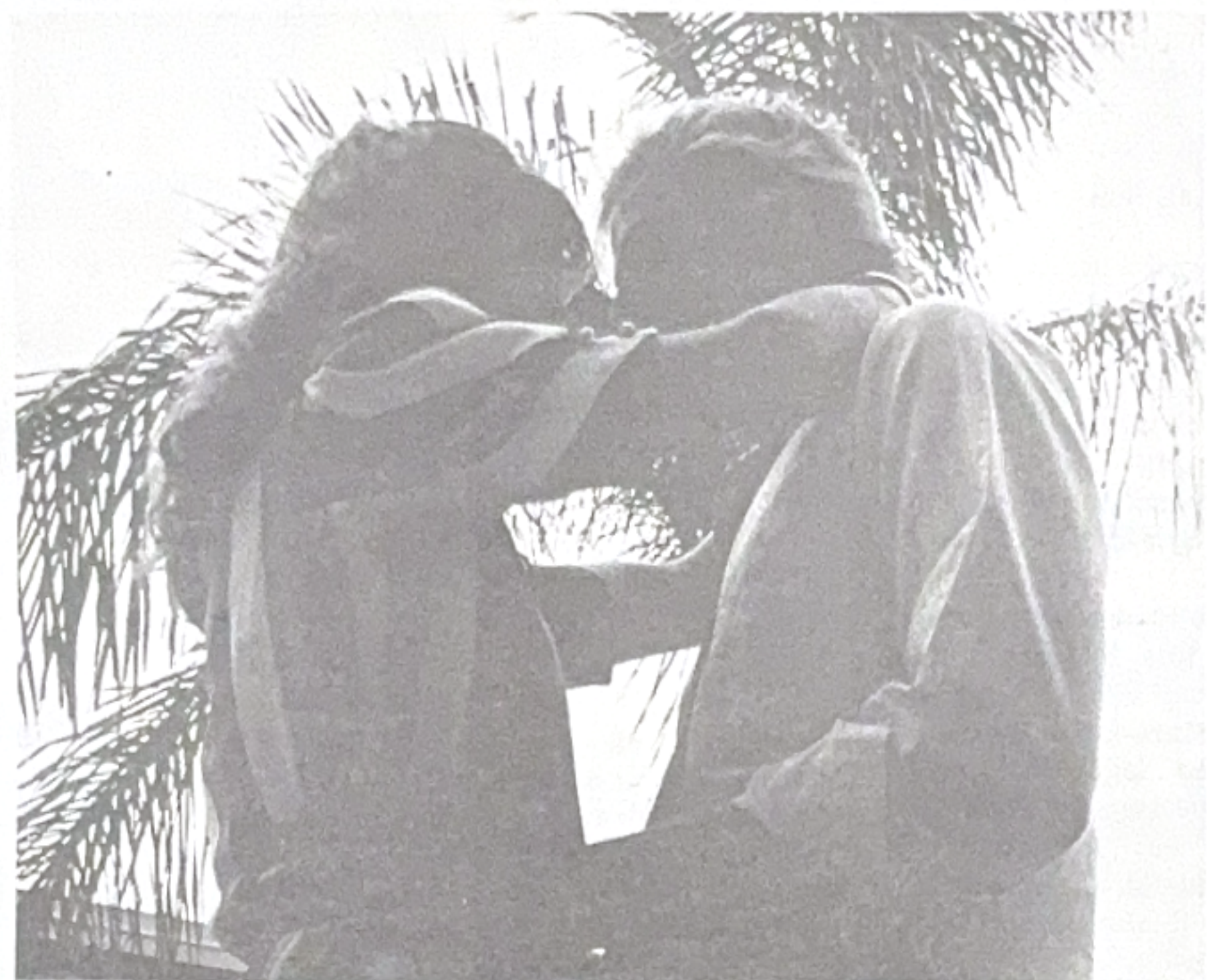


Nor'easter

Northeast High School
St. Petersburg FL
Volume 30, Edition 5
February 14, 1984



A time for young love
Barry Ferguson and Susan Casey show some of the nicer effects of Valentine's Day.

Photo by Paul Crotty

Clubs show spirit

By Barry Ferguson

Both Rojans and Interact actively participated in the holiday season this year. Christmas is the time of year for clubs like these to make money from these commercialized holiday.

While Interact members sold trees, Rojans were beside them selling Christmas lights. The clubs worked well together except for an occasional distraction to the Interact boys watching the Rojans girls selling lights.

The tree sale was a success and made the big money. "I believe the Christmas tree sale was a success but we could have done better. Over all, though, I was pleased with the performance of the club," President Richard Webber said. The club's secretary Dan Diaco said, "We grossed about \$35,000 but, after paying for trees, ended up with a little under \$10,000." Diaco also said the club had

about 250 trees left over.

"If these trees (leftover) would have been sold, we could have made another \$3,000."

Rojans did mostly charity. "We felt we shouldn't make a profit, so we did charity work," said Rojan secretary Mary Gill. Rojans sold Christmas doves to raise money for All Children's Hospital, rang bells for Salvation Army and collected canned goods for needy families.

Interact distributes the money throughout the school by buying things that are needed at Northeast. Last year the tree money provided such things as a line painter for the football field and computers for the business wing. Interact also uses the money for scholarships given to deserving members. Rojans also saves most of their money for scholarships.

Both clubs worked hard at Christmas this year serving the community as non-profit organizations.

Vandals destroy Northeast property

By Anne Preisach

Students arriving back at school January 2 found the Building Construction House burned down, sections of the wall by the old bus circle pulled out, the publication's room 'trashed,' the guidance bulletin board torn down and the usual paint on a few of the walls.

Adding Assistant Principal Jack Stabler's estimates, resulted in a conservative estimate of approximately \$10,000.

The reason the figure is so high is the burning of the house. Each year the classes tore the house down and rebuilt it the next year, thus conserving costs. The School Board never made a great monetary contribution to this effort, as much of the material was donated.

