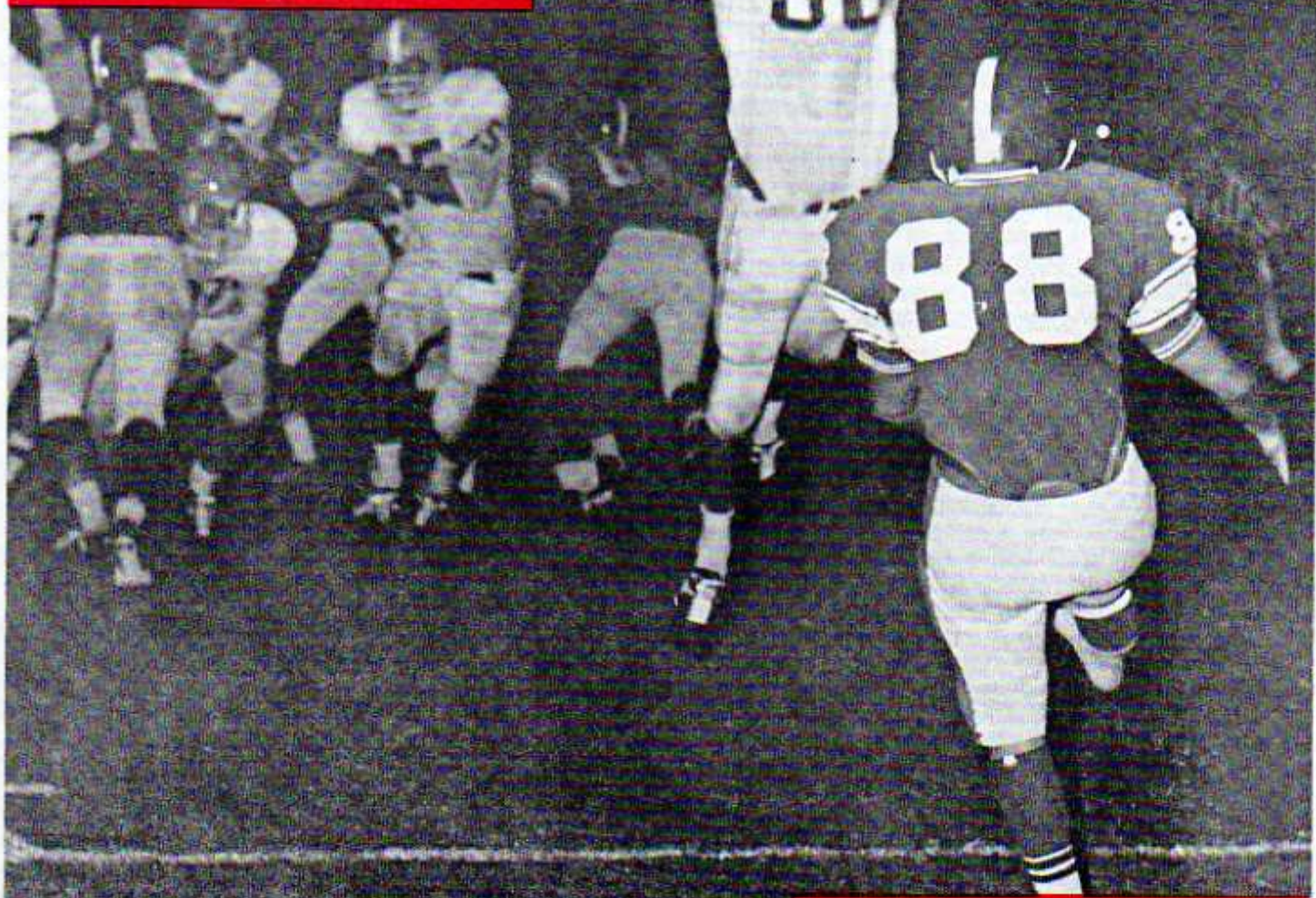


Brahma Tales



Douglas MacArthur High School
San Antonio, Texas
Vol. XII, No 2 September 19, 1969



Past performances count;
but not so much
as today's and tomorrow's.

