



**"a journey of a thousand miles  
begins with a single step.  
Forward, March!"  
Ronald Newbold**



## Effort, Understanding Would Solve Problems

The recently televised play "The People Next Door," typified today's generation with acute perceptiveness.

With a plot supported by the vivid dramatization of "pot" effects, J. P. Miller, author of the special, prompted, through clear character portrayals, additional criticism of human relationships.

Lack of communication within the family in the play convincingly paralled today's "generation gap." The attitudes of the parents reflected adult's assumptions that their disciplinary actions mold adequate self-respect. The teenagers' characterizations re-iterated the maxim that a person's character cannot be judged by his appearance.

The universality of themes fits strikingly into the realm of school life. Lack of communication is just as evident within the school as within the home. In some instances relating to the unflattering level of participation in our school, persons with capacities for building interest in our clubs, programs, and activities, have not stimulated involvement that would unify the divergent groups. The indifference on our campus and in many classes results from the inability or reluctance of the teacher and student to seek each other's understanding.

Our general regard for one another needs re-evaluating. Appearance counts for a large percentage of one's for likeability. Will the people that are honored at MacArthur as celebrities remain principal figures after their graduation?

Problems occur within any environment. Nevertheless, human attitudes can be altered. A conscious effort by each individual on campus to comprehend society's existing relationship will solve many of the mentioned discrepancies.

## Druids Originate Halloween Customs

Does the name Druid sound familiar to you? Probably not, Yet from them comes our present day use of witches, ghosts and cats in Halloween festivities. The Druids, an order of priests in ancient Gaul and Britain, believed that on Halloween ghosts, spirits, witches and elves came out to harm. They believed that cats had once been human beings but were changed as a punishment for evil deeds.

People know little about Druid rites, because the priests handed down their doctrines by word of mouth and swore their members to secrecy. The Druids held as sacred the oaktree, mistletoe, and the hours of midnight and noon. They forecast events by interpreting the flight of birds and the markings on the liver and other entrails of sacrificed animals. The folklore of early Ireland Druids as offering human sacrifice.

The Druids had an autumn festival called Samhain or summer's end. It was an occasion for feasting on all the kinds of food grown during the summer. The custom of using leaves, pumpkins and cornstalks as halloween decorations comes from the Druids. In the 700's, the Roman Catholic Church named November 1 as All Saints Day. The old pagan customs and the Christian feast day were combined with the Halloween festival.

So tonight, when you go out, stop a moment before heaving a rock at the neighborhood black cat. After all, it could be a poor soul finally getting his just reward for refusing to join the PTA.

## Brahma Tales

VOL. XI

OCTOBER 31, 1968

NO. 4

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

### STAFF

Editor ..... Srenda Speert

Reporters ..... Richard Boyss, Brenda Foley,  
Sarah Jane Hawthorne, Debbie McClure, Cherie Stratton

Artist ..... Mike Murray

Photographers ..... Ronnie Zimmerman, Bob Milam

Sponsor ..... Mr. Norm Hitzges

Printed by TRAVIS PRINTING COMPANY

# Mac Places High At Belaire Tournament

What would you think if you saw a busload of forty-five people each excitedly talking to himself, perfectly unaware that there were forty-four other people on the bus? Passing motorists came to the obvious conclusion the local asylum was taking it's patients for their daily excursion.

Actually, it was MacArthur students on their way to the 13th Annual Belaire Forensic Tournament, who were going over their speeches once more to make sure they were memorized. The practice evidently paid off for MacArthur made a fine showing with two Finalists and fourteen Semi-Finalists.

The Finalists were senior Kathy Couser for her dramatic interpretation of "Angel on the Street" and junior Mark Mitchell for "The Right to Fail." Semi-Finalists were: Humorous-Nancy Fletcher, Becky West Oratory-Norman Thomas, Mark Mitchell; Poetry-Sara Jane Hawthorne Extemporaneous-Zia Gipson, Stan Crawford, Ann Bragg; Campaign-Jeff Harmon; Entertainment-Clayton Campbell, Karan Heizer; Dramatic-Kathy Couser, Pat Carney.

The chartered bus, under the supervision of Mrs. Pat Gartman and Mrs. Pat Baca, left Friday morning, October 25, after the pep rally for the four hour drive to Houston. Because of last minute emergencies students swapped speeches and partners on the way up. Two debating teams found themselves trying to whip up a plan to solve all the draft's problems while someone else graciously lent their oratory speech to a freshman girl who not only memorized the speech but got into the semifinals with it.

