate early, but I decided against it. After thinking about it, I decided I would miss finishing the rest of the year, and my friends. I know you can still attend the activities after you have graduated, but it wouldn't be the same. The excitement would be gone," she said.

Natalie Hempstead's reasons for not graduating early were close to those of Unger's. "After talking to my friends, I decided if I left I would miss out on the excitement of Prom, Grad Nite, and senior breakfast. I also didn't want to quit all the clubs I'm in."

The faculty's and administrator's opinion of early graduation was not all that favorable. Mr. Stephen Babcock, Comparative Political Systems teacher, said, "I hope it never happens again. Education is a total experience and the number of credits has nothing to do with it."



Mr. Herb Dixon, dean of students, commented, "It's an advantage for the student who is going to use the time to go to college. It's a disadvantage if you're not going to college. Those people should stay in and learn."

"It's good, depending on the situation, like seniors who only need a few more credits to graduate. But if they are going to graduate early and do nothing, it would be better to stay in school and take some electives or something vocational," said Mrs. Barbara Shorter, dean of students.

Miss Diane Duke, guidance counselor, had a slightly different view on the subject of early graduation. "My views are mixed. It is not good to cut your senior year short and miss all the activities but, at the same time, it's good for people who want to leave early and work. It also gives incentive to the kid who might drop out by serving as a reward for passing all their classes."

Pinellas seniors get a graduation present

Pinellas County high school seniors may be receiving an additional graduation present this year with the help of community organizations and Busch Gardens. Plans for a chemical-free graduation party exclusively for seniors in Pinellas and other nearby counties are currently underway, according to a recent *Evening Independent* article.

Northeast high school was one of the local high schools in which surveys for such an activity were given to seniors. Most seniors who had the Comparative Political Systems (CPS) course first semester were asked to complete this questionnaire which asked them if they wished to have an extra graduation party besides the Grad Nite held at Walt Disney World each summer. The purpose of this party would be to keep alcohol and drugs out of summer festivities.

Students were offered several ideas and locations to select, but Busch Gardens was the one most frequently chosen.

In cooperation with the committee organizing this function, called Project Graduation, Busch Gardens has been reserved for June 5, 6 and 7 for these planned events. The areas of the Congo, Stanleyville and Timbuktu will be open as well as all rides in those areas between 8:00pm until 4:00am exclusively for the students. This will be covered in the \$15.00 admission fee which each attending senior will pay.

A New Year's commitment

By Steve McCreery

Well, here it is—a brand new year—1985. It's a time to start fresh and a time for—of course—the New Year's resolution. I have been thinking of some of my resolutions for the New Year, so let's see what I can come up with:

I PROMISE to stop biting my fingernails.

It sounds simple enough, but I used that one last year...and in 1983...1982...81...As a matter of fact, I think I've worn out that one to the bone.

I PROMISE to keep up in all my classes and do better next semester...I think.

That one sounds pretty familiar too. I could combine the two. Let's see how that sounds:

I PROMISE to do better next semester in school while not biting my fingernails.

That one sounds like it has an elastic clause tied to it. If I start biting my nails again, then I will have an excuse for slipping up in my classes—especially in AP History, because I am always biting my nails in there. Then again, I don't think that New Year's resolutions are allowed to contain stipulations. I'll have to throw that one out for technical reasons and try again.

I PROMISE to stop trying to memorize every Trivial Pursuit question and answer before each game...even the games with stakes.

That does not sound good at all. How else am I to retaliate for the two weeks of Cokes I lost to F. Coff? It looks like I'll have to go with the same old stuff for 1985.

I PROMISE to read a good book every now and then [as long as it doesn't have anything to do with Ishmael], stay away from fats and cholesterol and generally lead a clean, happy year [maybe telling a semi-unclean joke every now and again and watching an occasional "After Hours" on cable].

Now that my belated resolution for '85 has been taken care of and the new year has started, I can now express my feelings about a much tired of, overly publicized happening that starts with the question, "Will the world in 1984 be as Orwell predicted so many years ago in the late 1940's?" Ever since the middle of 1983, I have constantly been hearing and seeing this, and quite frankly, I have had it up to here with it. Perhaps my ignorance originates from not having read the novel. Maybe 1984 will have to be one of the good books that I will read every now and then as promised in my resolution. Nevertheless, I still will not believe it no matter how believable it may seem, but am still waiting for a sequel to be published entitled 1993—Big Brother's Twin Sister is Watching You. Then we can go through the same exact thing again.