- B.C. Forbes

Schedule Changes Create Confusion

"Number 63, 10 grade-63"
"Ninth grade-71"

A raffle? An auction? A bingo game? Not a chance. Yet the masters of ceremony on the evening of class scheduling changes can attest to the high rate of audience participation.

The rules to obtain a desired class change were simple. One merely wedged his way into the crowded, airless library to secure a number and waited, and waited, until the number was paged. Few problems occurred until the freshmen, bless them, disturbed the order of the numbered pads and caused a needless waste of processing time.

No one doubted the counselors' intentions to speedily perform schedule alterations, not even when the first 100 people appeared en masse by 6:40 p.m. From then on strategy counted. Many discouraged, impatient beings admitted hopefully that their problems would be cured at 1 a.m. Others, when the portable PA system had to be dismantled, prayed that the other half of the library would miss their cue.

Needless to say, all was handled with maximum efficiency. The only source of irritation was the 299 student-parent combinations ahead of the 300 pair, but who does enjoy a 2½ hour vigil?

Upperclassmen eyed with envy the fast reception given freshmen. Hostilities did not remain though, because little manipulation of required ninth grade courses could be allowed by the counselors.

The response to this marathon show of Brahma concern would easily have vied the neighboring presence of the spirited Booster Club. The most convincing display of Brahma enthusiasm (and in the line of duty) was exhibited by counselors Augusta Boyle, John Haywood, Roy Gabryl, and Bea Devlin and merits a blue ribbon.

Certainly, this ordeal from which counselors, students, and parents survived was a taxing evening. The counselor's willingness to service scheduling complaints optimistically demonstrates their desire to create for each student a pleasing academic year.

BRAHMA TALES

Published bi-weekly by the Journalism classes of MacArthur High School, 2923 Bitters, San Antonio, Texas 78217

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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.



Head Librarian May Install Book-Check

If Mrs. Cordelia Cantu has 15000 books, loses 900 books, then buys 900 new books, how many books does she have?

One need not be a calculus scholar to realize Mrs. Cantu, the head librarian, still has only 15000 books despite the purchase of 900 new books.

Unfortunately, this story is not an arithmetic problem, but the problem of every person who uses the MacArthur library.

The Southern Association Standard recommends 10 books per pupil enrolled. Since 2,100 students attend MacArthur, there is presently a 6000 book shortage.

Tentative plans for expanding available library material include additional filmstrips and pamphlets and even a possible section for overnight checkout of popular records.

However, the book deficiency must be alleviated before any such plans are fulfilled. As the limited \$5000 budget expends \$500 on periodicals and the remainder on new books - a new book averaging \$5 - approximately 900 volumes can be added to the collection annually if no books are lost due to damage or theft.

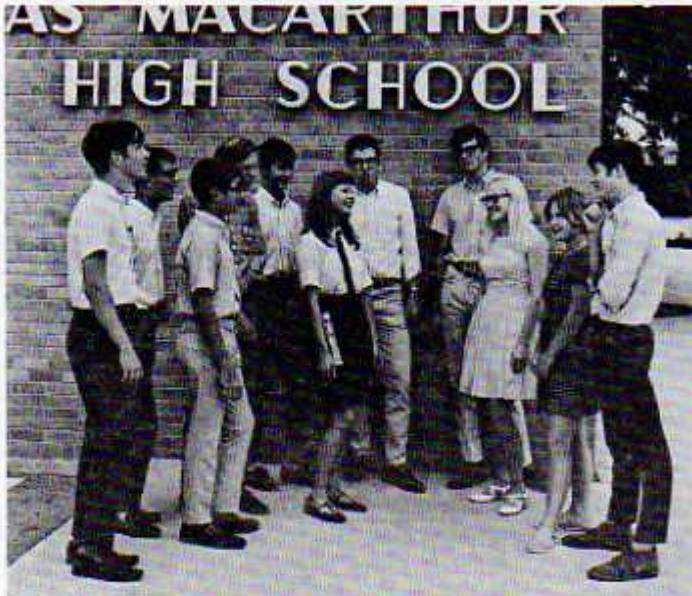
Should the dilemma of missing books persist and a significant number be unaccounted for when the mid-November inventory is taken, a book check will be installed at the exit door.