Mr. Joel Meserowski has estimated the cost of replacing the materials irretrievably burned at \$4,500. The damage was total because the person who committed the arson soaked the house in mineral spirits causing it to burn faster. The fire which burned from four to approximately six in the morning also damaged the stucco on the side of the building and ignited the sawdust inside of a machine which was used for the purpose of vacuuming up the sawdust. The machine was damaged, but estimates as

to its repair had not been completed as of January 11.

Meserowski feels that it is the students who have been hurt by this. Since the house was their project for the year they are left wondering what they will be doing second semester. "Books are okay, but the students need actual experience," Meserowski said.

Stabler said that if the culprit is not caught the School Board will pay the money to have the materials replaced. There is a \$500, no questions asked reward for anyone who identifies the perpetrator.

The wall in front of the school will not be replaced according to Stabler. If it were to be, that would raise the total damages even higher. Over the summer the rest of the wall will be torn down making the front of the school open. Stabler said that he thinks that this will improve the looks of the front of the school, but that he would have never done it had it not been for the vandal pulling it down.

Apparently the person who did this pulled most of the wall down using chains attached to a vehical. The rest was knock out with some kind of hammer.

The rest of the damage was cursory and the only thing of value wasted was the time required to clean up the mess.

Photos by Paul Crotty



Scott Stockdale helps to clear away the wreckage.



Building construction class members clean up the mess caused by the arson



Over the holidays, the decorative wall in front of the school was pulled down.

Vandals terrorize Northeast; students pay price

By Anne Preisach

School vandalism always seems fairly remote and unimportant. It usually involves things like writing on walls or maybe breaking a few windows — all things which are taken care of quickly and things that don't really concern the students.

But that vandalism is a lot closer when a student comes back over Christmas vacation to find something he has put countless hours into destroyed or a part of school where he spends a great deal of time ransacked.

As I came back to school after Christmas vacation, I had my New Year's resolution firmly in mind. 'I would not write another vandalism story,' the words repeated themselves over and over in my mind.

My firm resolve began to weaken as I heard about the Building Construction house being burned. Walking into the publication's production room was the final blow which took the strength out of all of my good intentions. The place in which I

spend the majority of my life was in complete shambles.

As I walked through the paper strewn, fire extinguished mess, I began to get really mad.

At first my anger was logically directed at the perpetrators of the crime. But gradually I realized that I was angry at the wrong group of people. Assistant Principal Jack Stabler once told me that if vandals wanted to get in, they would. And since they will utilize any opportunity, it seems like it is up to the school to see that the opportunity is removed.

Conservatively estimated, \$10,000 worth of damage was done over the two weeks of Christmas break. Stabler said that there are only two ways to prevent such occurrences from happening. The first is to have a full time security person on the premises 24 hours a day. The second, to fence the entire campus and put in a pack of watch dogs. These may sound a little extreme but it is blatantly clear that something must be done.

Northeast employs the Sonitrol security system. Is it so absurd to expect a protection system which costs the school system a great deal of money a month to protect us?

This has been going on for years. Last year building 17 was broken into. The Sonitrol lines were partially cut — cut enough to not register the noise of the people ransacking the interior, but not enough to sound the alarm that a wire was cut. Still worse, the Sonitrol representative said that it had been that way for several months.

So what good is it? If I sound embittered it's because I am. The reason for not putting in a better system is, of course, the usual. It costs too much money. This does not seem very logical, considering the amount of money which is being expended to pay for damages.

But for the students who were affected in this by this monstrosity, money doesn't seem to be the important factor. We are in school to learn. We are required to be here by law. The sanctity of our learning environment should be preserved. The efforts of students should not be allowed to be senselessly destroyed.

Who works on January 2?

As the Big Apple fell in Times Square, pushing out the old year and bringing in the new, know about all of the football Champaign bottles were opened and corks flew. Both Pinellas and one; except Pinellas County teachers and football players.

While the Bulldogs won an upsetting victory, we were wracking our brains. This seemed like a useless day. Absences were exceedingly high, and those who did manage to make it to school seemed to have an attitude of reluctance. Teachers were even expected to have signed doctors' notes if they were absent on the day.

Monday. Naughty, naughty, naughty! The School Board should give a little more consideration to not only the schools' candelars but to the entire reason that we are given the chance to come to the School Board, at the recommendation of the school calendar committee, decided to have school on Monday.

Why did the committee recommend this? They didn't know about all of the football games. Who works on the day after New Year's, anyway? No one; except Pinellas County teachers and football players.

And what about Veteran's Day? Our county schools were in session, which could be viewed as a change to learn about what Veteran's Day was all about. But the school's only gesture of respect was to show the film which cost the county so much money and say a few words about the significance of the day — not exactly enough to make students who knew their friends were at the beach hold any reverence for the day.

The School Board should give a little more consideration to not only the schools' candelars but to the entire reason that we are given the chance to come to the School Board, at the recommendation of the school calendar committee, decided to have school on Monday.

Schedules anger students

If your schedule read: First period, Advanced Placement (A.P.) English; Second, Math 5; Third, A.P. History; and Fourth, Latin 5, would you not be looking forward to your third day of exams?

Well, through the fault of no one, that's the way it has worked out for a few seniors. Granted, this is not a problem facing a wide range of the student body here at Northeast, but these students with advanced classes are facing a murderous first few classes.

It's a problem with no real solution. "I'm just glad to see them getting these classes," says Registrar Denise Hart. Maybe those seniors should remember that when they complain about "going from Honor [class] to Honor to Honor."

Sure, it's tough going from one advanced or honors class to another, but imagine Hart's job in coordinating the schedules of these advanced students with 2,200 other seniors and their diversified electives and three lunches and teachers planning periods — many teachers want

6th period planning period — while still trying to keep classes from overcrowding.

A student can't just say "change 1st period A.P. to 5th." Mr. Coffman doesn't teach A.P. English 6 periods per day, he doesn't teach anything 6 periods a day (planning period, remember?).

The schedule of every student and teacher at Northeast, requested planning periods, electives, lunches and all, is put into a computer which works everything out logically so that Joe Schmoe can have his advanced math, his 4th year foreign language class and his publication class — classes which, of course, are offered only one period during the day. Hart fixes up all the conflicts and foul-ups the computer hands her so that Joe can get all his preferred classes and still get to eat 2nd lunch with all his friends.

