

Brahma Tales



Douglas MacArthur High School
San Antonio, Texas

Vol. XII No. 8 December 18, 1969



Christ climbed down
from His bare tree
this year
and ran away to where
there were no rootless Christmas trees
hung with candycanes and breakable stars

— Lawrence Ferlinghetti

Success Of New Year Depends On Daily Goal

A year will soon expire, but no great impact will result from its close. Ushered in place of an extinguished year, an unspent year unwinds from New Year's Eve's introduction.

Tradition marks this annual occasion. Though the transition from one year to another stands as the point where a slate of activities lies clean and resolutions are drafted, a year actually indicates little more than the beginning of a standardized measure of time.

The infallibility of assuming that January 1 will erase the undesirables accompanying the past year is founded in the majestic commemoration of the new year. If every day of the year was greeted with an equal amount of enthusiasm, there would be 365 great days in history.

Meanwhile, the novelty of the new year becomes deaccentuated with the realization that fiscal years, religious years, and school years overlap.

The holiday season leads MacArthur into the halfway point of the year, but 1969 cannot be taken lightly. The vacation from school does allow one reconnaissance of his goals for the remaining semester.

Each person has the prerogative to make the best of the year, the best of each day.

PEACE

Brenda Speert

BRAHMA TALES

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

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PROS

BT Defended

Dear Editor,

"The reason that your editorial drew no response from the student body here at good ole Mac seems obvious to me," begins George Carver in his letter to the Editor in the November 26 issue of Brahma Tales. I question not only his first statement, but the entire article. What does he mean, "your editorial drew no response"? What does he call his letter, isn't that a response to an editorial? George goes on to say, "Your editorial, like the rest of BRAHMA TALES, provokes nothing what-so-ever of interest to us." Who is "us"? Certainly George doesn't mean the student body, for I'm a member of the student body and Brahma Tales Editorials provoke my thoughts, but of course they may not provoke anything of interest what-so-ever to George. His thoughts may not be worthy of his own interest.

But why should I be concerned with petty things like George Carver's thoughts? I should come to the point that there is nothing objectionable about Brahma Tales. It is true many students don't read the paper but then again, many do. It is suggested that "more participation from the whole of the student body" would be the method of increasing Brahma Tales circulation. This seems like a good idea. George has suggested it, now let's see him make the miracle come about.

George seems to dislike the idea that the Brah-

ma Tales is written by a minority group known as the newspaper staff. I won't be so brash as to assume that George is offering his services to help publish the paper, for I'm not at all sure he realizes that the Brahma Tales staff works hard and uses what would be many hours of spare time in the publication of the Brahma Tales.

I'm in no position to speak for Brahma Tales but I think I can safely say that it realizes, contrary to George's statement that "there are more people than just football players and club members who attend, 'Mac'". That is why in seven issues, Brahma Tales has mentioned 29 clubs, news of the Northeast District, Mac, the Student Council, the student body (Pros and Cons), and has had at least one student interview with Mac's Danish Exchange Student.

George says he admits some students thumb through the Brahma Tales and later says "Give us something to respond to (other than football games and club data)! Maybe, if George would read Brahma Tales instead of thumbing through it and cutting out coupons, he might find something to respond to, but then again, reading takes a certain amount of intelligence!

In support of Brahma Tales,
Doug Kirk

and

CONS

BT Criticized

Dear Editor,

It is with great concern that I must retort to the track article of the November 26 issue of the *Brahma Tales*.

Although the 1969-1970 Brahma Cross Country showing may seem poor, despite the fact only one trackster placed first, several others placed high in the top ten. This accomplishment was not matched by any other track team.

While several members of the squad did not show for the 1969 Northeast cross country meet, the attendance for the Sam Houston's 3,000 meters was quite impressive as 26 of the 32 man squad did attend.

The tracksters failed to show? No, the *Brahma Tales* just failed to see.

Phil Babel

Education Third?

Dear Editor:

Sure MacArthur is a great school — great if you are on the football team or have no desire to express yourself through longer hair or sideburns.

Having a father in the military, I have attended schools in Virginia, California, Tennessee and Japan. MacArthur is the first one in which sports are rated first, haircuts, belts and shirt-tails in second, and your education third.

If we are such wonderful "Brahmas", as we are called, won't we have

enough respect for MacArthur to dress and groom ourselves accordingly? Doesn't the administrative board think their wonderful, proud, and true-blue Brahmas are mature enough to decide on a reasonable length of hair and a suitable style of dress?

Sure, you say, a few will let it get out of hand but what about the rest of those dissatisfied "Brahmas" out there?

David Carver

Two Standards

Dear Editor:

I have a growing concern with the double standard our administration shows for our students. From my own experience of watching actions taken by the administration, I have found a definite bias toward certain students.

There are certain rules of dress, behavior, etc., which are supposedly the rules of MacArthur High School. I have observed that if a student wins honors for the school in some way, then many of these rules are "overlooked" in the case of that student. Other, more average students may be harassed for the same things that these "honor" students are not bothered with.

My question to the administration is: Is this right?

The above is strictly my opinion based on my own observations.

Bonnie Tadlock



All Dressed Up- No Place To Go

"Trouble is, I can't find a place that rents a tuxedo my size. Guess it's my broad shoulders."

"What's the occasion, Percy?" I asked.

"The Blue and White Ball is only a week away and at this rate I'll have to wear a tie with my dark pajamas!"

"But Percy, are you on the varsity football team?"

"No, but . . ."

"Is your girlfriend a Lassie or a Bairn?"

"Are either of you in a band?"

"No, but . . . but . . ."

"Then you can't go . . . no buts about it."