Of prayer and politics

By Christopher Buehlman

The most courageous may tremble when politics and religion join hands. The reason? Their first victim is democracy, the right to choose. What injustices may one feel free to commit when one has God on his side? Not to say this country is very near being a theocracy, we still have more freedom (we are told) than any other people on the globe. However, if we want to maintain this country's ideals, we must not destroy their foundations by mixing God with the government. I feel that recited prayer in school is the first step towards this undesired end, and it must not come to be.

The supporters of compulsory prayer in our public schools claim the program will help to repair the decaying moral fiber of our youth. This is not unlike slapping housepaint on a rusty car. I really can't see where this will help anything. At Northeast, we are provided each morning with a "moment of silence," and if one doesn't already know how to pray on one's own, I hardly think a reflex-action, mechanically-mumbled mock prayer will bring one closer to one's religion.

Speaking of which, who is to make the choice as far as what prayer we will be subjected to each morning? What religion (as if I didn't know) will it reflect? Just because the majority of the citizens of the United States are Christians we seem to feel we have the right to spoon-feed this to everyone else. That kind of attitude hardly befits the members of a free nation.

"Well," the proponents of school prayer will say, "those who do not wish to pray may excuse themselves." This is still discrimination. If you were a member of a minority religion, would you feel like anything other than an outcast if you had to excuse yourself from the group to keep your beliefs intact? This sort of thing will lead to bad feelings between Christians

and non-Christians at an early age. Would you integrate races while segregating religions? It is not in keeping with what we claim to believe in if we make such distinctions. The effects of this sort of discrimination would be felt the most keenly in lower schools where the students might not be mature enough to acknowledge and respect the beliefs of others.

Having the same prayer repeated day after day doesn't do much for that particular belief, either. Look to how we've desecrated the pledge of allegiance. I've chanted

at least several hundred times and I don't feel like I'm a better American for the clockwork, mindless process. In Shakespeare's Hamlet, Claudius says "Words without thoughts never to Heaven go." I ask those who favor prayer to consider the damage this policy may do, even to the cause it "supports".

Political figures seek to use school prayer as a tool, a pious banner for the uninformed majority to flock behind. They would parade around their often hollow beliefs to draw the support of the masses, anxious to prove the depths of their Christianity by supporting the opportunist politician. I find this blatant hypocrisy offensive and in poor form. If we would watch the issues and vote for the individual rather than the creed, we would be a better nation for the effort.

In closing, let me make it clear that saying some prayer at the beginning of each day holds no terror. It's a small thing to do, and I wouldn't begrudge the thirty seconds or so of my time. That, however, is not the issue here. I respect another person's beliefs enough that I will not force mine upon him. I want you to consider this: If the government so invades our private lives as to dictate our religion to us, where will it stop?



Vikings fly the coop

This year the month of January not only means exam time and the beginning of a new semester, but it also is a time to say good bye. Good bye to whom one might ask? Good bye to the approximately ten most fortunate people who are graduating early from the hallowed halls of Northeast.

It seems as though this year graduating early is the thing to do. Kind of like a fad of some sort. Actually there is nothing wrong with wanting to graduate early, that is if your extra time will be spent wisely. For instance, if your planning to work a full time job or start college early and get ahead of the game, graduating early can seem a wonderful venture and a grand vacation from high school.

It is not at all surprising to me that this year, especially, people have opted to take the route of graduating early. Personally speaking, being a SENIOR in the 1984-85 school year has meant fun and more work, which isn't bad but it's just not as fun. A lot of traditional NEHI senior privileges have disappeared due to extenuating circumstances and the fun senior year has kind of disappeared with it.

So... this is my informal good bye along with many other seniors who will lag behind to finish their full year of senior high school. To those who are leaving, I wish you great success in all your endeavors. Just make sure that you do your best and make a very strong effort not to enjoy that nice sunny weather and beach life along with sleeping in late in the morning and staying out late at night too much.

Never fear, you will all be missed, so please don't hesitate to come visit when ever you wish. I'm sure you'll be able to find us. Guess where? Stomping the halls of NEHI wishing for June 10, 1985 to draw near.

Viking Views

By Pam Allen

Photos by Doug DeLorey, Michelle Wild & Erwin Hoffman



Question:

Do you feel the students of Northeast have an alcohol and drug problem?