Sure, exams for these students will be hard, but they wouldn't be in these classes unless they knew how to study. And they should consider the fact that they are a minority in the student body and, yes, they do have the classes they want.

Editorial Policy

The *Nor'easter* is published eight times a year by the *Nor'easter* staff at Northeast High School, 1717 54 Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33714.

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

Persons wishing to submit a letter to the editor may do so in room 30-2. Letters may only remain anonymous under special conditions and with the consent of George Palmer and Anne Preisach.

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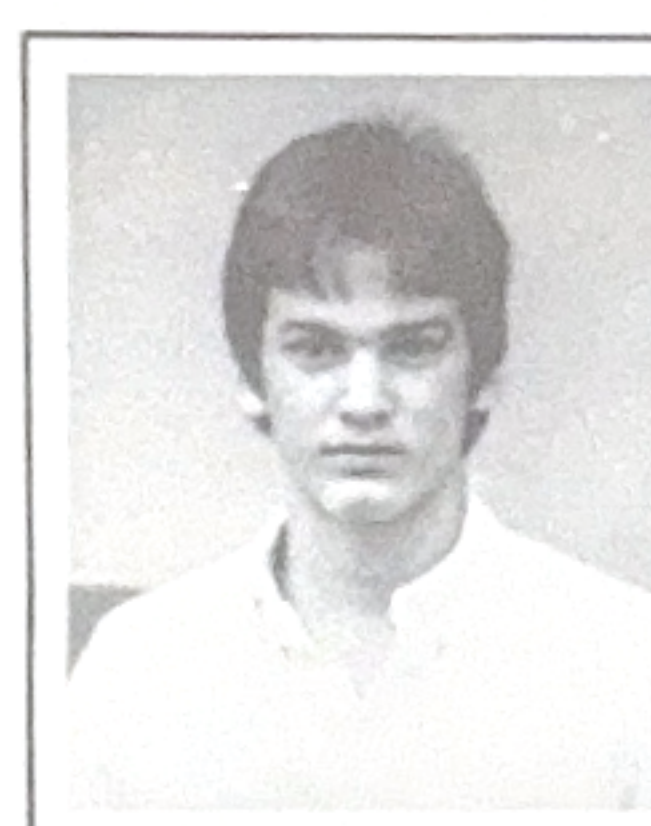
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Linda Donelan, Grade 9: "I can't really answer this question because different subjects may result in different 'Teachers.'"



Eric Campbell, Grade 12: "It is easier to understand something that is in print. I feel that books can prove what is printed while a person's information can contain opinionated information."



Mark Ackett, Grade 10: "My brother taught me a lot about life. By his actions and the things he told me I got the advantage of his experience without the trial and error."

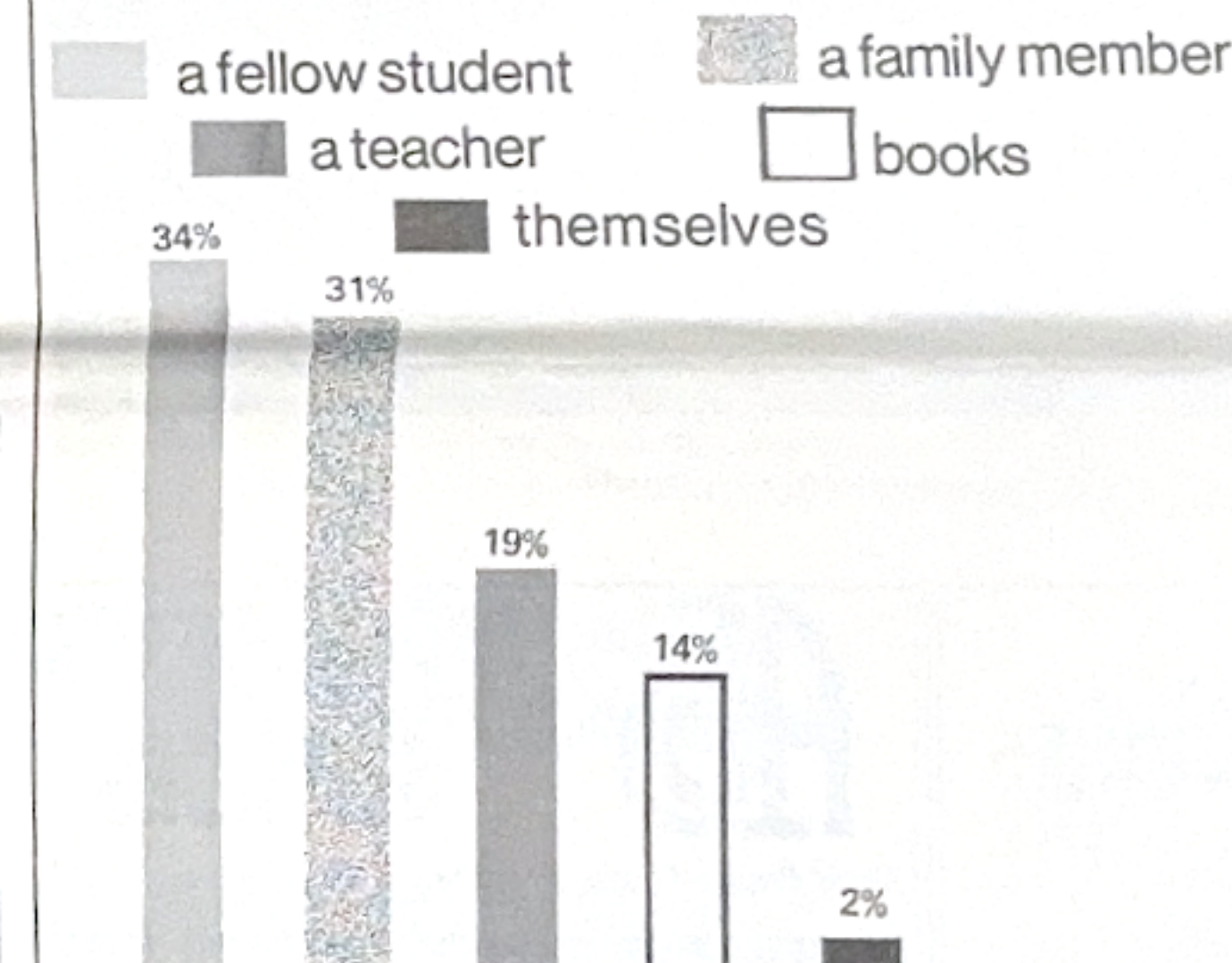


Lorna Capanna, Grade 12: "I feel I have learned more from my parents. They teach you your moral and virtues that will be with you all your life."