Percy tugged at his whiskers in concern, finally bursting out, "I've gone to all the football games, cheered my loudest at pep rallies, wore my blue and white sweat-shirt on Fridays, and bought spirit ribbons and I want to be there when they crown the Football Sweetheart, and announce Outstanding Bairn and Lassie, and Mr. Football and . . . everything," he finished miserably.

"The people who consistently worked hard to make the football season successful deserve a reward," I explained.

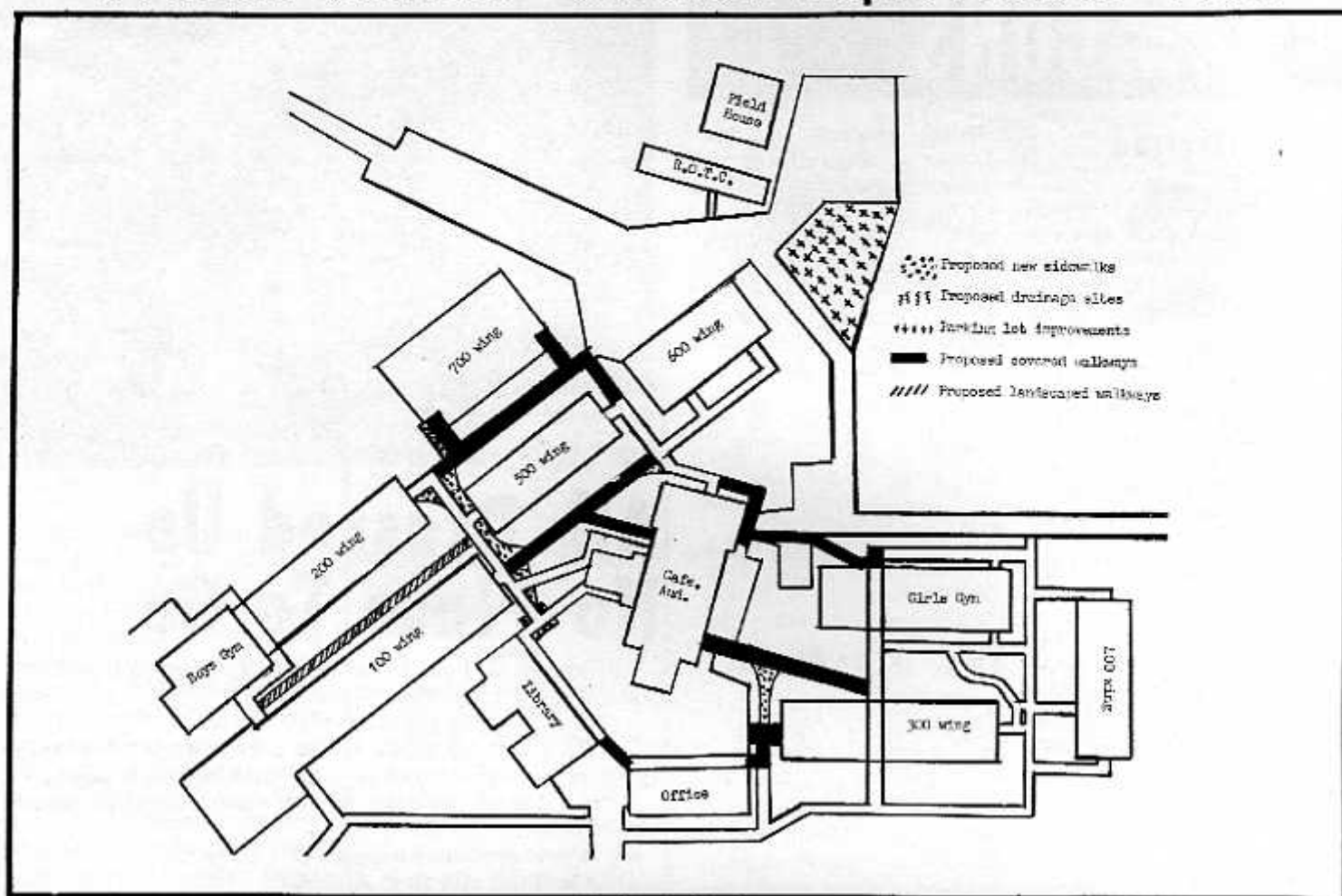
"Yeah, but these students receive recognition because they are in a group and most are getting a course credit for their efforts. I think the fans — like me — who continually supported the team without the distinction of a uniform ought to be able to attend the formal dance which bestows the football awards."

"I see what you mean. I suppose the dance could still be held in the special group's honor, even if others were allowed to buy bids."

Percy's ears twitched in agony. "Humph — and the theme is 'An Old Fashioned Christmas'". Some Christmas spirit that only permits a very select few to come. Lucky for them Christ didn't make such a limited guest list."

I agreed but thought perhaps he had stretched his allusion a bit far. Percy has a tendency to become over emotional.

Council Unveils Grounds Improvement Plan



By Duzie Gordon

The onslaught of mud, slime and water that appears regularly with every rainy day, may soon disappear from the MacArthur's sprawling campus, along with other physical problems.

The Student Council, led by Grievance Chairman David Janes, has been working to secure such campus improvements as covered walk ways, more book shelves in the cafeteria, and landscaping.

Utilizing interviews, questionnaires, comments from teachers and photographs, Janes has compiled a towering list of improvements (see map).

Covered Walkways

"There should be some way for students to go from the west side of the campus to the east part of the campus without getting wet."

The most extensive area of improvement concerns covered walkways,

emphasizing the breaks between the 700 wing and 200 wing, and from the main offices to the 300 wing.