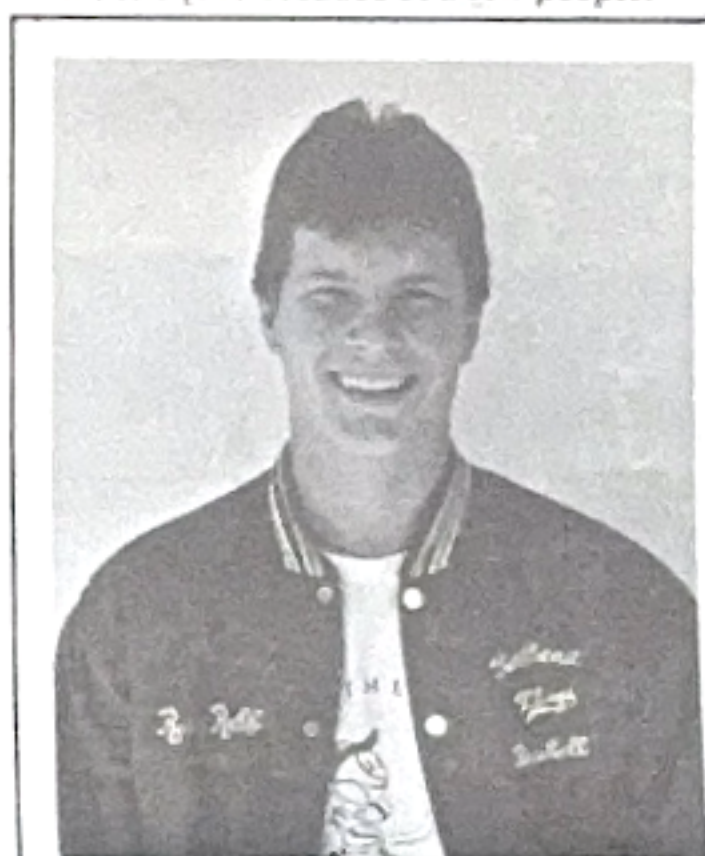
Jennifer Richard, grade 12: Yes, but not so much of drugs as drinking. Drinking is a big thing with high school students. If you don't drink then you aren't cool and you don't fit in.



Megan Goldych, grade 9: No, I don't feel we have a drug and alcohol problem at Northeast. Most parents think that ever one is on drugs or driving drunk. I don't think it's right for parents to judge everyone just because of a few people.



Elaine Cross, grade 12: No, I think the students enjoy partying but don't make it a serious problem.



Robby Habb, grade 10: I agree because so many students' weekends consist of drinking and partying.



Mary Gill, grade 12: The only problem that Northeast has with drugs and alcohol is finding a place to use them. St. Pete is such a boring town that there is essentially nothing else to do!



Meg Hester, grade 12: Not all of the students do, but there are quite a few with this problem. It isn't just at Northeast but at other high schools as well.



Ann Headly, grade 12: I really don't feel the students of NEHI have a problem as such but I do think they could learn to control their drinking.



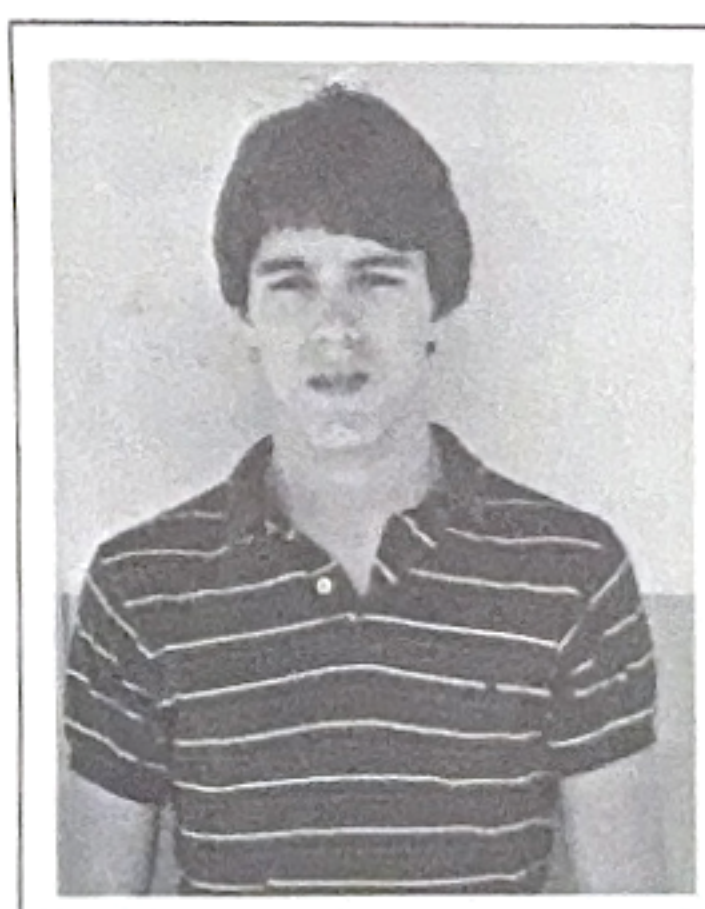
Paige Miller, grade 12: Definitely not all the students do, but there is a small fraction of students, as in all schools, who do have a problem.



