

Prep News

Rockhurst High School

December, 1966



COVER STORY:

The Nativity scene, a small reminder of the great event which happened twenty centuries ago, is displayed in the chapel. The Prep News Editors hope that the peace and tranquility of this scene will be God's gift to the Rockhurst student body this Christmas.

From the editor's desk

As Christmas rushes upon us, we are inclined to overlook our accomplishments. This year began with the successful start for the football team and a magnificent back-to-school mixer. The magazine drive which followed started out slowly. But then the drive caught fire until we eventually surpassed our quotas. In October we held our annual Speech tournament. With the cooperation of the student body, the N.F.L. members staged one of the most successful tournaments we have ever held. Homecoming weekend was undoubtedly the finest in the last four years. We organized a smoothly-run parade, the football team captured the Homecoming victory, and finally we capped it off with a tremendous dance. In early November the football team concluded its season with a 6-2-1 record and a tenth place ranking in the Kansas City Star. Now the basketball team is off to a quick start and promises to be one of the best in the area. On December 9, 10, 16, and 17, the heavenly play, "My Three Angels" was put on by the Cuesters. The Rockhurst and the Loretto Thespians concurred to produce some heavenly acting in this production. With the Christmas holidays including the Christmas Dance and the Lee's Summit Tournament upcoming, this year promises to be completed in fine style. Surely as we view the 1966 half of the school year, we see much to be thankful for over the holidays. When we return on January 3, we can only hope that in 1967 we may again be able to mold our activities into further successes.

PREP NEWS

ROCKHURST HIGH SCHOOL
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

December, 1966
Vol. 24, No. 4

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Campus

FRED MILLER

If it were possible to select an outstanding character trait out of the many which Fred Miller practiced during his life, it would have to be courage. Ever since Fred started attending Rockhurst, at the beginning of his Sophomore year, he constantly displayed this virtue.

Because he was a transfer student, he was ineligible to participate on the football team that season. In spite of this, he practiced with the Sophomore team every night to become familiar with the Rockhurst football system. However, a protracted illness during the second semester, which required several brain operations, prevented Fred from playing ball for the Hawklets this season.

Although he was absent a great deal because of continued poor health, Fred still managed to maintain a respectable classroom average. Each time he became ill, he talked hopefully of returning and improving his studies. His teachers

Junior Fred Miller who died December 4 of leukemia and a brain tumor.



regarded him as "very intelligent and very conscientious" and comment that on numerous occasions he continued to attend classes when he was so sick he should have remained at home. All those who came in contact with Fred testify that he always suffered in silence and never complained.

The beginning of the second quarter saw Fred hospitalized once more suffering from leukemia. During his brief stay at Richards-Gebaur Hospital he talked to classmates about returning to school in time to start the second semester. Concern for his school work prompted him to ask some members of the hospital staff for assistance in pursuing his studies.

The courage Fred Miller displayed during his stay at Rockhurst is an inspiration to us all, and especially to the class of '68. When the present Juniors graduate they will do so with the knowledge of a great loss because Fred was a genuine example of the complete Rockhurst man. On Sunday, December 4, Fred Miller died as he had lived—with courage.

MIEGE CONTROVERSY

The Students' Decision

In recent years the competition between Rockhurst and Miego has grown to ridiculous proportions. During this year's football season the rivalry led to such juvenile pranks as egg throwing, window breaking and general vandalism. The faculties of both schools agree that unless these grade-school pranks stop that all further interscholastic activities between the schools should be stopped — effective for this year's basketball game.

In order to amend this situation, a Rockhurst-Miego Coordinating Committee has been formed. This group, consisting of Steve Chartrand, Mike Fogarty, Jim Kissick, Ken McCracken and Tim Duval, plus seven Miego students, met with Brother Windmueller and Mr. Frazier

from Miego on Monday, October 24. Numerous concrete suggestions came from this meeting but the main decision was that this was a problem for the students themselves to work out. If the students fail to remedy this rift the faculties will step in and end all further competition.

As a result of this meeting, Brother Windmueller explained the situation to the Rockhurst student body, which later voted overwhelmingly to continue playing the Stags. Another outcome of this coordinating committee was the student exchange program with Miego on Dec. 14. The visiting representatives addressed the respective student bodies in an effort to bring about a suitable settlement. What becomes of this program will determine further relations between the two schools.

The committee urged that the students from Rockhurst and Miego realize their responsibility and end this petty bitterness. This strife is below the dignity of both schools. Rather than this dissension there should be a strong unity between the two schools because we are both in the same district and because the area public schools look at us and judge all Catholic schools by us. However the committee's final actions will be left up to the maturity of the students.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

And No Church Key?