Drainage

"The drainage problem should be worked on before we worry about planting trees!"

By black topping and constructing a new drainage system, the accumulation of mud and dirty water could be almost totally eliminated.

Sidewalks

"It would be a great help to put sidewalks where students have made paths since this indicates where they walk."

Muddy feet and slime filled shoes may soon exit if sidewalks are extended

to areas where they are needed. Another innovation may be rounding and enlarging sidewalks in well-traveled areas where grass is trampled to death.

100 Wing Entrance

"After multiple fractures, bruises and sprains from trying to monitor the door in the 100 wing, I feel qualified to give an expert — yes! — to the question concerning the congestion in the 100-500 wings."

By widening the entrance to the 100 wing, 20 inches on each side, traffic congestion can be reduced to a minimum.

Landscaping

"I would like to see more landscaping similar to that in the area

between the 300 wing and the girls' gym. Emphatic Yes!

The area between the 100 and 200 wings would be ideally suited to landscaping similar to that presently between the 200 wing and the girls' gym.

Miscellaneous

"I am glad to see the Student Council attempting to solve not only the major problems, but the small individual complaints of the average students."

Students' requests for book shelves and added parking space in the field house parking lot may soon be filled.

All proposals suggested are illustrated in the above campus map.

Draft Lottery System Appears Fairer Method

By Mark Mitchell

Howard Beyer is unlucky. They join six other MacArthur seniors in the dubious distinction of being the most liable for America's armed forces in a relatively new fashion: the lottery!

The ABC's of the lottery system and what they will spell is of concern, not only to unlucky ones now, but to those whom the cruel hand of fate, in this case Uncle Sam's, will deal with in the future.

The December 1 ceremony effects only those males born between January 1, 1944, and December 31, 1950. Thus, the student who will turn 19 in 1970, is not liable in this first drawing. His lucky number will be drawn next year, when another drawing will be staged.

Each local draft board will select men according to the sequence of the lottery drawing. The first birthdate drawn was September 14, and every youth who is 1-A physically and was born on this date is most likely to go. The further down the list a birthdate is, the less likely it is that person will be called.

Draft knowledgeable estimate that men without deferments, and with birthdates in the first third of the dates drawn, 1-122, should expect to be called for duty.

... so is Tim Collman, Les MacMillan, and Robert Moer.

In the next third, 12-244, it is uncertain whether these men will be taken. And the probability of the last third, 246-366, being selected, is almost nil! The merits of the new system are subject to debate.

Deferments-medical, occupational, and student — were not altered under the switch to the lottery system. A student may obtain a deferment for college for four years, providing he is in "good standing" in the grade department.

Dependency deferments will not be changed under the new system either. The important fact to remember is that an individual will KEEP the priority number he receives when he turns nineteen throughout the time of his deferment. After his deferment expires, he will be placed in his ORIGINAL position on the draft priority list.

At least now, when your number is drawn, you are sure of your fate, whether it be service, deferment, or exemption. The liability of service in the lottery is only one year, as opposed to the Selective Service System, of 8 years of uncertainty.

The system will probably be fair for the majority of your Americans, although it is possible for a

professional to be drafted, and a beggar to stay home, because of random sample.

Alleged discrimination of local draft boards should be eliminated since a national directorate will be overseeing the lottery.

The degree of fairness, certainty, and lack of discrimination make the lottery appear a more desirable system to our draft conscience society.

Here by calendar order are the draft priorities:

Date, Draft Priority:

Jan. 1, 305; 2, 157; 3, 251; 4, 215; 5, 101; 6, 224; 7, 306; 8, 199; 9, 194; 10, 325; 11, 329; 12, 221; 13, 316; 14, 238; 15, 17; 16, 124; 18, 140; 19, 58; 20, 280; 21, 186; 22, 337; 23, 118; 24, 57; 25, 52; 26, 92; 27, 353; 28, 77; 29, 349; 30, 164; 31, 211.

Feb. 1, 86; 2, 144; 3, 297; 4, 210; 5, 214; 6, 347; 7, 91; 8, 181; 9, 358; 10, 216; 11, 130; 12, 68; 13, 152; 14, 4; 15, 897; 16, 212; 17, 189; 18, 292; 19, 251; 20, 302; 21, 363; 22, 290; 23, 57; 24, 236; 25, 179; 26, 365; 27, 265; 28, 299; 29, 285.

Mar. 1, 108; 2, 29; 3, 267; 4, 215; 5, 293; 6, 137; 7, 122; 8, 212; 9, 317; 10, 323; 11, 136; 12, 300; 13, 239; 14, 354; 15, 129; 16, 166; 17, 33; 18, 332; 19, 200; 20, 239; 21, 304; 22, 263; 23, 258; 24, 258; 25, 343; 26, 170; 27, 268; 28, 222; 29, 362; 30, 217; 31, 30.

Apr. 1, 32; 2, 271; 3, 83; 4, 81; 5, 249; 6, 253; 7, 147; 8, 312; 9, 219; 10, 218; 11, 14; 12, 349; 13, 124; 14, 211; 15, 273; 16, 169; 17, 260; 18, 90; 19, 306; 20, 345; 21, 62; 22, 214; 23, 2; 24, 25; 25, 357; 26, 342; 27, 74; 28, 262; 29, 193; 30, 308.

May 1, 330; 2, 298; 3, 40; 4, 276; 5, 284; 6, 155; 7, 35; 8, 321; 9, 197; 10, 45; 11, 37; 12, 133; 13, 295; 14, 178; 15, 130; 16, 55; 17, 112; 18, 278; 19, 75; 20, 183; 21, 250; 22, 328; 23, 319; 24, 31; 25, 367; 26, 357; 27, 256; 28, 304; 29, 226; 30, 100; 31, 313.