Becky Sage, grade 11: No, of course we do have our share of parties but you find me one school that doesn't!



Beth Berganow, grade 10: I feel some of the students do have problems with alcohol and drugs and won't admit it.



Billy Fitzgerald, grade 10: I don't feel that the students of Northeast who drink or use drugs occasionally have a problem.



Marc Nilsen, grade 11: Most of the students at NEHI can handle alcohol. They believe there is a limit.

Editorial Policy

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Opinions expressed in the *Nor'easter* are the views of the staff and not the views of the school administration.

Persons wishing to submit a letter to the editor may do so in room 30-1. Letters may only remain anonymous under special conditions and with the consent of Mr. Fred Ulrich and Noel Decker.

Nor'easter

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Varsity basketball team losing despite star players

By Steve Diaco

The Northeast boys basketball team is having a dismal season. In the Eckerd Christmas Tournament the Vikings lost both games and finished last but there is a bright spot in all of these losses coming from Tony Ferguson's high point average.

In the Christmas tournament held at Eckerd College on December 26, the Vikings lost their opener to St. Petersburg High School 55-38.

The Vikings offense was stunted to a season low. The second game was also ended in a losing cause to Seminole High School. The final score was 60-56 after a close game between the two teams.

The losses in the tournament, the second of the year, dropped the Vikings record to 1-10 for the season and 1-4 in conference. Their only win came in a close,

one point win against Dunedin High School.

Senior Tony Ferguson is a bright spot in this year's many losses. Ferguson has a season average of 16½ points. He is a top scorer in the county and a big asset to this year's team according to videotaper Irwin Hoffman. Ferguson held a higher average until the Christmas tournament where he was held to very few points.

The tall men inside contributed to the losing cause. Scott Geren and Stacey Etchison have grabbed rebounds and covered the boards during this frustrating season.

Northeast's losses have mostly been within a few points and the team attributes its losses to a weak defense. The players have been drilling on basic defense

to prepare themselves for the remainder of their schedule.

Roach Dave Redding pointed out that the team is not totally out of contention. The conference tournament seedings are by record but any team has a chance of winning due to the nature of the tournament.

Redding said that the team will continue its tough practice schedule, including Saturday practices and distance running to prepare themselves for the end of the year tournament. Redding feels that with a little guidance the team should pick up in the latter part of the season due to the amazing potential that has not yet been displayed.

Sports Digest

Trophy to be awarded to the best NEH soccer player

By Sharon Bench

In the near future, players on the soccer team may be given the chance to earn a very special honor, the Special Sports Trophy.

The Special Sports Trophy was inspired by a former student from Northeast. Billy Dehan loved soccer and, when he was a student, Northeast hadn't yet started a soccer league. Dehan, inspired by his love for soccer, joined the soccer league at Meadowlawn for children 19 and under. Dehan graduated in '79 and Northeast finally started a soccer league in '81. Billy was also known for his great skills in mechanics.

Earlier last year, Billy was working underneath a car when it fell on him and killed him. The former members of the Suncoast Hurricanes have gotten together to obtain permission to purchase the Billy Dehan Special Sports Trophy.

Each year the most valuable player from the soccer team will be given this very important honor and their name will be engraved on this plaque. This will help keep the memory of this soccer player alive at Northeast High School.



The Vikings will need more offense if they are to improve on their 1-10 record.

Wrestling teams fighting their way to the top

By Fred McCoy

The Northeast High Varsity Wrestling team opened the season explosively, capturing six wins in their first eight matches and a second place showing in the Patriot Invitational, despite the lack of a heavyweight wrestler.

The losses to Pinellas Park and Largo were overshadowed by the strong showing in the Patriot Invitational Tournament held at Pinellas Park on December 15. Eleven AAAA teams competed in the one-day tournament.

The wrestlers lost only two of their first eight matches due mainly to absence of a wrestler for the unlimited weight class. Junior Mark Orgera has been forced to fill this position and give up his spot at 220 pound class. The absence of a heavyweight has cost the team its losses because they had to put an inexperienced wrestler in and lose four points because he could not hold up against his

opponents. Coach Bill Dudley said, "We would be a great team if we had a heavyweight wrestler to put in the unlimited class."

Senior Tom Brady, 121

pound, senior Greg McDonnell, 140 pound, team leader with 7 pins, and Orgera won titles in their respective weight classes. Sophomore Bill Fitzgerald, 100 pound, senior Steve Wilsey, 114

pound, and junior Steve Diaco, 128 pound, were runner-ups in their division at the tournament. Fourth place finishes were recorded by aggressive point leaders Mark Ackett and Gary

Guarino. Aggressive points are awarded for takedowns, reversals and pins recorded in each match. The strong individual showings fell just short of Countrysides team score. Countryside is ranked sixth in the state.