Viking Views

By Claire Campbell
Photos by Doug DeLorey and Erwin Hoffman

From whom did you learn the most?



In this edition, 62 students were surveyed and of those students, 34% felt they learned the most from their teachers. Thirty-one percent felt that they learned the most from a family member. Of the family members students felt that their parents taught them the essentials for life.

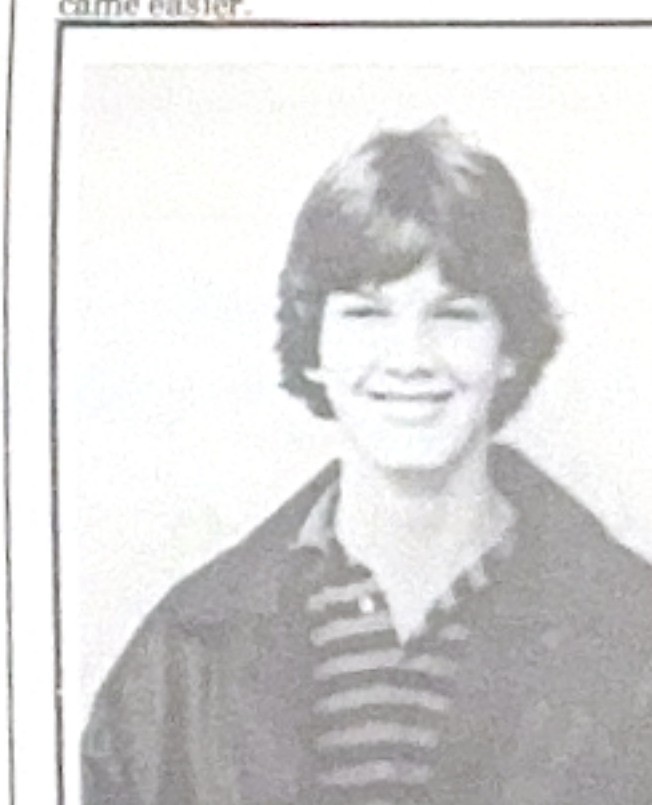
Nineteen percent felt it was easier to talk to students, therefore enabling them to learn more from their peers. Fourteen percent of the students felt books were a better teaching device. While 2% of the students felt they learned the most from themselves.



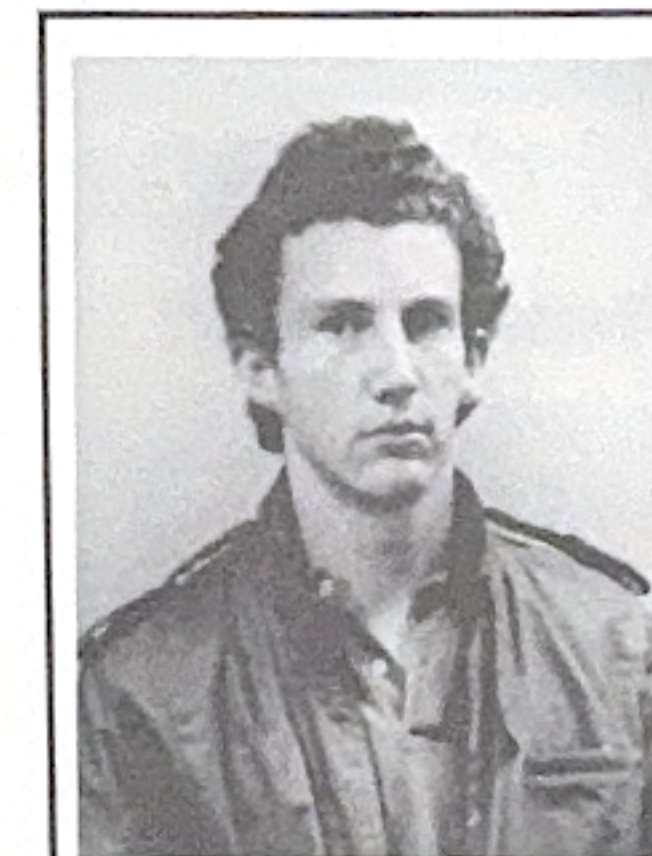
Angie Sanford, Grade 12: "I guess I would have to say I learned the most from my parents, because whenever I do something and they don't agree upon it, it always turns out that they're always right."



