

Brahma Tales



Douglas MacArthur High School
San Antonio, Texas

Vol. XII, No. 1

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"Progress walks in Indian file
behind a guy
willing to stick his neck out."

-Bill Gold



Dear Brahmas-Faculty and Students,

As we reflect on the past year and look toward the future, it seems fitting that I should share with you the theme of the North East District for this school year, "Entering the 70's."

To those of you coming to MacArthur for the first time, may this letter serve as my personal welcome, and to those of you who are returning, may it serve to share with you our approach to the year ahead.

This past year has been good to our school in many ways. The air-conditioning and new construction has added much to our curriculum and educational environment. Most important to me, as your principal, has been the deep concern and expressions that the faculty and students have for "Brahma Land" and your willingness to share the significant issues which face this school and education throughout the country.

There are also some signs which concern me. I have noticed indications of polarization of some segments on campus. Such segmentation has caused serious trouble on many campuses, so I have placed high on my priority list the attempt to close or reduce these fissures. It is important that we succeed because we can better meet the challenge of education if we are unified.

Our school is greater and more important than any one individual. We must not let one person or group disrupt or destroy this institution. I seek a school spirit that will provide a base for meaningful experiences to all members, be they students, faculty, or citizens of the community.

In summation may this term be the most fruitful of your educational career. I call upon you to help develop and participate in making this MacArthur's finest year.

Sincerely,

Y. H. Vakey

BRAHMA TALES

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B. T. welcomes letters to the editor. All correspondence must be typed, triple-spaced and must not exceed 300 words. Only signed letters will be used.

WHAT WILL YOU MAKE OF IT?



Student's Efforts Determine Value Of School Year

Three months is a short respite from class routines but its long enough to turn happenings of a year gone by into cherished memories and to foster renewed anticipation for a profitable and absorbing school year.

With the 1969-70 school year come engineered innovations originating from the synthesis of experimentation and experience. New sets of values and attitudes reflect an ever-changing society and, as Always, a new year marks a step closer to a high school diploma.

Yet, fundamentally, to each person involved in the nine month year, 1969-70 is still a clean slate. A new group of seniors take command as the leading representatives of the institution. All aspects of school life will be governed by new personalities.

A fresh 1969-70 deserves more than flimsy rhetoric proclaiming how great the year will be. Using last year's achievements as an ignition switch is a poor way out.

Each person must decide for himself what his goals are. To some the school year will have rated tops if they witness an athletic team's climb to state competition. To others, the challenge of superb teachers will make the year complete.

Who is to judge what will make MacArthur's 1969-70 year a success? Only if each student finds personal satisfaction in his attendance this year will 1969-70 truly be a great year.

1969-70 is yet a lump of unmolded clay. How it will become shaped will depend upon its sculptors.

Vice-Principal Brings Experience, New Ideas

New faces on the MacArthur High School campus are in vogue this year. The shift in staff alone resulted in only two-thirds of the faculty returning.

With an expected 200 increase in student enrollment, the faculty roster boasts an expansion of seven members to a force of 116.

Of these transitions, Mr. Lawrence L. Lane fills the sole vacant administrative post, that of assistant principal of instructional services.

A change in a lesser level of leadership, that of department head, resulted in both the boys Physical Education and the vocational programs. Newcomer Charles Dawson, former Roosevelt coach, will manage P.E. activities while Mr. John Hayes moves up to direct 600 wing business.

The English, math, and vocational departments suffered the worst turnovers with up to seven new teachers joining each field.

The following list relates the subject area in which each new teacher will instruct:

English - Miss Pamela Acree, Mrs. Judy Archer, Mrs. Ann Boyanton, Coach Robert Kramer, Mrs. Betty O'Connell, Miss Linda Sobrino.

Math - Mrs. Linda Cox, Mr. Edgar Huddleston, Mr. Lester Frantzen, Mrs. Ernestine Starnes, Coach Charles Taylor.

Science - Mr. Phillip Cambell, Mr. James Kramer, Mr. Mike Mecke, Mr. Dale Williamson.

Social Studies - Mrs. Jann Cooper, Mr. Robert Rock.

Foreign Language - Miss Carol Becker, Miss Dorcas Lampert.

Fine Arts - Mr. Harlan Adamcik, Mrs. Janet Carroll.

Business - Mrs. Janice Wolf.

Homemaking - Mrs. Jean Southerland, Miss Carol Wade.