Besides requiring extra assistants, a book check inconveniences students who must stand in a waiting line before leaving the library.

Again, the book check is only a last resort. If the mid-November inventory reveals the return of some of the missing books and does not discover other books lost, MacArthur readers will continue to enjoy free access to the library shelves.

If not, another much needed waiting line will be added to the educational system.

MacArthur Leads Area In Merit Scholars



National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists announced Wednesday included: James Sweet, Bruce MacDonald, John Boerner, Russ Johnson, David Janes, Sara Jane Hawthorne, David Geller, Hans Dahl, Norma Cox, Chris Vincklarek, and Ron Zimmerman. Candy Poppas was absent when the picture was taken.

Student Council Calendar Packed With Projects

Welcoming wide-eyed freshmen, honoring MacArthur faculty, hailing the new assistant principal, painting the new Brahma bull, and blueprinting a sound-off board -- all these and more filled the first two weeks of the Student Council calendar for the 1969-70 school year.

Organized and directed by President Ted Alexander, representatives began meeting and planning activities in July to insure the success of all projects.

"Howdy" posters, coke sales, and faculty carnations signaled MacArthur's annual Howdy Week. This year the week individually honored freshmen, faculty, the new assistant principal Mr. Lawrence Lane, our foreign student Bente Ingvarsen, and the football team.

A new victory flag and a Brahma bull mascot, designed to generate spirit and school pride, became yet another Council project. The spirit jug, rejuvenated by seniors David Janes and Scott Felty and junior David Kamperman, contrib-

uted to the excitement.

With an emphasis on unity, the Student Council is arranging an Advisory President's Council to inform and encourage participation, a completely modernizing and revising the constitution, and forming a sound-off board for student comments and suggestions.

By securing an okay from the MacArthur administration and North East District Board members, MacArthur has decided to sponsor a concert featuring a nationally known group. Definite plans for the date and group are not yet final.

In addition to new projects, the Student Council plans to continue traditional projects including the TAP Holdup, Walkathon, and the annual carnival.

Twelve MacArthur seniors compiling top ranking scores on the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test led the North East district, San Antonio, Bexar county and South Texas in total number of semi-finalists.

In placing high on this exam, these semi-finalists gained the opportunity to snare scholarships ranging from \$1000 one year to \$1500 each year.

A seven month wait lingers for semi-finalists Chris Vincklarek, John Boerner, David Janes, Hans Dahl, Russell Johnson, Candy Poppas, James Sweet, Norma Cox, David Geller, Sara Hawthorne, Bruce MacDonald, and Ron Zimmerman until the April 30, 1970 announcement of finalists, a title which 97% of the semi-finalists will earn.

For MacArthur, the semi-finalists of the class of 1970 have the distinction of being the largest representative body of Brahma scholars since the same number received the

honor in 1905.

Finalist selections will be based on academic standings, extra-curricular achievement, and leadership qualities. In addition, each of the 12 named must obtain MacArthur's faculty endorsement and must submit an SAT score for confirmation purposes.

Besides allocating an available wealth of financial aid to finalists, the National Merit Scholarship Program's annual recognition of outstanding scholastic students insures the Merit titleholder to further his prospects of gathering other College related awards.

The National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is given to any interested student in February of his junior year.

YOU MAY HAVE SEEN SOME OF OUR FILMS ON TV!

But how many times have you talked them over with your "tube"?

The Film Classics Society of Incarnate Word College shows classic films from around the world. So does TV and many theatres.

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Besides, have you seen all of these films?

- Sept. 10, 1969... "INTOLERANCE"
- Oct. 1, 1969... "THE THIRD MAN"
- Nov. 5, 1969... "THE GRAPES OF WRATH"
- Dec. 3, 1969... short subjects "NIGHT MAIL," "THE SMILE," "UNICORN IN THE GARDEN," "GREAT TOY ROBBERY," "But What About Tomorrow, Christine?"
- Jan. 21, 1970... BONUS film, free to members "CRY THE BELOVED COUNTRY"
- Feb. 4, 1970... "A RAISIN IN THE SUN"
- March 4, 1970... "LE MILLION"
- April 1, 1970... "THE BICYCLE THIEF"
- May 6, 1970... "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD"

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File 13

By Brenda Speert



...The asphalt humps prohibiting speedy travel on the MacArthur field trail have been so effective that grass struggling to exist near the baseball diamond's boundary has been squelched by detouring motorists.