Jun. 1, 249; 2, 228; 3, 301; 4, 20; 5, 28; 6, 109; 7, 85; 8, 364; 9, 335; 10, 206; 11, 134; 12, 272; 13, 69; 14, 356; 15, 180; 16, 74; 17, 73; 18, 29; 19, 64; 20, 360; 21, 65; 22, 247; 23, 109; 24, 358; 25, 127; 26, 77; 27, 64; 28, 222; 29, 353; 30, 309.

Jul. 1, 93; 2, 350; 3, 115; 4, 219; 5, 188; 6, 372; 7, 50; 8, 13; 9, 277; 10, 284; 11, 248; 12, 15; 13, 472; 14, 331; 15, 322; 16, 120; 17, 58; 18, 190; 19, 227; 20, 187; 21, 2; 22, 153; 23, 172; 24, 23; 25, 67; 26, 303; 27, 259; 28, 88; 29, 210; 30, 287; 31, 191.

Aug. 1, 111; 2, 43; 3, 261; 4, 145; 5, 54; 6, 114; 7, 168; 8, 28; 9, 106; 10, 21; 11, 224; 12, 142; 13, 307; 14, 298; 15, 102; 16, 48; 17, 154; 18, 141; 19, 311; 20, 344; 21, 291; 22, 339; 23, 116; 24, 36; 25, 286; 26, 245; 27, 352; 28, 347; 29, 61; 30, 333; 31, 11.

Sept. 1, 225; 2, 161; 3, 49; 4, 232; 5, 82; 6, 6; 7, 8; 8, 184; 9, 263; 10, 71; 11, 158; 12, 242; 13, 175; 14, 1; 15, 113; 16, 207; 17, 255; 18, 246; 19, 177; 20, 63; 21, 204; 22, 160; 23, 119; 24, 194; 25, 149; 26, 18; 27, 233; 28, 257; 29, 151; 30, 315.

Oct. 1, 359; 2, 125; 3, 244; 4, 302; 5, 24; 6, 87; 7, 234; 8, 283; 9, 342; 10, 220; 11, 227; 12, 72; 13, 138; 14, 294; 15, 171; 16, 254; 17, 288; 18, 5; 19, 241; 20, 192; 21, 243; 22, 117; 23, 201; 24, 196; 25, 176; 26, 7; 27, 264; 28, 94; 29, 229; 30, 38; 31, 29.

Nov. 1, 19; 2, 34; 3, 248; 4, 266; 5, 310; 6, 76; 7, 51; 8, 97; 9, 60; 10, 222; 11, 45; 12, 46; 13, 126; 14, 127; 15, 131; 16, 107; 17, 143; 18, 146; 19, 203; 20, 185; 21, 156; 22, 9; 23, 182; 24, 230; 25, 132; 26, 309; 27, 47; 28, 281; 29, 99; 30, 174.

Dec. 1, 129; 2, 328; 3, 157; 4, 165; 5, 56; 6, 10; 7, 12; 8, 105; 9, 43; 10, 41; 11, 39; 12, 314; 13, 163; 14, 26; 15, 320; 16, 96; 17, 304; 18, 128; 19, 240; 20, 135; 21, 70; 22, 53; 23, 162; 24, 95; 25, 84; 26, 173; 27, 78; 28, 123; 29, 16; 30, 31; 31, 100.

AFS Needs Family For 70-71 Year

The American Field Service Club reports difficulty in securing a host for next year's foreign exchange student.

A family of a MacArthur student who is preferably a junior must volunteer to house the exchange student before the middle of January or there will be no foreign student in the 1970-1971 school year.

The volunteering family should want to have a student in the home and be willing to bear the financial burden of an extra person for the AFS does not provide a stipend. The nationality or name of the student will not be known until sometime in May or June when the New York office has received and approved final applications. Any interested student can obtain further information from Mrs. Pam Jucknies in room 208.

The AFS Club will begin raising money for the tentative exchange student by selling bonds. The bonds will display photographs of past foreign students at MacArthur and express the Club's appreciation for the donation. The bonds will go on sale during January in hopes of raising \$850 in two to three weeks.

GOOD NEWS!

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File 13



By Brenda Speert

. . . The Girls Recreation Association's plans for playing basketball have been bowled over by the freshman basketball team's takeover of the girls gym for their practices. The reversal of this court's application pins down the GRA to bowling or soccer activities.

. . . A more notable incident in basketball occurred during the varsity game against Kerrville. Kerrville's squad consisting of seven members, degenerated to four by fouling out. Eliciting the aid of spectating J.V., Members the Kerrville team ended up sporting different uniforms and earning a technical foul.

. . . It didn't take long for MacArthur's military corp to act upon the advice of an Information Officer. Col. George Weiner spoke on the purposes of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States the evening of December 9. A chapter evolved that same night placing C/Col. Eicher as president and C/1st Paul Suhler as secretary-treasurer for the 1969-1970 school term.

. . . There is nothing inhumane about the military either. The Turkey Shoot, conducted by the ROTC since December 8, allowed a sharpshooter to compete in one of six divisions for a 10-12 lb. turkey. The two highest scorers in each category aimed for the comestible prize only figuratively. A target rather than the animal itself received the volleys.

. . . Apparently homemakers are not encouraged to be teachers or vice versa. Students interested in both occupations must make a choice because the meetings of each organization coincide on the first Tuesday of each month.