P.E. - Mr. Charles Dawson, Mrs. Claire Ann Stiles.

Vocational - Mr. John Brotherman, Mrs. Rosemary Cheatham, Mr. Wayne Heiligmann, Mr.

LaRoy Ogden, Miss Mary Ringle, Mr. Jack Tigrett, Mr. William Trcka.

Debuting this year in curriculum is drivers education, formerly a summer school course offering, driver training is an optional half credit for students scheduled in study hall. Mr. Ken Burkner, Sgt. Kidd, Sgt. Kethan, and Mr. Paul Goetz are instructors for the classroom and behind-the-wheel phases.

Band and Student Council sponsors this year have been delegated assistants. Mr. Adamcik and Mrs. Doc Moynihan, respectively were assigned these responsibilities.

Council Stages Howdy Week To Welcome Students Back

Howdy Everybody!

The Student Council of MacArthur has designated the week of September 8 - 12 as Howdy Week, to welcome new students and teachers to the campus.

Monday of "Howdy Week" was "Howdy Frosh." Tags were given to all freshmen to introduce them to the campus.

The Student Council will sponsor a coke sale during the first two weeks of school. On the afternoon of September 8, freshmen were given free cokes if they still had their tags.

"Howdy Faculty" was the theme for Tuesday. Blue and white carnations were presented to teachers. MacArthur has 25 new teachers this year.

Wednesday, the welcome mat is out to Mr. Lawrence Lane, the new vice-principal

in charge of instruction. There will be assemblies during both advisories in order to introduce Mr. Lane and Bende Ingavsen, the foreign exchange student.

"Howdy Foreign Student" will be held Thursday. The day will honor Bende Ingavsen from Denmark.

Friday is set aside to honor the football team. The football team will be going to Temple for the opening game that afternoon.

To wind up "Howdy Week", there will be a dance at the school from 8 p.m. to midnight featuring the flash.

Brahma Tales Receives 'A+' National Rank

"National Newspaper Services Association has awarded the score - A + - to the 1968-1969 BRAHMA TALES, MacArthur High School, San Antonio, Texas."

So reads a brass plaque freshly hung on the wall of the Journalism room.

Mr. Tom Christman, who rated the three submitted issues, remarked that "You do a good job covering school events whether pleasant or unpleasant. The features on Student-Administration and the vocational department were excellent and the pictures on the latter subject were tops. The abundance of letters shows that you are read."

Besides the writing end of the newspaper, appearance, make-up, art work, advertising and typography were covered in the critique.

The favorable results of this second semester report was a marked improvement for the Brahma Tales which received a B first semester from NNSA.

In concluding the review, Mr. Christman added, "Congratulations to the entire staff...and take heart, Administration. You could do much (!!!) worse than have one of the top-rated student papers in the nation."



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File 13



By Brenda Speert

What makes a school run? Definitely computers, for it was that swiftly calculating invention for time-saving that caused MacArthur counselors to race against school's opening in order to get computer rejected schedules hand processed. In fact, time was so rushed that the first education-starved students to arrive on campus came only an hour later than their schedules. Nevertheless, by September 2 everything was functioning except the original cause of the problem - one defunct computer housed in MacArthur's vocational building.

In order to service complaints concerning dissatisfactions in class schedules other than those caused by computer error, the counselors have selected Monday, Sep 8, to process any changes. Students desiring schedule alterations should report to the MacArthur Library between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. accompanied by a parent.

Drinking is not a profitable pastime. The Koffee Klub, MacArthur's organization for its caffeine loving staff, faces financial disaster. Unless the \$200 deficit incurred last year under the honor system is disposed of, the perking pot will be replaced by an impersonal vending machine.

Lost and found articles may be turned in or claimed during school hours in room 307 or Mr. King's office, which is located next to the 300 wing's north entrance.

You know you are back in school when your advisory teacher burdens you with six forms to complete, each demanding your name, address, telephone number, sex, homeroom number, homeroom teacher, grade level, locker number, name of school attending.

Communications censoring the smoking habit have filtered onto the MacArthur campus. A sign nailed to a telephone post in the smoking area reads, "MacArthur Cancer Society."

Freshmen enthusiasm for their "Howdy Freshman" privileges to free cold drinks after school Monday resulted in watered-down spirits. The Student Council, sponsor of the occasion, kept its free cold drinks promise, but unfortunately for the freshmen expecting to garner multiple cups of cokes, their faithfully worn blue ribbons only won them ice water.