After registering at Belaire High School, the bus arrived at the Surrey House where reservations had been made. A mixup had

occurred and the rooms were already filled. Undaunted the bus drove on to next motel, The White House where there indeed enough rooms available. The group had only an hour and a half to dress and eat before piling back on the bus to return to Belaire for the contests.

Between events, students talked with contestants from almost one hundred different schools representing such states as Louisiana, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Idaho, and Pennsylvania. Because of the cross country competition, the Belaire Forensic Tournament is usually the most difficult contest during the year.

All contestants were up bright and early Saturday on the bus again at 7:15 AM. Debate rounds were finished and semi-finals in other events conducted. Because a number of MacArthur contestants, including cheerleader Nancy Fletcher, needed to be back in San Antonio for the Saturday football game, the group did not stay for the awards banquet. A few individuals remained in Houston for the finals with Mrs. Pat Gartman.

The next speech contest will be November 15-16 at St. Mary's here in San Antonio.



Nancy Fletcher (left) and Debbie Stewart in the midst of a scene from "The World of Henry Orient". The girls competed in the duet acting contest at the Belaire Speech Tournament.

Photo by Richard Bayse

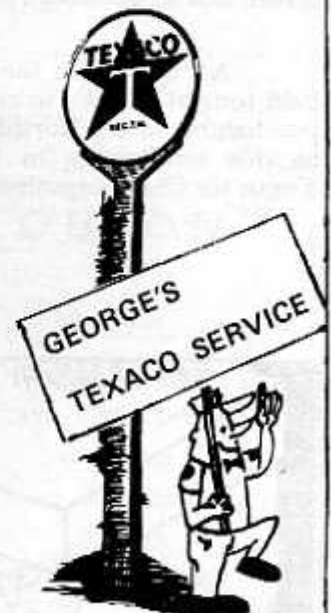
## College SAT Exams Scheduled

The SAT test, a College Board Entrance Exam, will be given November 2 in the cafeteria to seniors wishing to apply for scholarships.

Many colleges require the Sat scores to be included with college applications. The test measures scholastic ability - verbal and mathematical. The scores are reported on a scale of 20 to 80. By comparing one's score with other students taking the test, colleges can make more realistic estimates about admission to and probable success in college.

The preliminary SAT test was given last Saturday, October 26.

"Let George Do It"



1303 Nacogdoches Road

Phone: 655-6523

# File 13

By Brenda Speert



...At the pep rally preceding the Abilene Cooper football game, the melodic strains of our Mac Band pulsated with what now seems like a prediction that even Jean Dixon would have been proud of. Musically, they conveyed the "Mission Impossible Theme" while unfortunately suggesting outcome of the Cooper game.

...On the scene of the October 13, MacArthur burglary was one sweet-toothed thief. According to Mr. George Vakey, MacArthur principal, the look-out for the trio, keeping watch at the principal's office windows, chanced upon a decorated tin box. With sensitive nose discerning the contents, the look-out instinctively devoured a large part of Mr. Vakey's specially prepared candies.

...Our sincere "thank you" goes to the persons responsible for filling the ruts and trenches in the school pavement. The staff assumes that File 13's promptings instigated the repair work.

...Prevalent in the social studies department is at least one visual aid nabbing teacher. Reporting one recent occurrence was a victimized teacher, Mrs. Edith Speert. Arriving early one morning to set up equipment for a movie in second period, Mrs. Speert locked her room while in the library first period. Upon returning, her preparations lay bare; valuable projection time was lost due to a missing screen and an extension cord.

...A "Scream in the Dark" Halloween party will be held tonight at the 7 o'clock witching hour. A 50c ticket, purchasable at the NorthEast Stadium, will admit one on a hayride terminating in fun and food presented by the Youth for Christ organization.

## Nine Mac Students Nominated For Optimist Youth Awards

Nine students from represented in four other MacArthur will be involved departments, also. Janice in "Youth Appreciation Ruble and Karen Norville are Week," sponsored by the nominated for "Youth and Optimist Clubs of San Religion," Barbara Weyel and Antonio. Ken Pearce for "Youth and Military," Dixie Langridge and Mark Beaulieu for "Youth and Art."