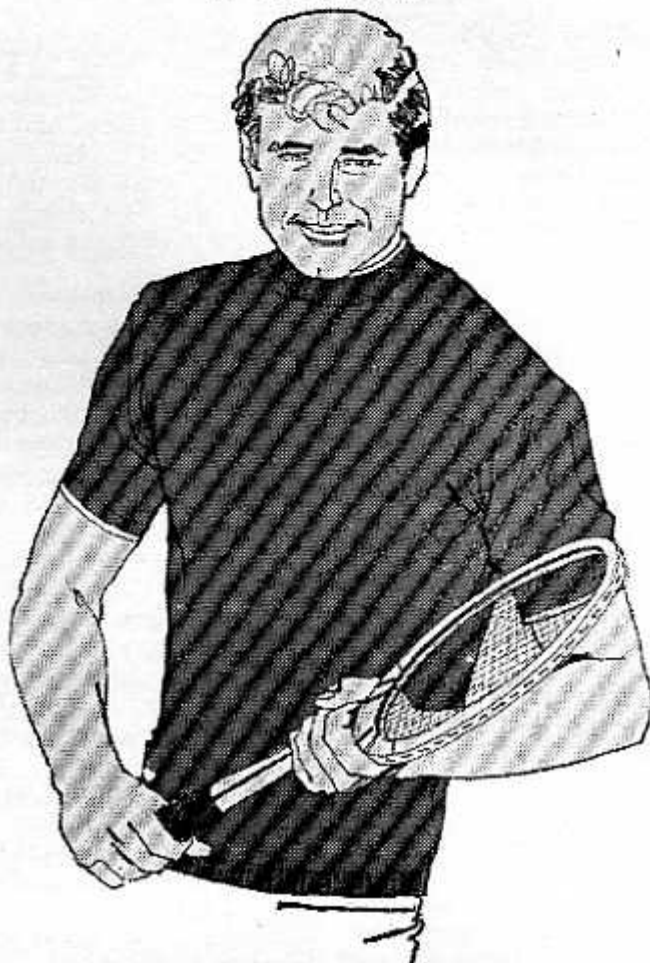
. . . Posters plastered around school in early December promoting a Wild Goose Chase have been connected with the Youth for Christ Club, of which MacArthur students Marilyn Adams, Paul Alex, Texie Bender, Ronnie and Nancy Duvall are members. In the recent directive about the authorization of activities, a question should be raised concerning promotion of clubs before they are affiliated by the school.

. . . The TAURUS staff has readily made use of poetic license. Written on a box designated for the submission of materials to the anthology is the label "Taurus Entrees." At least this sign suggests a tasty description.

. . . There is yet another new development within MacArthur's military regiments. A booster club has permeated the ranks of the drill team and rifle squad. Similar to the spirited clubs backing school sports, the ROTC Booster Club will provide parental moral and financial support for the troops.

. . . Mistletoe was once called Allheal, for the double reason that it was used in folk medicine to cure many ills, and was the plant of peace, under which enemies were reconciled in ancient Scandinavia. Facts like this and others can be found in books on Christmas in the library.

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CAUTION GIRLS: CIGARETTE SMOKING MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH — Both boy and girl smokers may soon be sharing smoking area facilities if a Student Council resolution gets administration approval. The move is in response to numerous complaints of smoke-filled bathrooms and ash-strewn sinks.

FHA Stages Annual Ball

The Future Homemakers of America (F.H.A.) will stage their annual Ball at the Sheraton Motor Inn, January 10 from 8 to 11 p.m.

Club members have chosen "Celestial Ball" as their theme. The 'T-Birds provide the music for the evening, which includes the presentation of the F.H.A. Beaus, F.H.A. Queen, and Duchesses from each class.

The student-body is invited and tickets will be on sale in the auditorium during both lunch periods. Bids are \$3.50.

Blue And White Ball Set For Tomorrow

Blossom Athletic Center may not be the most romantic place in which to hold the annual Blue & White Ball, but the Lassies' tireless efforts are transforming the center into a "Christmas Wonderland." Tomorrow night's festivities are presented by the Lassies in honor of the Varsity Football team. Mr. Football and Football Sweetheart will be announced at the ball along with Outstanding Lassie, Outstanding Brahmadora, Outstanding Bairn, and Band Sweetheart. Varsity football team, Lassies, Bairns, and Band members are invited.

FBLA Wins Two Firsts

MacArthur came home with two firsts and three seconds at the district Future Business Leaders of America District convention.

The convention staged at Trinity University Saturday, Dec. 6, elected Dan Ehlinger as its district vice president.

Award winning club members included: Miss Future Business Leader - Carol Roberson; first in spelling - Linda Jetter; Mr. Future Business Leader (second place) - Mike Wolfe; scrapbook (second place) - Betty Garrett; parliamentary procedure (second place) - Dan Ehlinger, Vince Covert, Betty Garrett, and Connie Roberts.



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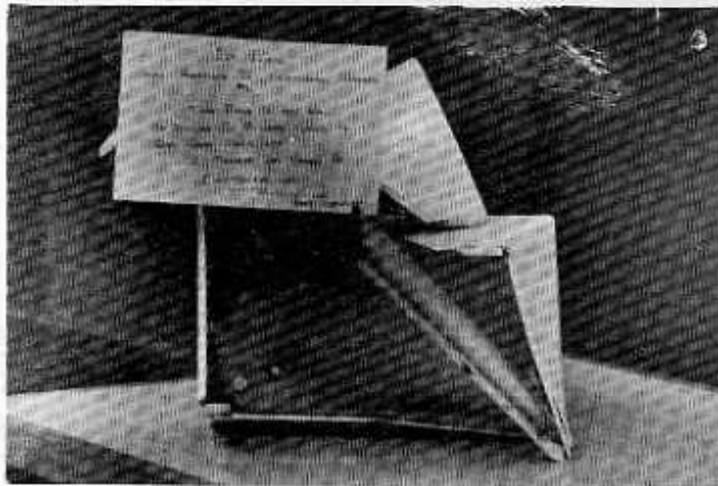
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MINIATURES
TERRELL PLAZA



ART AWARD WINNERS - Karen Harrell and Mike Murray (top picture) proudly display their prize-winning creations from Churchill High School's Winter Art Festival. Mike was named First Grand Prize Winner and also snared third place in Acrylics. Karen was Second Place Grand Prize Winner.