...Pedestrian traffic via the patio has been facilitated this year. The circular plot in the patio which was presumably reserved for some vestige of nature has now been cemented.

...Isn't it a shame that the department which depends upon blinds for audio-visual showings was shuffled from the protected 300 wing to the 500 wing? The social studies department definitely deserves applause for their spirited attempt to cope with this problem by blue papering the windows.

...In the text of a welcome letter in the Lee High School newspaper, Principal John Taylor noted the orderly operation of the newly instituted 8 minute between-class passing period and the once a week advisory sessions.

...The fine arts department extends an invitation to any student desiring to participate in speech, drama, or debate contests to contact Mr. Pat Gartman, speech and debate instructor, or Mrs. Janet Carroll, drama teacher, in the 200 wing annex of the old library.

...An innocent blunder was committed on "Howdy Faculty" day. Beloved Jim Davis, Assistant Principal of Student Services, was overlooked by the Student Council in their distribution of carnations to each faculty member.



Checking all aspects of engine performance with precision instruments is one phase of instruction given in the automotive tune-up class, which will be offered by the Continuing Education Program.

NEISD Offers Courses In Continuing Education

Have you ever wanted to learn Bridge? Sharpen your golf game? Learn to work a Slide Rule?

These are just three of 35 subjects offered in the North East Independent School District Program of Continuing Education. Other subjects on the curriculum include such diverse courses as Speed Reading, Driver's Education, Welding, Investments, Income Tax, Data Processing Machines, Typing, Writing for Publication, Adolescent Physiology, Public Speaking, Consumer Information and Mathematics, Art, Spanish, Computer Concepts, Physical Education for Women, and Decoupage and Papier Mache.

The NEISD will conduct the fall semester of Continuing Education from September 29 to December 13.

Enrollment will be Monday, September 22 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the MacArthur library. Advance registration may be made by calling the Con-

tinuing Education Program at, 655-4210, extension 72, during school hours.

The courses will be offered once a week from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. except for Driver's Education which will meet each Monday and Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Only Phase I is offered in the fall semester.

The cost is \$20 for a 30 hour course. Extra cost may come if a person registers for a subject requiring extra aids.

Though the program is run primarily for adults, any high school student wishing to take a course must get the counselor's approval to take it. All courses are non-credit.

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Films Shown In Study Hall

Study hall became more interesting with the start of a film program, September 15. The films will cover a multitude of subjects and will be shown several times a month in the auditorium.

These films are being shown for the students' information on various occupations. The films are furnished free to public schools by various film companies.

Mr. Roy Gabryl, vocational counselor, said that he hoped there would be more films but that these films are tentative and may be changed.

Mr. Sidney King's audio-visual assistants will set up the films during each period. Individual classes may go if the teacher desires.

Some of the films will be the September showing of "The Thin Blue Line", a dramatic and powerful documentary that takes a penetrating look at law enforcement officers; October 15, "The Dangerous Years", a dramatic documentary which takes a look at teenage crime and delinquency; October 22, "Drivin' and Drinkin'"; an important film that presents the facts about drinking and driving in a manner psychologically suited to teen-agers.



Driver Education instructor Mr. Thomas Kidd, gives preliminary directions on the use of the simulator

Driver's Education Offered In Fall Term

The \$40,000 question: What's In The Big White Box Beside The Boy's Gym?

This is only one of the many questions asked about the new Drivers Education course now offered at MacArthur. One of the puzzling questions has been asked about the function of the simulator, the big white box beside the Boy's Gym.

The simulator mimics the varied and sometimes precarious situations of driving by using a driving film. The student driver must adjust to the situation by controlling the instruments within the mock cockpit.

The simulator's primary advantage is to increase the number of students one teacher can handle at a time.