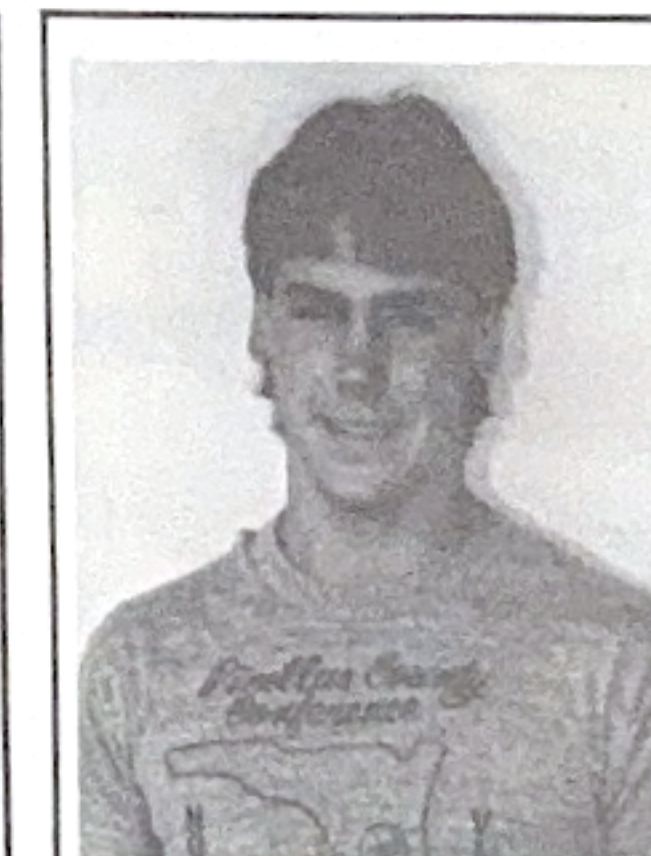
Robert Wilson, Grade 12: "I have found that my teachers are the ones from whom I learn the most. Most of the teachers here at NEH are willing to go out of their way to make sure you learn. They make the class more exciting and comfortable, therefore making the process of learning come easier."



Jay Fridell, Grade 11: "My grandmother was the most influential person in my life. She helped me with all of my studies. She helps me deal with a lot of peer pressure I come in contact with."



Robert Emery, Grade 12: "Most of the teachers just don't have the time to spend with all their students, and students work better among themselves."



Bryant Sturz, Grade 12: "I learn more from my fellow students because I'm around them more, and I talk to my friends and fellow students more than teachers."



Kathy York, Grade 12: "Although it may sound absurd, I have learned the most from Mr. Coffman's A.P. English books. Through them I have learned to read."



Jim Miller, Grade 9: "You really have to stick your nose in the book to learn anything at all. OK, so a teacher can show you but you really don't get anything. You have to do it yourself!"

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

With mid-term exams behind us now, most of NEH's students can sit back and breathe a sigh of relief. Most can feel a sense of pride and accomplishment in knowing that they have done their best, because, for the most part, adequate study time was provided due to the half days on Wednesday and Thursday. But what about Tuesday? Was adequate study time given to those students who start their day off with accelerated courses such as Advanced Placement English or Math 5?

I propose that the traditional exam half days be extended to the Monday and Tuesday preceding exams. Monday, of course, will give the first through third period teachers a chance to review with their classes, while likewise Tuesday would be scheduled for fourth, fifth and sixth period reviews.

This proposal particularly affects NEH's graduating class, for due to scheduling conflicts, many have been scheduled into A.P. English first, Math 5 second, and A.P. History third. Therefore, this would only benefit these overloaded students if it were instituted in time for second semester exams.

Sincerely,
Kathy York

Editor,

I am writing in response to your article on the *Elephant Man*. I don't believe that the article was accurate and a number of people (teachers and students) found it offensive. First off, your information was incorrect. Mr. Jones, the director, chooses the play that is to be performed, not the drama students or performers. The "Thespians" did not do the play. There were open auditions. You state that "perhaps in the future, scenes would be more successful if the actors would remember they are performing for an audience and not for themselves." It is true that they perform for an audience, but they are high school students, learning and developing acting skills—for themselves! You also failed to mention that the students that were invited to the play were a select audience. These students are in advanced classes and were expected to have the capability to understand an advanced play. You did at least acknowledge the skills and efforts of the actors. This was the only "redeeming value" of your article.

Sincerely,
Andria Bailey

Tony Brown scores on and off the court

By Daniel Diaco

Although the varsity boys' basketball team has a losing record, there is one bright spot on the team. That spot is generated by senior guard Antonio Brown.

Brown has been playing basketball for many years. He played on the Sixteenth Street and Riviera Middle School basketball teams. He has started his four years at Northeast on the varsity team. He has always been a team leader.

Standing over 6'5" in height, Brown poses as an obstacle to his opponents. He leads the team and county in points, averaging 37.5 points to a game. He also leads the team in rebounds.

Brown's older brother got him interested in the sport. Brown devotes most of his free time to basketball. All year long he plays basketball. He says that he has always been good but mentioned, "It does take practice."

Part of Brown's success is due to his teamwork. He does not play alone, nor does he work against the other members of the team. He says he gets along with everyone on the team and knows that when he leaves off, another will help out. Brown said his talent comes easily, but his coach, Dave Redding, refines it.

During the season, Brown concentrates on drilling and scrimmaging. When the season is over, he can lift weights and continue to scrimmage.

Many colleges have sent letters to Brown and he is considered a "blue-chip" athlete. This means he is one of the top college prospects in basketball. He hopes for a full ride scholarship and plans to major in business administration.

Besides excelling in athletics, Brown also excels academically and socially. This year he was chosen by the teachers for the



Senior Tony Brown scores with a lay-up.

Senior Hall of Fame. The students at Northeast chose him to be on their Homecoming Court. He likes Northeast and enjoys the people he spends time with. He holds a "B" average in high school.

Brown's main goal however is continuing to play basketball. He wishes to continue at a level of excellence. He feels, however, that he hasn't reached his peak. "My best game is still to come," he says.

His performance in the last two years has shown some competence in the sport. As a junior he was selected for the All County, All Tournament, and All Conference teams. This year he was selected for the All Tournament team. The other two honorary teams have not been selected yet.

Other team members like him and the team plays well together. Most of the team's early losses have been close, and Brown feels the team is good. He also says that Redding is a good coach and that the team may win the district tournament.

With his size and strength, one might think him a football player, but Brown never really wanted to play. "I play with the kids in the neighborhood, but that's about it," says Brown. He also enjoys playing softball with his friends.

Due to the renovation of the gym, no home basketball games were scheduled during most of the season. Brown feels this is a disadvantage, not only for practicing, but also for playing. "Traveling takes a lot out of you. You have to have a home crowd sometimes," he said. He misses the change of pace that home games brought.

Brown looks at his future with enthusiasm. He awaits a college education and team. He also looks forward to working in a management position. In his four years at Northeast, he feels he has given the school as much as it has given him.

Girls' soccer team suffers losing season

By Eric Szabo



The girls' soccer team knows what it feels like to win.