Andy Stewart (Head Custodian and Art connoisseur awarded vocational students first place in most original art design for a badly crumpled metal container formerly used as a paper towel dispenser.

Dissent Policy Sets District Precedent

by Judy Shafer

1) A student may be suspended/expelled for participating in a boycott, sit-in, stand-in, walk-out, or comparable demonstrations.

2) A student may be expelled for writing, producing, or distributing petitions or printed documents of any kind, sort or type.

3) A teacher who, by his position, supports a student or group engaged in the above activities is subject to disciplinary action.

4) 1, 2, & 3 apply on and off MacArthur's campus.

Northeast Independent School District Board of Trustees instituted these policies in a statement issued November 19 to deter students from disruptive activities. If a student should abuse these rules; the District now has a precedent to follow. These restrictions are made for the entire district not just at MacArthur. Other district schools have had disruptive actions similar to the above noted while MacArthur has remained relatively calm.

The Board of Trustees requests cooperation with these restrictions in order to maintain "the greatest possible good for the greatest number of students."

The "Dissent Statement" has come as a shock to many campus liberals. Underground newspapers, pamphlets, and most forms of demonstration have been deleted from the list of possible means for communication of views. With the communication media curtailed, the thought-provoking question arises, what future medium will be drafted into use?

One medium of communication which has been suggested by the students and approved by the Administration, was a Student Grievance Board. It was to be composed of campus leaders, interested students, faculty, and Administration. Unfortunately, it died

in infancy. The Student Grievance Board was born last spring. The reasons for its birth are just as urgent now as they were last spring.

The idea of such a Board is a sound one. The reason the board failed rests with students. The Administration requests that such a plan be a) carefully and completely thought out b) each phase presented in it's entirety (would representatives be elected? Who would sit on the Board? Where would it be?) c) The plan could be typed and sent to the Administration.

At the moment the only communication between student and office is through "channels." Many schools have some form of student-faculty board, and MacArthur could benefit greatly from its introduction here. The initiation of the Board lies with the students.

Demonstrations, sit-ins and walk-ins are of a spontaneous nature; they are highly irrational and not effective in bringing about change. In truth, such rash actions may result in more student restrictions. Underground newspapers, now illegal though they sometimes cry fact and opinion, cannot be recognized by the Administration. The Student Grievance Board is a legal and constructive alternative.

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MacArthur Spreads Christmas Cheer

Even the demoting of St. Nicklaus by the Catholic Church has failed to dampen the Christmas spirit in MacArthur students.

Parties, programs, and charity drives are on the December agenda for clubs and organizations.

The French Club voted down a day at Frenchy's Beer Garden for a December 26 luncheon at La Louisanne.

In keeping with its honorable traditions, the Beta Club will stage a Christmas dance for the teenagers at the State Hospital, December 22.

The junior girls Tri-Hi-Y is collecting canned foods clothing, furniture and books for the Friends Special School. Rumor has it that the girls may even use some of these provisions for the Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y's caravan to Big Bend National Park for five days during the Christmas holidays.

December is a busy month for the choir and band. All North East high schools were invited to a choir program at MacArthur December 12. A combined program with the band and all three choirs was presented to the PTA and band parents, December 16.

Friday, Dec. 19, the combined program is to be presented for MacArthur students.

The A Cappella Choir will carol through downtown San Antonio via a river barge on the San Antonio River, December 21. On the following day the choir will sing at the National Bank of Commerce at noon.

Several clubs have already had their parties. Mr. John Milligan's home was

the setting of the Future Business Leaders of America's party, December 13.

Husband-catching was the much-discussed topic at the Future Homemakers of America party December 16. FTA are also buying Christmas gifts for a poor family.

Spanish speaking poets has a problem December 17, as this was the date for both the Creative Writing and Spanish Club parties.

Christmas spirit has affected the foreign language department. Foreign language students will spend Friday the 19 caroling through the halls in French, Spanish, German and Latin.

Brahma Tales, Writers Claim THSPA Awards

Amidst lost retainers, cold weather, constant rain and lost Holiday Inns, the MacArthur Journalism Department brought home two individual awards and two publication honors from the Texas High School Press Association (THSPA) Convention at Denton, Dec. 4-6.

The THSPA convention, staged on Texas Women's University's campus awarded Brenda Speert first place in general news columns for "File 13" and Ronnie Zimmerman first place in sports columns for "Warming the Bench."

The Brahma Tales was awarded an "All Texas" award, which can be explained as a runner-up award given to about 12 schools. The "Brahma" won a "Certificate of Merit", which can be interpreted as honorable mention.

Four staff members from the Brahma Tales and 10 members of the "Brahma" shared a charter bus with Churchill High. Churchill's sponsor, Mrs. Marilyn Jones, is the former sponsor of the MacArthur publications.