A system that originally was used to train pilots, the simulator is now being introduced into the area of

Drivers Education. The student-teacher ratio has been increased to 16:1, from the former 1 driver:1 instructor standard.

Ideally, this new arm of the curriculum should include 34 hours in class, 12 hours in the simulator, and 3 hours of behind the wheel instruction and experience.

The simulator will stay at MacArthur for one-half semester, then move to Roosevelt High School, where the same program will insure.

The instructions are by Mr. Paul Goetz, head of classroom instruction. He is assisted by Mr. Morris Kethan, Mr. Tom Kidd, and Mr. Ken Birkner, who are in charge of the behind the wheel and simulation phases. The program is worth ½ credit to its enrollees.

Band Kicks Off Magazine Drive

Get your magazines here!

The MacArthur Brahma band will issue this call, Sept. 18-29, when they begin their yearly magazine subscription drive.

\$6,500 is the band's goal, with the money to be used for the annual trip to Corpus Christi for Bucca-neer Days.

Each band member's goal is \$45.

For the last two years, the Brahma Band has won a trophy for selling the most subscriptions in a 10-state area.

Classes Elect Reps At Large

Miss your chance to join Student Council last year?

Campaigning for representatives at-large will begin Monday, Sept. 22 with elections scheduled during both advisories in auditorium assemblies September 25 and 26.

Representatives at-large are elected at the beginning of every school year to provide an opportunity for new or newly interested students to serve on the Council. One person is chosen from each of the four classes and must be willing to take third period Student Council as his elective.

Those desiring to run for the position must have registered in the main office by 3:45 p.m., Thursday, September 18. A list of the names will be sent to teachers for approval and campaigning will begin September 22.



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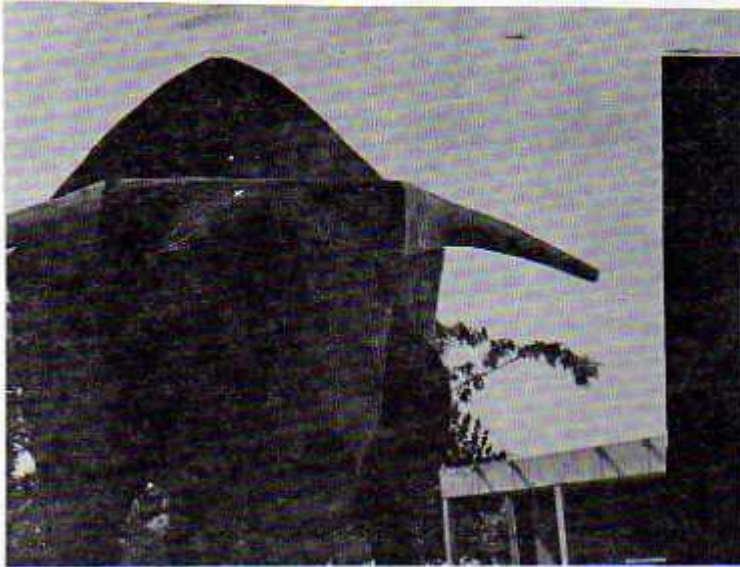


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Miniatures

TERRELL PLAZA

"Big Mac" Unveiled At Temple Pep Rally



It took one month, one hundred dollars, and more than a dozen people to construct the papier mache Brahma Bull unveiled at the Temple pep rally last Friday.

The Bull, "Big Mac," is the Student Council's latest brainstorm. Mr. Tom Platt donated his warehouse and volunteered his carpenters to construct the wood framework. Mr. Gary Bang-

ston, art teacher at Garner Junior High, designed and supervised the project. The papier mache construction began in early August and was given its final touches the day before the Temple pep rally.

"Big Mac" is composed of paper, glue, wood, chicken wire, gesso, acrylic and latex paints, and a lot of hard work.

"These are the kids who came to school with paint in their hair and fingernails," commented senior Fabian Castillo at the unveiling.

Students who worked on the bull were: Connie and Patti Cox, Jay Collins, David Janes, Cathy Nelson, Rick Celaya, Dolores Dixon, Jim Nelson, Kay Peterson, and Debbie Green.

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