Playing tougher teams from the upper county, the Northeast girls' soccer team won their first game 4-3 against Lakewood, after six losses.

According to Head Coach Edward Elosway, it is hard to start the season against the schools from the upper county because they have a better junior program and their talent is a little more solid than the lower county teams.

The team has just begun playing the down county teams, the first game being against Dixie Hollins. They lost that game two to one. The next game was the Lakewood game.

Elosway expects the team to keep on winning. "They have experienced winning and know it's possible to win."

Elosway says that if the team stays healthy the remainder of the season, they should be pretty solid.

Elosway said, "The midfield and frontline have been putting together some plans to score goals and the defense is holding up."

In the Lakewood game, Stacy Hudspeth set a new school record with four goals, two of which came off of corner kicks from Amy Taylor. "Taylor," remarked Elosway, "has done some superb passing throughout the season."

Leading the defense are front sweeper Judy Gralow and deep sweeper Kris McBride. Playing the wideout fullbacks are Candy Reagh and Brenda Owens. The goal keeper this year is Kelly Caneel.

On the frontline is Becky Gray who has not had much experience but has been working hard. At the wings, Elosway has been alternating Hudspeth, Mary Dougherty, who has great speed, and freshman Kim Caneel.

At midfield, Elosway plays most of his "platoon." He stated that he has a lot of players that he can put in there and count on to get the job done.

"They hustle to get back on defense and help bring the ball up on offense," said Elosway.

Boys' losses not attributed to apathy

By Eric Szabo

The Northeast boys' soccer team won its first game of the season against Lakewood by a score of four to three.

The season started on a disappointing foot when the team lost their first six games of the season. But Head Coach Ty McGraw said that he feels that the team will win at least half of the seven games left and could finish with an even record.

The losing record cannot be attributed to the lack of will to win, according to McGraw. It can be attributed to the youth and size of the team. Of the 25 players on the team, only five are seniors. The starting line-up has four or five freshmen on it.

"They are an awfully young team, but they hustle and play to the best of their abilities," said McGraw.

Being a young team also means being an inexperienced team.

The other teams that the Vikings have played this season have been older and so in most cases bigger than Northeast, which has caused some hardships for the team.

Said McGraw, "The next two or three years, we should be hard to beat as the team ages."

The defense has been playing tough this year as the fullbacks have been putting the squeeze on the opponents. The ones that do get by Doug DeLory, Glen Caneel or the other defenders

have to get by goalkeeper Jeff Gigante, which is hard to do, according to McGraw.

Trying to score the goals for the team are midfielders and frontliners Robert Shay, Wayne McKay, Mark Rutledge, Keith Beal, Mark Skey and the other scorers.

The players McGraw sees as the hopes of the future include Chris Skey, Robert Cash, Robert Shay and Joe Flood. More players will develop as time goes by.

Playing a good game does not necessarily mean winning. In the Dixie Hollins game, Northeast outshot Dixie Hollins with 22 shots but managed only one goal. "We outplayed them but lost," McGraw explained.



The boys' soccer team works hard to win.

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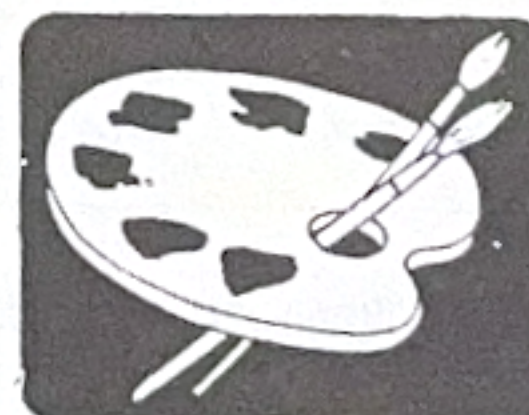
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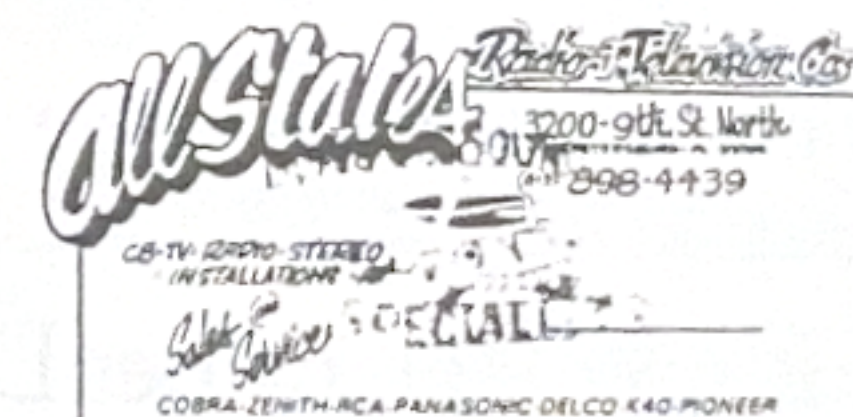
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Young wrestlers perform like veterans

By Scott Homelash

The Northeast High School wrestling teams have started their seasons in impressive form. The varsity team has won five of their first six matches, while the junior varsity team sports a record of 4-2.

The varsity team has eight members with winning records. In the 100 pound weight class, Van Pham and Billy Fitzgerald have defeated the majority of their opponents. Steve Wilsey at 108 lbs., Tom Brady at 115 lbs., Gary Guarino at 122 lbs., Greg McDonnell at 141 lbs., Craig Van Loan at 188 lbs., and in the unlimited weight class, Kenny Ballenger all have winning records.

Ninth year varsity coach Bill Dudley says this year's team has the potential to be the best team that he has ever coached. "This year's team is a good bunch of really dedicated kids," said Dudley. Dudley believes that the team's youth and inexperience is just as much a strong point as it is a weakness. "Because they are young, they don't fear any team. They go into every match with the same positive attitude," said Dudley.

The NEHS teams have kept positive



Captain Dan Diaco works to turn his opponent.