In The Next Three Weeks

Friday, Dec. 19	<u>Students</u> - early dismissal, 2:30 p.m.; <u>Lassies</u> : Blue & White Ball, B.A.C. at 8 p.m.; <u>Basketball</u> : Mac vs. Temple in Temple, 7:30 p.m.; <u>Band</u> : Christmas program during both advisories; Christmas Holidays begin.
Thursday, Dec. 25	Christmas Day.
Saturday, Dec. 27	<u>Basketball</u> : Mac vs. Harlandale at Harlandale, 7:15 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 29	<u>Basketball</u> : San Antonio Tournament at Alamo Stadium Gym.
Tuesday, Dec. 30	<u>Speech & Drama</u> : U.I.L. Student Congress at Churchill.
Wednesday, Dec. 31	<u>Speech & Drama</u> : U.I.L. Student Congress at Churchill.
Tuesday, Jan. 1	New Year's Day.
Friday, Jan. 2	<u>Basketball</u> : Mac vs. Antonian, 7:30 p.m. at Antonian.
Monday, Jan. 5	School re-opens after Christmas Holidays.
Tuesday, Dec. 6	<u>Basketball</u> : Mac Vs. Lee, B.A.C., 8:30 p.m.; <u>Golf</u> : Mac vs. Highlands at Brackenridge course.
Friday, Jan. 9	<u>Basketball</u> : Mac vs. Antonian, B.A.C., 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 10	<u>F.H.A. Ball</u> : 8 p.m. at The Sheraton Hotel; <u>Speech & Drama</u> : U.I.L. Contest at Spring Branch; <u>Seniors</u> : CEEB (College Entrance Examinations Board) in the cafeteria, 8 a.m.

Cross Country Wins City Again

In closing out its season, the MacArthur cross-country team won the north zone and city meets and made perhaps the strongest showing of any MacArthur team ever at the meet in Austin.

In the north zone qualifying meet, teams needed to place at least four members in the top 20 runners in each division. Then at the city meet, the place finishings of the top four runners were added together and the lowest score won.

After qualifying four members in the sophomore and junior divisions at the north zone meets and seven in the senior section, the Brahma thinclads swept across the finish line at city to retain the title of city cross-country champs for the third consecutive year.

In the sophomore division, Tom Benson, Donny Morris, Marry Crittenden and Mike Karagas were among the first 20 finishers. Juniors Robert Worley, Mark Beaulieu, Richard Ramos and Gary Fisher qualified in their division

Contributing to the strong showing at Austin in the state meet were 9th place finisher Hal Vagtborg, and distance men Bill Spence, Phil Babel, Robert Worley, Gary Fisher, Mark Beaulieu and Tom Benson.

In the final three meets, the Brahmas accumulated 14 ribbons, six medals, one trophy and one banner, all currently on display in the main office.

and led the field at city. Seven seniors, including Hal Vagtborg, Bill Spence, Phil Babel, Charles Forney, Norman Thomas, Robert Schnider and Chad McHugh flooded the senior division in both meets.

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Warmin The Bench



With Ron Zimmerman

Christmas — the quiet time for relaxation, exchanging of gifts and catching up on one's sleep — right? Not for athletes, who reply, "You're crazy!" The holy season, at least for the athletes, is one of concentrated effort.

Take swimming as a prime example. In previous years, the district champion swimmers have always doubled up thier workouts, taking advantage of the extra time off from school to lower their time to perfection. This year is no exception, for, according to swimming captain Ray Ince, "We're going after the state championship like we've never done before. Each team member is taking it upon himself to be at each of our two workouts a day — at 7:30 and at 4:30." The hours of the workouts speak for themselves.

Speaking for the girls was co-captain Tina Treut, "We've got our state championship to defend again this year, so we're going to have to be in top shape. This means that, like the boys, we're going to be holding workouts twice a day until school starts again."

Many of the spring sports are also working hard — getting the jump on their competitors by pushing hard through the 14 day vacation. Tracksters, who have their first season meet in February, are required by track coach Jim Smith, "to run at least 20 miles per week. That's actually a slowdown from past years, but we'll make up for it when the boys return in January. Right now, I just want them to stay in shape from cross-country. I think they realize that it'll be easier on them later if they just do what I ask of them now."

Of course, basketball, the major sport currently in the middle of its season, will not slow down. Except for Christmas day, the dribblers will be suited out each day of the holidays. "We play Temple in Temple the first day of the holidays," explains coach Bill Moseley. "Then we've got Harlandale on the 27th, the annual San Antonio tournament the 29th and 30th, and Antonian the second day of the new year. All this leads up to district play, beginning January the 6th against Lee."

So Christmas makes everything grind to a halt? Bah, Humbug!!

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Well-Balanced Cagers Chalking Up Victories

No previous MacArthur basketball team can challenge the record thus far posted by the motivated by the 1969-1970 basketball squad.

After traveling undefeated through the first seven games, the Brahma Blue dropped two games by a total of five points, one to city-leader Brackenridge and the other to powerful Houston Westchester. Subsequently the hoopers felled Catholic league state-finalists Central Catholic and split the four game Spring Branch Tournament to upgrade their record to a respected 10-4.

Mac Splits Four in North East Tourney

The opening game of the North East Tournament pitted MacArthur against scrappy Sharpstown in the

MacArthur gym. Within the confines of the smaller gym, Bucky Davis set a new school scoring record of 43 points in a single game breaking the 39 point 1962 record held by Gary Jellison. The bullish bouncers led at the end of the first quarter 24-14 and by half-time the lead had grown to 50-32, causing many fans to speculate that the first 100 point game in MacArthur's cage history was possible. But the pace slowed and the Brahmas headed for the showers with the 82-75 victory.

Immediately following the Sharpstown game, MacArthur faced Victoria in the second game of the tourney.