Brahma band kicked off its season early by performing at Monterrey Golden Aztecs first football game. Here, the band marches in a pre-game parade.

Aztecs Kickoff Season With Brahma's Support

"Hurrah for San Antonio, Texas; Hurrah for MacArthur High School!"

With these exultant cries, Monterrey, Mexico, welcomed the MacArthur High School Band and Dance Team to help the Monterrey Aztecs kick-off a bizarre new Mexican game: football.

MacArthur, represented by the band, brahmadoras, and cheerleaders, enlivened the new stadium with cheers, dances, and both Mexican and American tunes while the Aztecs defeated Shreveport 50-0 on Aug 23.

Earlier, an unexpected announcement by one of the local papers also committed the MacArthur students to be featured paraders in a march through the town on the day of the game.

The purpose of the gala affair was to familiarize the mystified Mexican people with the game of football and to foster patronage for their new professional team, the Aztecs.

Before the Brahmadoras returned from the two day trip, they found time to swim in the University pool, and shop in neighboring markets.

Accompanying the 150 member MacArthur delegation on the journey were Principal and Mrs. George Vahey, Vice-Principal and Mrs. Jim Davis, Band Director and Mrs. John Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney King, Mrs. Edna Coon, and Miss LaNeal Tankersly, Lassie sponsor.

On the return, Mr. Vahey congratulated the students for a trouble-free, worthwhile trip.

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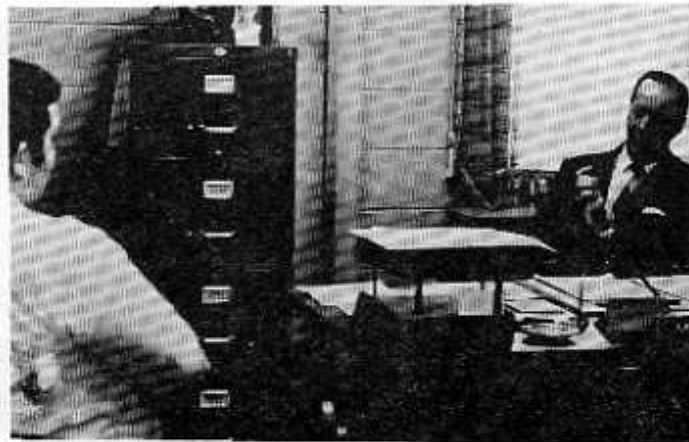
Summer Brings Campus Changes

Schoolgirls aren't the only ones who have donned new attire for September. The MacArthur campus has been seen wearing new trees and freshly sodded carpet grass as well as a completely reorganized number system for the buildings.

The three small trees on the patio and six along the street walkway wave their welcome to returning students. Approximately nine hundred square yards of St. Augustine grass have already been planted with five hundred more square yards expected in the near future. Areas sodded include the old journalism bungalow lot and the surroundings of the library, administration wing and courtyard.

Returning students may be startled to find their room numbers prefixed with letters of the alphabet. The E before room numbers in the 100 wing indicates English classes will be taught there. Other designations include A200-Industrial Arts; F200-Foreign Languages; M300-Mathematics; B400-Business; H500-History; V600-Vocational; and S700-Science.

But perhaps the most heart rending change of all is the absence of dear old Lake MacArthur. During the summer it was filled in and resodded.



Vice-principal Lawrence Lane orientates another new member of the faculty to life on MacArthur campus.

Vice-Principal Heads List Of New Faculty Members

MacArthur will enter the 70's with a new Vice Principal in charge of student instruction, Mr. Lawrence Lane.

Mr. Lane brings from Mcollum High School over 15 years of teaching experience. Qualifications which give a hint to his ability include coaching tennis and basketball and teaching World, American, and Texas history, Biology, Physical Science, and Art.

Mr. Lane will stress program development. Program of I.P.S., a new approach to Physical Science; Chem. Study, a liberalization in Chemistry; and an added course, Latin American His-

tory are already underway.

Curriculum is not, however, the only phase of Mr. Lane's assignment. Educational materials ranging from text books to projectors must eventually sift through Mr. Lane's hands. This screening procedure also includes the use of commonly shared buildings, such as the auditorium.

Mr. Lawrence Lane is entering the 70's with a curriculum of "depth and enrichment," and an administrative task to accompany that achievement.