The junior varsity team, under coach Michael Stahl, started their season very slowly by losing their first six dual matches. Dudley calls the junior varsity, "Real young and very inexperienced, but full of potential."

Bright spots in the dismal season have come from freshman Jay Diaco and freshman Joel McAllister. Diaco leads the team in pins with five and is the aggressive point leader for his squad. McAllister also provided points for the team with three pins to his credit.

Both groups took time off for the holidays but began the second half of their season when school reopened in 1985. The j.v. is looking toward the second half to provide them with badly needed wins.



The Varsity wrestling team sports a 6-2 record.

Photo by Erwin Hoffman



The Vikings battle for a rebound after a missed free throw.

Photo by Erwin Hoffman

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Nancy Roslow handles the role of student government president

By Lana Chiariello

Who is Nancy Roslow? This diminutive senior is the president of students government. According to Mr. Harry Brown, a teacher and student government advisor at Northeast, Roslow is "a phenomenon...a talented and motivated leader...very dedicated to doing the best job she possibly can for Northeast High."

"Being the president of student government is a lot of hard work," Roslow commented. Her job involves overseeing the four classes, presiding over student government meetings, planning activities, appointing committees, dealing with all kinds of people and "a lot of frustration," Roslow added with a sigh.

"The class officers and senators help tremendously. They have been cooperating fully and are more involved and concerned about our school and how it is run."

"I think the activities so far in this school year have been major successes. The freshman-sophomore elections ran very smoothly. The Back-to-School Bash had twice the turnout as opposed

to last year. And homecoming, well, I didn't think I was going to get through it alive, but I did and it turned out to be a big success. Everyone had fun," Roslow said.

In her position, Roslow finds herself working closely with Brown on student government projects. "Mr. Brown is very good for NEHI. He helps a lot and we really work well together," Roslow stated. The admiration is mutual. Brown states, "I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Nancy in 1984, and I am enthusiastic about the new year and what plans we have in store."

"In the planning stages are some very exciting events," according to Roslow. "It's called Roll Out '85, which means every month student government will sponsor at least one activity which will involve the entire student body."

On top of all the tasks Roslow performs a day-in and day-out, she still takes honor courses and manages to keep her grade point average to National Honor Society standards. In her daily school-day schedule, Roslow racks analytic geometry, psychology,

computer programming, and law studies. By the time seventh period rolls around, she is ready to challenge layouts in the club section of the Viking Log, Northeast's yearbook.

"I really like school. This school can offer you a lot if you submit yourself. The diversity of people make it interesting. The teachers here make the school special because they care about the students," said Roslow.

Roslow has been involved with this school since her freshman year. She has been in the Latin, Science & Engineering, and Rojan clubs. She has served for three years in student government. Roslow started as treasurer of her sophomore class for a short period at the end of the year. In her junior and senior years she has held the positions of vice-president and president of student government. "I regret that I didn't get involved in student government sooner than my sophomore year," Roslow claims.

This year, Roslow was selected as a member of the Senior Hall of Fame. "I was very excited and extremely honored."

Roslow was the youngest of three children born in Purchase, New York. After moving to St. Petersburg, she attended Riviera Middle School, and went to Northeast, where she has had a few memorable experiences. "I remember one incident in my junior year, I was sitting in Mrs. Marcotte's room and my desk tipped over. I fell flat on my face. I was so embarrassed, my face turned bright red. Everybody was laughing! I have to admit, it was pretty funny."

As for her future plans, Roslow wishes to attend the University of Florida in Gainesville where she hopes to major in political science. She then will attend law school.

When asked what hobbies she does in her spare time, Roslow jokingly answered, "Hobbies? Who has time for hobbies? I do like to shop and swim and spend time with my friends."

"Northeast has given me more than just an education, it has taught me how to deal with people and it has given me memories that are very special."

Holly Ackett 'loves' to be involved

By Linda Donelan

Holly Lee Ackett. Does the name ring a bell? You may think of her smile that reaches her eyes or the deep dimples in her cheeks. Or maybe even the energy bound inside of her.

Ackett has been involved everything from Junior Exchange to student government, Special Edition to cheerleading, and cross country to track. This year her smiling face can be seen in homecoming court and Hall of Fame pictures, and at National Honor Society and prom meetings.

"The busier I am," said Ackett, "the better I like it. I don't like to have time to stop and think about my problems."

"My mother feels I spread myself too thin, but she really does support me in all my activities."