Again this year the Rockhurst Lettermen's Club is sponsoring the annual Rockhurst Canned Food Drive. The chairmen, Mike McMahon and E.J. Donnelly, along with about twenty other Lettermen, will collect the canned goods every morning from December 13 to December 21. At the beginning of the Christmas holidays the Lettermen will sort the various kinds of food and package them for distribution. On December

24, Christmas Eve, supplied with the names of a number of needy families from all over the city, the Lettermen will deliver the food to their homes. The Canned Food Drive at Rockhurst is fast becoming a tradition and brings welcome help to poverty-stricken families during the Christmas time.

CHRISTMAS DANCE PREPARATIONS

Ball and Chains

Preparations for this year's Christmas Dance, to be held tomorrow night, began in mid-November. The planning Committee, consisting of Seniors Tim Davis, Kevin Moran, Greg Claeys and Steve Metzler and Juniors Greg Howard, Mike Marino and Mike Forsythe, decided on the theme of "Christmas in Ole England."

The rec-room will be transformed into a town square surrounded by an Inn, Pub and various other shops. A warm holiday atmosphere enhances the English decor of the Inn and Pub. Passing from the Inn the students and their dates will ascend through an ice-covered passage

Help! An avalanche of paper chains seems to be enveloping a sea of energetic Christmas Dance workers.



into Sherwood Forest. The highlight of the upstairs will be the long, rambling waterfall rolling along in front of the traditionally decorated windows. Entranced by the decorations around them, the Rockhurst men and their dates will dance from 8-11 to the music of the Emeralds.

SODALTY RETREAT

Withdrawal Symptoms

It was a rainy Thanksgiving evening as fourteen Rockhurst seniors began a short drive to the Immaculata Retreat House near Liberty. Again this year, the opportunity was extended to senior sodalists to make a five day closed retreat. This group consisted of the following boys: Tim Shramek, Steve Chart-rand, Ed Donnelly, Virg Staponski, Tom McNamara, George Rahner, Steve Flavin, Rick McMichael, Bob Thedinger, Kevin Barry, Tim Keary, Jim Rusconi, Greg Williams, and Read Baltzer. Faculty moderator Mr. Grattan accompanied the group and kept all phases of the retreat co-ordinated. This opportunity for spiritual contemplation, which lasted from Thursday evening until the following Monday evening, was planned and conducted by Fr. Patrick Schneiders S.J. and Fr. Paul Trincharde S.J.

During their abundant free time, all boys were allowed to wander off on their own over the spacious grounds. A large lake offered an inspirational spot to those who sought solitude. Each boy slept in his own room in the three story mansion and enjoyed remarkably delicious and large meals. An hour and a half after lunch was spent playing football for diversion.

On the serious side, however, each sodalist had enough time and a perfect environment to do a lot of serious thinking about himself. He considered what kind of person he is now, what kind of a person he really wants to be, and what

steps he is going to take to effect a change in the future.

All retreatants observed strict silence except during recreation time and discussion period, during which priests and students discussed prominent questions of the day. At the retreat's conclusion, both retreat masters expressed high opinions of the boys and all felt that they had enjoyed a successful retreat.

SPEECH DEPARTMENT

N.F.L.-A.F.L.

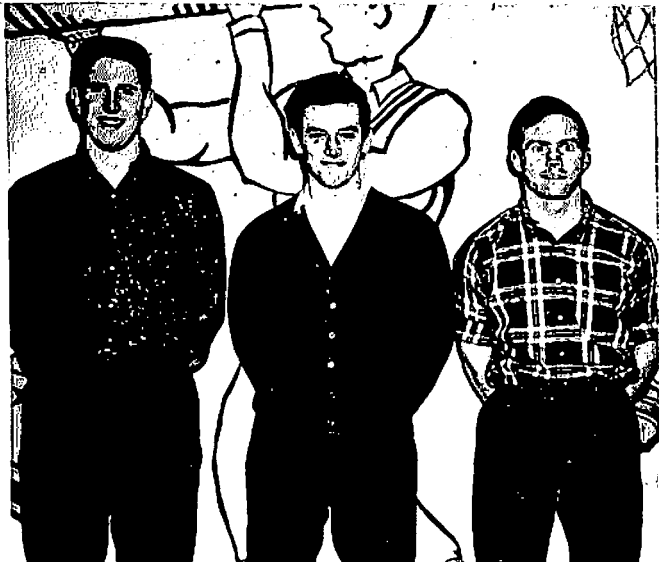
Although most of the student body is aware of the successful program carried on by the NFL, few students actually know just what the speech department accomplishes in its year-round activities. This month's article is written to explain the various speaking events and describe the speech program.