Both teams, frantic in their search for the win that would keep them in the tournament, put out great efforts and at the final buzzer the score was tied at 73-73. The game was forced into overtime and at the end of that period of play each team had only scored four more points, making the scoreboard read 77-77. The second extra minute ended with the score still tied 79-79. The final overtime saw MacArthur stuff in 10 more points to Victoria's 4 and the score stabilized at 89-83. Davis, on his way to being declared the North East Tournament's Most Valuable Player, topped the scoring columns with 31 points. Cardenas found the hoop for an additional 24.

MacArthur then met Brackenridge, ranked first in city. In a tight defensive game, the Brahmas held their own through the entire game; 16-16, 26-28, 42-42, finally losing 56-58. Rick Celaya, got back in the

scoring groove with 25 points. Lawrence contributed 19.

As Brackenridge went on to play and eventually defeat Highlands for the first place trophy, MacArthur prepared to play Westchester for third place. Romo, in an effort that was to net 19 points, was high point man for the game. But the Brahmas squandered the half-time lead of 33-27, and lost 78-75.

Brahmas Dump Central Catholic

MacArthur upped its season record to 8-2 by dunking Central Catholic 57-55. The Catholic league state-finalists fell behind early but pulled close in the fourth period. Largely as a result of Celaya's 17 points and Davis' 15, the Brahmas were able to salvage the win on a bucket at the buzzer by Don Cardinos.

Bulls Split Four At Spring Branch

After stumbling badly, 86-60, the tall and talented Houston Memorial, the Bulls squashed Houston Lincoln 68-53 and raced past Beaumont 88-57. But host Spring Branch dunked the cagers 89-69 in the consolation finals.

Netters Top Owls, Ponies

Highlands appeared on the MacArthur campus short on players and left short on match points as the Brahma girls netted a 7-1 victory, December 9. The MacArthur boys, December 10, suppressed any Highland hopes by blasting their boys 8-0.

Exercising not only varsity but also the Junior varsity and freshman members, in competition, MacArthur served defeat to the Jefferson tennis team in a November practice match.

Brenda Speert blanked her Owl opposition in two sets while Lori Ziegler and Sharon Jetter took eight straight games in a pro set doubles victory. Karen Hall tallied an 8-2 win; Sharon Jetter triumphed 6-1; and Beverly Kneisel and Courtney Lepick each gave up only four games in their eight and six game match respectively. A late rally by Highlands handed Judy Jenkins and Kathy Ryan a doubles loss by 8-10.

Six singles victories by Chris Coe, Jack Boerner, Mason Standley, Russ Johnson, Louis Seitchek, and Mark Braunstein combined with the dual efforts of Boerner-Johnson and John David Crawford—Toby Michelson highlighted the sweep. Darkness halted the doubles match of Doug Vanderploeg and Clyde Coe.

The varsity sextets rallied against Jeff from initial losses incurred by the top ranked players to total a score of 5-3 in male competition and 4-2 in female contests. In a combined junior varsity and freshman team showdown, the Brahmas smashed Jeff boys 5-1 and tripped the Mustang girls 4-2.



MVP — North East Tournament Most Valuable Player Bucky Davis takes aim from 15 feet against Sharpstown. Davis' 43 points in this game set an all-time MacArthur scoring record.

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"The Cravin"

An account of the Vocational Drafting - Data Processing - Football Championship.

by Edgar Allen Axelrod

Once upon a ball field dreary, while I stumbled bloodshot blearly,
Shiv'ring down into my marrow, cursing everyone with blame.
With the day still growing colder, I approached with shrug of shoulder,
Careful now but growing bolder, set out to observe the game.
Armed with folder, pen and pencil, set out to observe the game.
Asked again, I'll say the same.

Setting down upon two kneecaps, I need not dread further relapse
Getting comfy with two females, swearing that the game I'd watch.
Yes, Alack, I'd heard my duty, observe the game and not the beauty,
I would claim reporter's booty, not this football game to botch.
Moribound with leisure swearing, not this football game to botch.
Settling down, the game to watch.

Vocational Drafting's all day courses, versus Data Process' forces,
Each man seeing his team's prowess, tromp the other's into the mud.
Then came kickoff with ball flying, sounds of brave young players dying,
And the ref paced fifteen sighing, with the players yelling "Crud"
Bold, the ref was counting backwards, with the players yelling "Crud".
Quoth the sidelined, "We want blood."

Quickly scored the much feared V.D., with Data Process looking seedy,
Six to nothing was the tally, only that and nothing more,
On progressed the game quite mirthless, quickly chilled the young men shirtless,
With crowd of ten it seemed quite worthless, six to nothing find the score,
Screaming, tortured flesh resentful, six to nothing, final score.
Quoth the sidelined, "Please, no more."

Now tumultuous game is over, I am now a dauntless rover,
Having watched an exhibition, recorded facts the fans ignore
Now the seething fields deserted, football players deaths averted,
I, a football fan converted, this game now recorded lore.
Will I watch another gladly? Came the answer with a roar!
Quoth the author, "Nevermore!"

Swimmers Sink San Angelo

Both MacArthur swimming teams showed their potential as state champs when they obliterated San Angelo in a dual meet, December 5 at North East Pool.

The girls led by Tina Treut and the Billimier twins, Sally and Susan, mutilated the San Angelo girls 63 to 24. The powerful girl tankers took every first place except diving.

Ray Ince, Charlie Spencer and sophomore Jamie Baird, led the male swimmers to an impressive 57 to 28 win. The boys took every first place except breast-stroke.

For the swimmers, this is only the beginning of a road which ends in Austin next March. The girl's hope to repeat for the fourth consecutive time as state champions while the boy's hope to improve on their third place finish at state last year.

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