Ackett puts her all in everyone of her activities, but she especially excels in the field of track. Ackett still has standing records at Meadowlawn Middle School.

"I think it's pretty neat to look up there and see my name. It brings back a lot of memories," Ackett commented.

Ackett has set many Northeast records as well, even though they are not posted.

"My NEHI records aren't posted, but I know about them and that's all that matters," Ackett explained.

On weekends, when school activities don't claim her time, Ackett works at the Leisure Manor Retirement Home. She works as many as 24 hours in one weekend.

Despite her crowded schedule, Ackett is in the top 5 percent of her class and has a 3.7 grade point average.

Amidst her many activities, Ackett has had Tom Brady as a steady boyfriend for

three years.

Ackett had a small smile on her face as she talked of Brady. "We're both really busy with extra-curricular activities, but we manage to see each other a lot, even if it is just to study. We plan on going out through college, but we still just take one day as it comes."

Ackett, who was 18 on January 16, is going to Florida College in Tampa. She plans to live on campus. She is not sure of her major but being a midwife or a R.N. with social services are her ideas.

"It's a small and private college, but I should have lots of fun. I plan on trying out for cheerleading and singing. I want to get really involved!" exclaimed Ackett.

When asked what makes her different from others, Ackett answered, "I'm different because I do so much. I thrive on excitement and I love to be involved in everything I possibly can."



Photo by Michelle Wild
Holly Ackett is all smiles.

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Music departments do well in winter concerts

Review

By Lana Chiariello

The 1984 school year ended on a musical note with the delightful choral and band winter concerts on December 18 and 20.

On December 18, the Northeast School choral department presented their winter concert, titled "Songs of the Season," which was held in the school auditorium. They truly captured the Christmas spirit with the selections of music that were sung, along with other varieties of music, such as folk music.

To kick off the concert, the special edition song "We Need a Little Christmas." After the ice was broken, the Intermediate chorus appeared on stage and sang "Ding, Dong, Merrily on High," "Do You Hear What I Hear?", "Good News, Good News," "Angels, Shepherds, and Kings," and "Flying Free."

A member of the Intermediate chorus confessed after her performance, "I was really nervous up on stage. I thought I was going to mess up or something, but after I started singing, everything was cool."

After Intermediate chorus left the stage, the Junior Gondoliers came out and sang, "Born Neath a Star" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

Following the Junior Gondoliers, the Special Edition chorus came back on stage, joined by the Gondoliers. Together, they presented short skits called "Scenes of the Season" and sang "A Street Corner Home."

After a brief intermission, the Gondoliers began the second half of the concert by singing a medley from "A Fiddler on the Roof." The Special Edition chorus came on once more to sing "Gloria," "Do You Know," and "A Christmas Carol Fantasy."

Finally, the concert choir topped off the show by singing five songs. The songs are as follows: "O Praise the Lord," "Festival