The highlight of "Youth Appreciation Week," being observed November 11 - 16, will be the Award Banquet to be held Tuesday, November 12, 1968, at the new Convention Center. All San Antonio is invited to help celebrate the annual activity.

Each year Optimist Clubs all over the United States take time out to honor young people who have distinguished themselves as outstanding leaders in all phases of teen - ager's lives. Awards to be presented during the Award Banquet will include the following: agriculture, art, business, education, fashions, government, military, music, religion, safe driving, space, sports, youth conference, medicine, and respect for the law.

The highest award to be presented is the Mr. Teen - Age San Antonio Award. Mac's nominee in this category is Ken Pearce. To receive this award, the student must be most outstanding in his class in scholastic achievements, athletics, church services, city contributions, recreational activities, and others.

MacArthur will be

To select these winners, the Optimist Clubs send one application for each category to every high school of San Antonio.

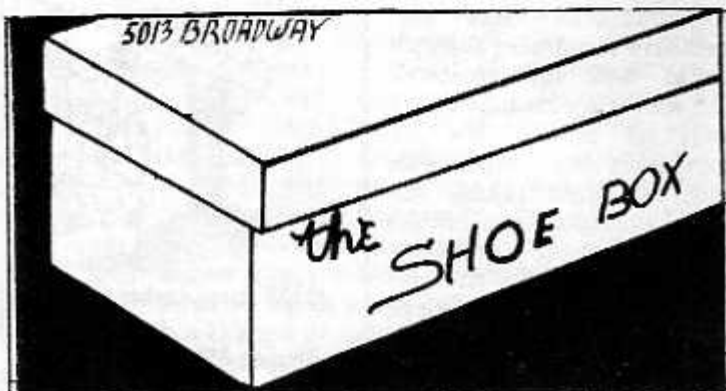
## Council Sells Candy To Aid Polio Program

Many Mac students are enjoying IT now; the Trick or Treaters will be disappointed without IT; the Halloween Candy, being sold on campus for \$1 a bag by the Student Council.

The candy is being sold to further the Teens Against Polio program which involves a city - wide competition. Contributions go to provide for San Antonio's retarded children.

The Heads of the T.A.P. Committee - Steve Beck, Glen Perkins and Gary Caswell - are supervising the candy sale.

Mac students can enjoy the Halloween candy, give it away Halloween night, and help Mac to lead the city high school competition for T.A.P. which in turn provide funds for the needy retarded children.



## Snow Flake Laundry & Cleaners

"For The Entire Family"

CASH & CARRY, CURB SERVICE, PICK UP AND DELIVERY

2221 Broadway....CA7-2268  
6322 San Pedro....DI4-2384

1942 N. St. Marys....CA3-8751  
2219 Brees.....TA4-5011

# Smile - Photographer Arrives November 10

FLASH! (This is not a news bulletin.)

Individual school pictures will be taken in the girl's gym November 10 by professional photographer, Fred Harding.

First day settings will be reserved for seniors and the following days will be allotted for the remaining classes in order of seniority.

Study hall students will be excused from their respective classes to pose for the camera. For other students, Mr. Harding will be available after school.

Following last year's procedure, Mr. Harding again requires an initial payment of \$1.00 to cover the cost of the two proofs taken. When the proofs are developed, the best picture as selected by the subject will automatically be submitted as one's photo for the annual and it will be reprinted into separate wallet or framing size duplicates according to each student's desire. The professional services of Mr. Harding includes retouching of the selected proof. For the student who wants his photo only in annual, the \$1.00 payment must still be met and there is no obligation to purchase the full picture set. Reorders for photos will be handled directly through the Fred Harding Studio.

In order for the 950 publications' packet purchasers to view themselves in the BRAHMA, a Fred Harding proof must be accounted for each entry. Norm Hitzges, BRAHMA sponsor, affirmed that no other pictures would be accepted.

With one month remaining to reserve the three publications: BRAHMA TALES, BRAHMA, and TAURUS, MacArthur students must fulfill the \$4.50 down payment; complete payments of \$9.50 will still be accepted. December 5 wraps up the selling drive.

Leading advisory in sales is Mr. Reiser's senior advisory, '409'. Advisory president Steve Paulson has turned in 27 packet receipts.