The usual speech and debate tournament has students from 20 to 50 schools competing in five different areas: original oratory, extemporaneous speaking, dramatic interpretation, humorous interpretation, and debate.

Most tournaments last two days, beginning on Friday morning and ending late on Saturday. There are two preliminary rounds in the individual events, followed by the final round in which the best speakers compete for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Debate usually has five preliminary rounds, with each team alternating affirmative and negative. The eight teams with the best records enter the quarterfinals, and the tournament advances until only two teams remain in the final round.

The most important award at any tournament is undoubtedly the sweepstakes trophy, which is given to the school with the best over-all record in all events.

At Rockhurst, about 30 students belong to the National Forensic League.



Top of the Rock men for this month are (l. to r.) Doug Bruce, Mike Pace, and Tom Van Buskirk.

Personalities

TOP OF THE ROCK

Pacesetter

Mike Pace

N.F.L. - 1, 2, 3, 4

Cuesters - 3, 4

WHB Reporter - 4

Unquestionably Rockhurst High School has a multitude of students with various talents. Some students excel in one area and some in another. Rare is the student who excels in all areas. Most students have but one scope of activity in which they function exceedingly well. Once a student finds his particular circle of knowledge he can adjust to and develop his skill. Such a student is Michael Pace. During his tenure at Rockhurst Mike Pace has won for the school many speech trophies. He has traveled to other schools representing Rockhurst ideals. He has participated in innumerable speech tourneys in which he gained honor upon honor for the Rockhurst speech team. Mike's special

talent is in humorous interpretation. This he handles with an adeptness keen from long hours of hard work. This area is Mike's scope of special talent, and last year he displayed this by becoming state champion in humorous interpretation. This unusual skill in forensics has helped Mike also as an actor in plays produced by Rockhurst's dramatics department.

Besides all this, Mike was our W.H.B. reporter for the first semester and contributes untiringly to better Rockhurst's place in Kansas City.

Short and Funny

Tom Van Buskirk

Football - 1, 2, 3, 4L

Track - 1, 2, 3L

Student Council - 3

Skit Committee - 4

Filling the halls of Rockhurst with abundant laughter, walks the tallest short guy in the Senior class, Tom Van-Buskirk. Tom has long enjoyed the exalted position of being one of the funniest guys around. This peculiar attribute makes Tom a person easily liked by all his classmates. Tom has even spread his reputation beyond the Senior class to the whole school with his numerous appearances in football and basketball skits.

No one can say Tom VanBuskirk is not a hard worker. His work on the skits shows this, but beyond that Tom struggled valiantly four years on the Rockhurst football squad before attaining his varsity letter. In the spring one sees Tom sprinting madly down the track in an effort to break his 10.3 record in the hundred yard dash. "Always try to do better," is one of Tom's standing mottos. Ever on an even keel, Tom infects others with his bright outlook. Fellow students look up to him as one who always has a good word and a new slant for something which seemed

absolutely pale before. This seems to be an extremely unnoticed virtue at Rockhurst, even though it is one which seemed absolutely pale before. This Rockhurst students highly regard.

Always on the ball

Doug Bruce

Basketball - 1, 2, 3L.

Basketball - 1L, 2L, 3L.

Senior Class President

Student Council Treasurer - 3

National Honor Society - 3, 4.

Lettermen's Club - 1, 2, 3.

(Vice-President-4)

Although many excel in more than one sport at Rockhurst Doug Bruce has put a little extra into his performances on the basketball courts and the baseball fields. Ever since freshman year he has been an essential part of a Rockhurst B-ball team. Having provided the driving spark for the successful frosh squad, Doug carried it on to add his smiling personality to the varsity his sophomore season. Even though he didn't letter then he came close to receiving one, through his needed substituting for the weary senior guards. The following year however Doug was second to none. He always started in his well-earned hustling guard position - the initiator of many scoring plays. Many times he provided the needed points himself to win certain games with his precision jump shots. Because of his constant cheerful efforts on the courts Doug achieved the blue "R" letter last year as a junior. Most assuredly he will again merit one this year with the season well on its way to success aided by his great Rockhurst spirit.