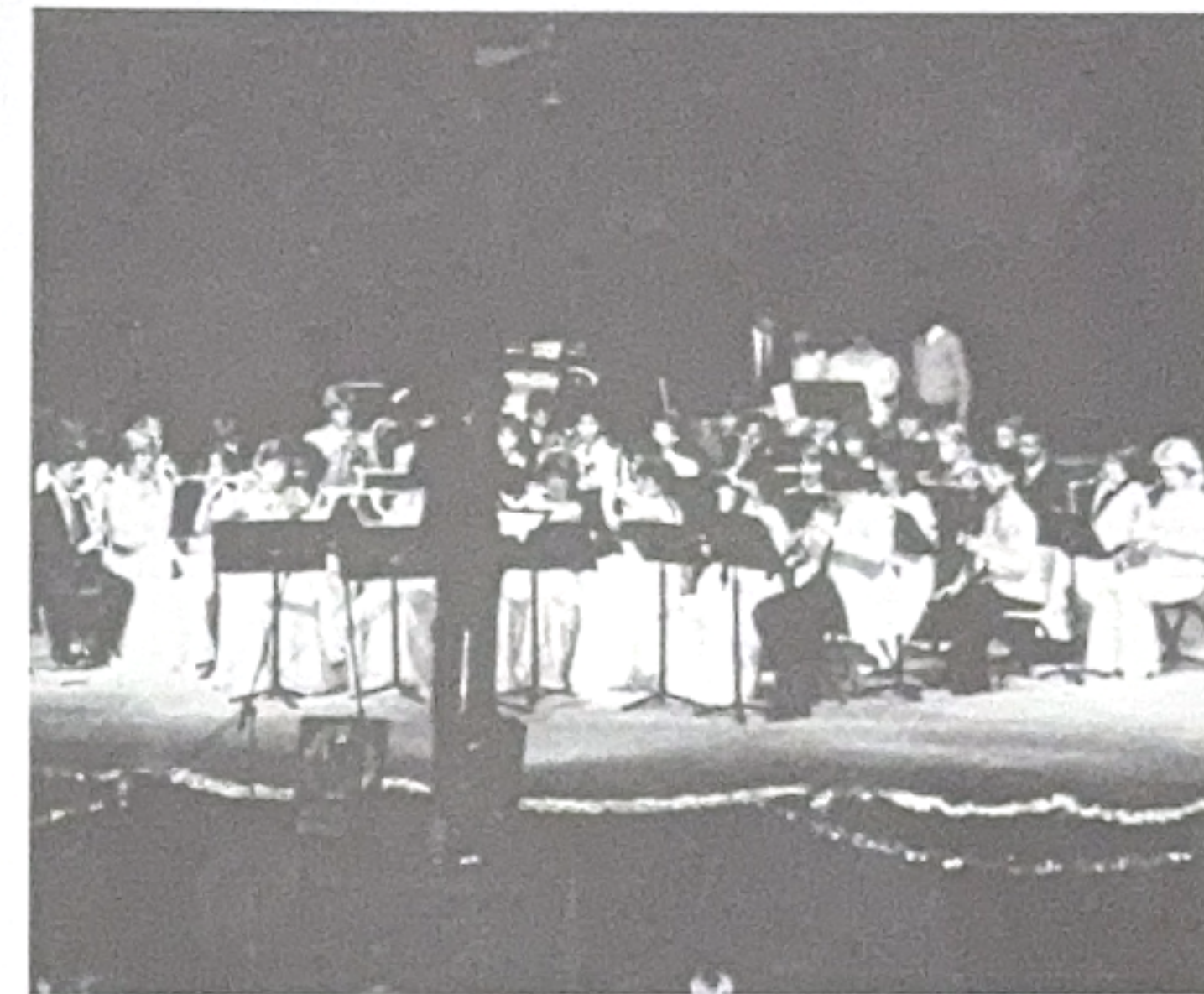


Photo by Erwin Hoffman

NEHI's bands do well in their winter concert.

of the Flame," "Farewell My Lord," "Joy in the Morning," and "Angels We Have Heard on High."

There were two student accompanists and one guest accompanist in the show. Susann Malantino and Julie Jovicac accompanied the Special Edition and Intermediate choruses. Donald Kick was guest accompanist for the concert choir and Gondoliers.

The show lasted for about one hour and twenty minutes. According to the choral department director, Velma Rowe, "The concert had a great turnout. It sold a lot of tickets, and made a lot of money for the choral department. I was pleased with all

of the students' performances. There are still a lot of areas for improvement, but other than that it was a good overall presentation."

Since the choral concert turned out a large crowd, the band members were optimistic about their concert and their turnout.

On December 20, the Northeast Viking Band held their winter concert in the school auditorium. There were four different sections playing, one band, a quintet, and two ensembles.

First, the concert band played three songs, "Zia Zia," "Fantasy on a Christmas Hymn," and "Let Us Break Bread Together."

Following the concert band's performance, the brass quintet performed. The quintet consisted of five members; Bill Peters, Kevin Frye, Jon Adcock, Johanna Osmann and Chris Skay. The brass quintet played a Hanukkah medley written by one of the members, Frye.

Next, the Wind Ensemble played "The Hermitage" and "The Night Before Christmas." The band director, Mr. John Fulton stated, "The Wind Ensemble gave the best performance of the year. It was extraordinary."

Finally, the Jazz Ensemble played a string of songs. The first two songs were titled, "Thus Do You Fair My Jesus" and "Wishing You a Merry Christmas." The next song, titled "Most Royal Court," was accompanied by two solos. Skay, a member of the brass quintet, gave a trombone solo and Phil Graham performed a piano solo. They then played "Send in the Clowns."

Following "Send the Clown" was a brief intermission in which two band members, sophomores Amy Adcock and Curtis Peters, were given the opportunity to model the new band uniforms. Adcock and Peters both are members of the Wind Ensemble. "We had been waiting for the new band uniforms for the longest time and we finally got them. When Mr. Fulton approached me to model them, I told him I'd be more than happy to," said Peters.

After the new uniforms were displayed, the band continued playing. Their next song was entitled "One More Chuck Corea," which also had a solo given by one of the members in the brass quintet, Frye, who plays trumpet. The Jazz Ensemble finished off the concert by playing "Good King," "Sugar Blues," "I Remember Stan," "Ain't Misbehavin'," "Caravan," and "I Made It Through the Rain."