Photo by David Weissman

attitudes even though there will be no home matches this season due to the renovation of the gym floor. "It's hard on the team when they have to wrestle at their opponent's gym all of the time. The most discouraging part is that on the road, the teams lose a lot of supporters. Every time one of our guys does

something good, we get 'booed' from the spectators at the other schools. It hasn't had too much effect on us yet, but it is getting old," said Dudley.

Being strong in the lower weight classes has been a key factor in the success of the JV team this season. Tim Simone, Mark Ackett, Steve Diaco, and Bobby Myers

have been strong this season. Second year coach Fred Ulrich said his team should fair well as the season progresses. "We beat Dixie Hollins this year, something that hasn't been done in four years. Our two losses were partly caused by a couple of our wrestlers not being able to make weight, so the physical skill is there," said Ulrich.

The two coaches differ when it comes to what upcoming match they think will be a key to the season. Said Ulrich, "Our upcoming match with Countryside High School will probably decide whether or not we have a great season." Dudley said the Wednesday, January 11 match with St. Petersburg High School was the most important match of the season.

Both teams came off victories over Lakewood and Gibbs High Schools. The varsity beat Lakewood 45-23 while the JV won 42-30. The varsity team beat Gibbs 28-24 and the JV team won 54-18.

The post season picture is still up in the air for the varsity team. Since Countryside beat Dixie Hollins in a previous match, the Vikings could tie for the district title. When asked about the outlook for the rest of the season, Dudley replied, "We'll win our share."

Jeff Larkin: I'm crazy now

By Noel Decker

Who makes frantic applications to Duke and Notre Dame Universities, tears his hair out at reluctant photographers and would like to meet Chaucer? Who would like to run away to Paris to jump off the Eiffel Tower, wears retainers and never sleeps? It couldn't be anyone else but Jeff Larkin, *Viking Log* editor, AP student, National Honor Society treasurer and all-around involved person.

Larkin is the type of person who takes being interviewed as seriously as he takes his life. After he is notified that he will be featured in the newspaper, he prepares himself for the upcoming conversation. Once he's finished combing his hair and is comfortably seated, Larkin is ready to take on the world, as well as the questions. He sees the interview much like he sees his life; confidence mixed with a bit of anxiety.

"It's like Coffman's tests, answering these questions," Larkin jokes, comparing the interview with the situations in his life.

Although he claims that his "mind is blank" due to it being overworked by writing three essays on his Notre Dame application, he still thoughtfully answers the questions.

During his three years on yearbook staff, Larkin has served as a "low life", sports editor and is presently editor-in-chief.

"Being editor has made me more responsible," he said. "It has helped me to deal with others and to value their opinions."

He actively fulfills his duties on staff. He is in charge of the opening and closing of the book, section divisions, as well as helping out in the senior section.



Photo by Doug DeLorey

Larkin's favorite classes at Northeast are his Advanced Placement courses because they are the most interesting to him.

"They're a lot of work...a challenge," Larkin said. "You learn a lot from them."

He is also one of the few students from Northeast on Ivey's Teen Board at Pinellas Square Mall. Along with two other male students, he models for the mall and performs other community services.

"Each month we have to do a service project for the community," said Larkin. The Teen Board sang to people at a retirement home at Christmastime. Even though he hasn't found much time to participate

in Teen Board activities, he does show his spirit by frequently wearing his Ivey's t-shirt.

With all of Larkin's commitments in both school and community projects, he claims that he "doesn't have time for hobbies." He does enjoy swimming, but hasn't since October because his pool has been too cold.

Larkin has set high goals in his life for himself to achieve dealing with his education and his career plans in premed.

One of his favorite recreational devices is his stereo. According to Larkin, he listens to his music more than he studies.

"Sometimes I have to unplug the plug so I won't listen anymore and do my homework," Larkin admits.

"I've wanted to do that (pre-med) for a long time, since seventh or eighth grade," he said. Although he's certain he wants to be in the medical profession, he truly doesn't know his reasoning for wanting to do so.

Larkin feels that he has taken a wide variety of academic courses at Northeast, enough to be a well-rounded student. It may be due to this philosophy that he was honored as Rotary Student of the Month for December.

"He seems to be a very dedicated, hardworking person who takes his school responsibilities seriously," said Mr. Rick Coffman, AP English teacher.

Larkin has a lengthy list of accomplishments, some of which he never even dreamed of having.

"When I joined (yearbook) in the tenth grade, if someone told me I would be editor of one of the four best yearbooks in Florida, I would have said they were crazy," he said. "...I'm crazy now."

Features Digest

New sidewalk ramp built by library



Photo by Doug DeLorey

Coming back from the holidays, you may have noticed the new ramp put up against the side of the library. The reason for construction was that in its previous condition, the sidewalk had about a three foot drop to the ground. The sidewalk, located on the north side of the library, posed a safety hazard. Furnished by the county, Area Maintenance Superintendent, Mr. Chuck Roesler, said that the ramp cost "about \$1,000."

Varsity squad improves their cheering I.Q. at Dallas

"It was a valuable experience," explained Ms. Diane Duke. That tells it all as the 83-84 NEHS cheerleading squad had a very successful trip to the National Cheerleading Championships in Dallas, Texas. They finished in the second ten of a sixty-seven team tournament and will find out their exact position later this year.

The squads were required to perform a four minute routine, including two minutes involving music. The other two minutes were dedicated to various cheers, chants and mounts.

"We were very nervous," said Duke. They performed in front of between five to eight thousand people.