Annual Sales Drive Begins September 15

"Say, how come no extra annuals?"

"Whaddaya mean, I can't get an annual now. They just arrived." "I wanted a year-book so bad."

Frustrated comments like those above were heard recently after distribution of the 1969 BRAHMA. To avoid the same type of griping next year, students are reminded to make sure that they buy their publications packets when the sale drive begins in homerooms September 15.

Publications packets include 18 issues of the *Brahma Tales*, student newspaper, the *Taurus*, literary anthology, and the yearbook, the BRAHMA.

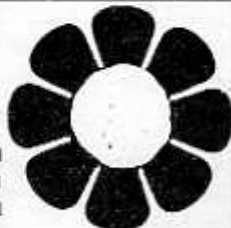
Price of this year's packet is \$10.00, an increase of only fifty cents over last year's price. Forty cents of the increase is a new federal tax. Faculty members receive the discount price of \$7 for their packets.

Students may pay the total \$10.00 at one time, or pay \$5.00 at any time before December 14 and the rest before December 15.

Extra copies of last year's BRAHMA will go on sale September 15 on a first come, first served basis. The price for these annuals will be \$7.

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Danish Girl Contrasts Homelife With America

"I'd heard many things, good and bad, about the United States, and I wanted to see for myself if they were true," was why Bente Ingvarsen wanted to be a foreign exchange student to the United States from Denmark.

Bente arrived in San Antonio August 5, and will leave next July. Her stay is sponsored by the Rotary Club. She is living with the Rock family, Rotary Club members who live in Hollywood Park. Her parents are members of the Rotary Club in her hometown of Ringsted, Denmark.

When she heard of the Rotary Club's search for a Danish exchange student, Bente inquired. She filled out several forms and months later, was told she would live in San Antonio.

"It's so big here, with all these students!" Nineteen-year old Bente attended a school known as a gymnasium, with only 420 students. Although only seven years schooling is required, most students attend for about 13 years, in order to get a good job. English is required be-

ginning in the sixth grade and German in the seventh. School days last from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The grading system differs, in that, in Denmark, grades are from 0-13. Thirteen is the highest, with very few students achieving it.

Bente has found that interest in sports differs in Denmark. Boys play soccer, basketball, volleyball, and handball. However, there are no pep squads, and school spirit is nearly unheard of.

Bente has not seen much of San Antonio except the River Walk. But, as she says, "I have all year!" The last week of summer she went to Colorado with the Rock family. There are no mountains in Denmark, and for Bente, Colorado was a beautiful, unusual change. There she met some Danes - found it good to speak in her native tongue.

As for food, Bente's immediate reply was, "You eat too much!" The Danish have three meals a day, but do not have soft drinks, candy bars, and ice cream to eat between meals.

Bente has found two chief differences between her Danish school and MacArthur. One was that in her school the same students were in classes together all day. The other concerns sports. It is, in her terms, "really funny" that sports could almost take precedence over studying.

Bente has already found MacArthur to be "different" from what she expected. She can expect to have a "different" sort of year.



Danish foreign student Bente Ingvarsen has her first taste of the American cafeteria system.

Play Tryouts Scheduled For September 15

Tryouts for William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be held Monday, September 15 at 3:45 in the auditorium.

As no prior acting experience is necessary, any interested student is encouraged to discover his dramatic talents. The cast requires singers, dancers, and offers many varied roles. Scripts may be borrowed beginning Wednesday, Sept. 10, in room 201.

Directed by Mrs. Janet Carroll, MacArthur's new drama teacher, production dates have been tentatively set for November 6 and 7.

IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

- Wed., Sept. 10 - "Howdy Mr. Lane Day"; Assembly for all advisory periods in the auditorium.
- Thurs., Sept. 11 - "Howdy Bente Day"
- Fri., Sept. 12 - "Howdy Team Day"
Pep rally: 8:20 a.m. in the courtyard;
Football: 7:30 p.m. at Temple.
- Sat., Sept. 13 - "Howdy Dance" - 11:30 p.m. in the cafeteria, music by the "Phlash."
- Mon., Sept. 15 - Tryouts for "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at 3:45 in the auditorium. No prior acting experience is necessary.
- Fri., Sept. 19 - Pep rally: 8:20 a.m. in the courtyard;
- Sat., Sept. 20 - Football: Stephen F. Austin of Austin, 7:30 p.m. at North East Stadium.