Frye commented after the concert, "I think a lot of people came to the concert out of curiosity, to see how good we were. I was surprised about the good turnout. I personally thought it was the best concert I have heard since I have been here."

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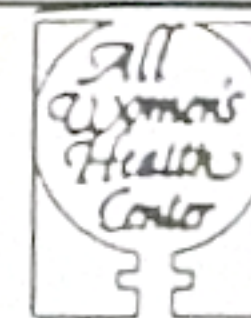
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Northeast is featured in the Evening Independent

Review

By Pam Allen and Mary Gill

On December 8, 1984, Marilyn Brown, a writer for *The Evening Independent*, printed a profile on Northeast High School with the headline "Standards are high at 60-acre campus." Some of the facts were right on target, but some statements left readers with an apparently wrong idea.

In the first paragraph Northeast is described as a "huge sprawling campus." That sounds fine, but only portions of it can serve the students of this school because of "long overdue" construction.

It also reads, NEHI's academics have "courses ranging from culinary arts to computer science." Unfortunately, it is later stated that the guidance counselors are not quite adequate in providing the necessary information to the students.

Another point brought up by the article was that our principal, Mr. J. Tom Zachary, was not the favorite choice of the school board to become principal at Northeast when he was appointed in 1979. "Personality factors" was the given reason for this. It was also stated that Zachary is "straightforward and does not mince

Northeast has "the lowest absentee rate...and second-highest percentage of student suspensions." Therefore, our procedures are well publicized and known throughout the county. "135 youngsters" were administered corporal punishment (paddling) last year. Nor-

theast is the only Pinellas County school to use such rule enforcement. Detentions are also frequently given in Northeast's movement toward "assertive discipline." But even Brown noticed that "students run to class to avoid being late."

The *Evening Independent* also reflected to its readers that Northeast has "problems with alcohol." "Weekend keg parties" were also said to be popular.

Lately, Northeast has very few parties as it is, let alone those with furnished alcohol. Most students are forced to socialize with their friends not at parties in other's homes but at places downtown like "the rocks" or the Bayfront Center's lot 51. Brown's reporting of parties like "one girl's" toga party was not only inaccurate but overstated.

Of course, why should students' after-school-non-school-related activities be brought up in the first place? Even teacher Mr. Earl Wilson stated, "the alcohol is on the weekends and nights. It doesn't usually effect their classwork." Some students donate many, many hours at church and charity functions but these good things were somehow "overlooked." This only proves that "no news is good news."

"Unlike some schools, Northeast has ample space in both its parking lots and classrooms. "Yes, the parking lots do have some extra space, but with some classes have as many as 48 students."

This seems like a misprint. Of course, some classes are as small as 16. Maybe it's not the fault of the zoning authorities but

that of previously discussed guidance counselors.

It was said that one of the "major complaints" this year were lack of lockers. Brown, an outsider to Northeast, was told in December that building 17 would not be completed for "several months". We were informed that things would be ready "around November", with dates periodically moving up.

For example, most seniors will only be one half of a credit away from the necessary graduation requirements at the end of the first semester. If they had been informed of this situation earlier (even so much as in the beginning of their senior year) many more would have been able to graduate early and have the second semester to experience time being on their own or getting jobs to help pay some of their costly college expenses.

Northeast opened under principle John Sexton in 1954 with many high hopes for the future. In the next year, coaches and parents built their own track with donated dirt and they maneuvered tractors and dump trucks themselves.

In 1962 the parents came through again, raising \$60,000 for what the *Evening Independent* called an "Olympic-sized pool."

All in all Brown's article was quite accurate and very informative. It dealt with issues that students and parents are interested in and gave a well rounded review of the school.

Other reactions

What is your opinion of the *Evening Independent* article on Northeast High School?

Mr. Misenti -

"The *Evening Independent's* article regarding Northeast High School was a thorough and well documented narrative. This factual account presented our school in its truest form - that of a school second to none."

Mr. Dixon -

"The article was very informational - and it let the people know what Northeast High is doing."

Mr. Stabler -

"The article was positive. The quote made by the student was taken out of context and it came out like all we do is party here and that we're all a bunch of boozers. You cannot put labels on students as diverse as we are."

"The reporter did a good job, and I didn't find any fault with the article."

Mr. Sandy -

"The article was positive. I agree with the article where it said this was a well kept school, good discipline, good faculty, and a good student body."

Mr. Zachary -

"Most complimentary of Northeast High administration, faculty, custodial staff, and students."

"Dwelt too much on the fact that students drink."

Scott -

"It was a favorable and positive article about Northeast. I don't think it was fair to use one student's judgment of the entire guidance department."



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