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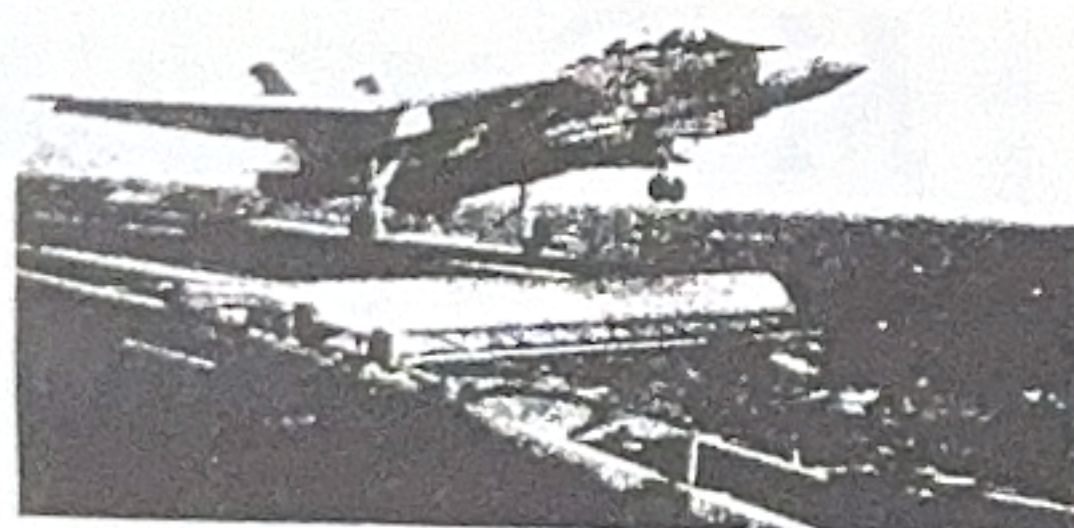
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Fashion merchandising offer NEHI students lifelong experience

By Candy Rice

Do you know how to create an entire wardrobe on a limited budget? Would you be able to coordinate an outfit with only a few accessories? Could you design a clothing display?

The answers to these questions are only a few of the things that students enrolled in the Fashion Merchandising class at Northeast learn.

The two-year program is taught by Mrs. Barbara Elson. The first year is actually fashion merchandising and the second year covers fashion buying.

"The goal of the fashion courses is to train the students the skills needed to obtain a fashion-related job," Elson said.

"It is a generalized program for students interested in fashion."

"We have special projects such as the Ebony Fashion Show which we attend," stated Elson. The Ebony Fashion Show is put on by professional models who travel across the nation. "In March, the seniors from the Fashion Buying class are putting on a Prom Fashion Show," informed Elson.

The students in the classes not only learn how to do fashion shows, but the retailing end of the fashion business as well. Guest speakers such as Vicki McKnight from *Color Me Beautiful* lecture and the students visit fashion businesses in the community.

Students in fashion merchandising are eligible to be in the Distributive Education

Clubs of America (DECA). They work in a fashion-related job and earn high school credit at the same time.

Elson has been teaching fashion-related courses for 11 years. This year she has a student intern from the University of South Florida, Mrs. Pam DiMaggio, who ironically enough was one of Elson's first fashion merchandising students. DiMaggio is presently a manager of Colony Shop, on leave to obtain a degree in marketing. Here until April, she will give her [manager's] view to students as well as teach.

If you are interested in a fashion-related job after high school, the Fashion Merchandising program here at Northeast offers you a head start.

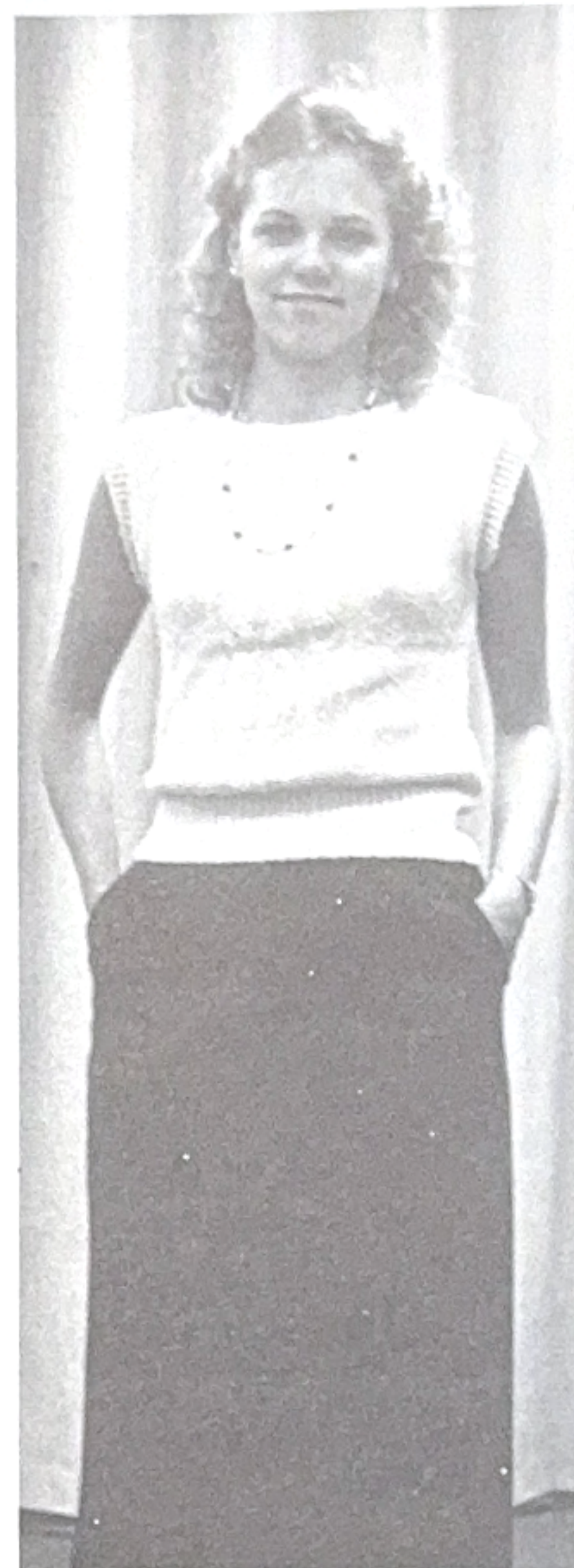


Photo by Doug DeLorey

Mandy Hester displays the "career" look.



Photo by Doug DeLorey

Shani Baker and Kathy Hartsfield model fall fashions.



Photo by Doug DeLorey

Fashion Merchandising teacher, Mrs. Barbara Elson, is all smiles about the anticipated prom fashion show.

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