## Voters Decide On Retirement Wages

Ratification of an amendment to dissolve the present ceiling on salary withholdings for teacher retirement will be submitted to state voters on Election Day, November 5.

The present law, which was initiated in 1956, allows teachers to receive retirement benefits on not more than a yearly salary of \$8,400. Thus, with increased salaries, retirement payments remain unproportional to realized wages.

Institution of "Amendment 9" depends on the voting public's approval. Mrs. D'Ann Stall, Chairman of the representatives to the North East Teachers Association from MacArthur, re-iterated the purpose of the bills passage. "A positive vote for this amendment will aid the retired teacher financially and is also certain to attract teachers interested in steady employment with excellent retirement benefits."



Cakes! Pies! Cookies! All these and more were served at the Future Homemakers of America "Tasting Bee". The Home Economics Room was the scene of the "Bee", Wednesday and Thursday of last week, under the sponsorship of Mrs. Griggs, one of Mac Arthur's Home Economics teachers. An admission of 25 was charged, with the proceeds to aid in the other F.H.A. projects this year.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES PRESENTS ENGLAND'S SENSATIONAL YOUNG STAR

# CLIFF RICHARD

## TWO A PENNY

A LOVE STORY - STRICTLY FOR TODAY

Starring DORA BRYAN - AVRIL ANGERS  
Introduced ANN HOLLOWAY with BILLY GRAHAM

Made by WAF LEANDER Written by GILDA UNWIN Directed by FRANK W. JACKSON Produced by JAMES COLLIER

**EASTMANCOLOR**

A story of two teenagers in love.  
A motion picture you will never forget. Starting at the Cinema 11 on November 14th.

# Brahmas Go High Fashion



Boys display individual tastes as they salute school spirit on Hat Day.

Stylish outfits modeled by the MacArthur populace during the week of October 21-25 highlighted the five day celebration of Brahma Spirit Week.

Initiated with hat day, students donned head coverings ranging ingeniously designed victory inscriptions to hats typifying those of geographical areas or those of Walt Disney characters Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse.

Tuesday, introduced a panorama of sweatshirts as trendsetters wore artistically decorated creations.

With intentions of stomping Jefferson, Brahmas displayed tennis shoes of all sizes and patriotic hues on Wednesday.

Mourning for Jefferson was exhibited, Thursday, as students outfitted in black attire sympathized their Saturday night opponents. Tags, forming the slogan "Go, Fight, Win Brahmas" also bedecked the clothing of the class members.

The weeks display of spirit ended on Friday with color day and a morning pep rally.

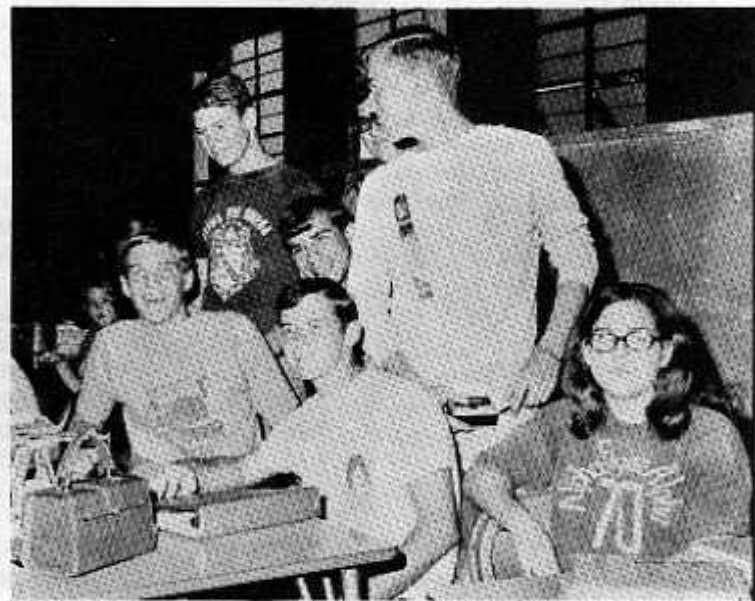


How would you like to be in these (size 15) shoes?

# ion During Spirit Week



Shoes - all shapes, sizes and colors - showed up on Mac's campus for Tennis Shoe Day.



Sweatshirts were the order of the day Wednesday and Brahmans took advantage of it to display their favorites.



The Brahma Band received the "spirit stick" for being MacArthur's most spirited group at the Spirit Week pep rally.