But Doug is not known for just his dribbling ability. He also has fashioned

a rare record on the baseball diamond. Since freshman year Doug has smoothly pitched his way to a letter, receiving a white one on the championship team of '65. He also covered second base, constantly peppering up the other players with his friendly encouraging words. With all these achievements to his credit Doug also found time to quarterback the championship "Orange" intramural team.

There are many students who spend long hours on various projects at the Rock and receive little or no recognition. The Prep News hopes to correct this situation in a new feature:

WHO'S WHO AT THE ROCK

Mike Forsythe - Junior mainstay of the Poster Club, who spends much time on the many, many posters around school.

Jim Tobin (Senior); Bernard Becker (Frosh); George Donnelly (Frosh) - Three hard-working Cuester stage crew members, the "behind-the-scenes" stars.

Tim Hilboldt; Chris White - Two regulars on the tedious dance preparations. These guys deserve much credit and thanks for their efforts.

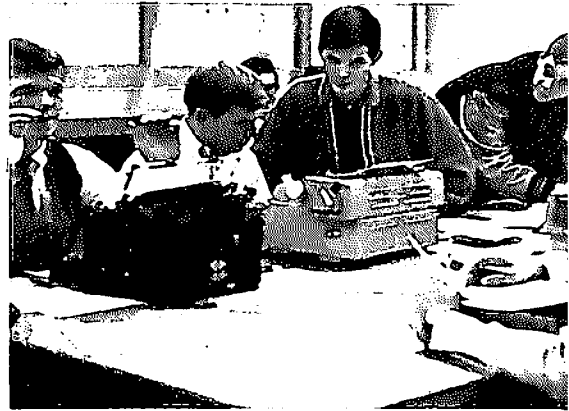
Tim Morrow; Jack Holland - Two Junior football managers who spent many hours keeping our team rolling this year.

Features

The Curse of School Spirit

Far too many students are judging their friends by the amount of school spirit they show, and from this has grown a serious injustice. Too often the high-spirited are down on the students who are not inflamed with an equivalent zeal for their school. Admittedly, school spirit plays an important role at Rockhurst. The individual who is caught up with enthusiasm for his school possesses a valuable experience which broadens his personality and will, in the future, provide him with some warm memories. Certainly, he is better for having felt the satisfaction which accompanies a loyalty to a cause. But must a student be condemned if he doesn't feel this loyalty? Must he be looked down upon? Worse yet, is this boy to be cut out of activities and not given a chance to develop his school spirit?

It is very important to realize that a boy goes through many stages of development in his four years at high school. Consequently, his personality is often inconsistent and his moods range from deep depression to the highest echelons of ecstasy; and these moods may change in only a day. There are going to be times when it makes no difference to a guy whether Rockhurst wins, loses, or even plays, because he has some very important problems of his own which must be resolved. There are going to be many times when Rockhurst just isn't the most important force in his life. And yet, it is primarily during these times that he finds school rammed down his throat and forced upon him until he is sick of hearing about it. His resentment is instantly interpreted by his more spirited classmates as disloyalty, and he is judged to be an



Fighting Editors. Pat Geschwind, Steve Pavel, Carl Migliazzo, Mike Fallon, and Rick Nelson fight time to beat the deadline for the December issue.

ingrate.

This is the injustice. If a guy misses the "big game", why is he the target for a barrage of castigating comments on Monday morning? Nobody seems to be interested in why he wasn't at the game; the fact that he wasn't is sufficient for his classification under "No School Spirit." However, the injustice is often carried further. For example, take one of the Senior Organizational Committee meetings, or a Junior Organizational meeting, or one of the private meetings of various school leaders. Often the occasion rises at one of these meetings to choose some students to perform some job for the school. It is interesting to note who gets picked for these jobs, but it is even more interesting to note the reasons why others weren't chosen: "He never does anything for the school." "He doesn't have any spirit." "He hasn't come to one football game." "He has a lousy attitude." Apparently, the outward manifestation of school spirit has become the basis for a student's worth. This is a poor situation. Maybe the reject would like to do something for Rockhurst, but he doesn't know how to go about it. Maybe he had gone through a period of poor attitude and now can't see any reason to change it because even though he vol-

unteers for projects the same guys get picked. Clearly, the situation has become a vicious circle, and as a result, the individual may never know what it is to really do something for his school. The students who did the choosing overlooked a very important point. School spirit cannot be the basis for judging a student's worth. School spirit must be something which is contagious not military. It must be encouraged not enforced.

Nobody ever had school spirit because they were forced to have it. It's something that develops at different times and in different degrees for each person. For many students, it may be nipped in the bud by continuous rejection of their efforts to do something for their school. A student may never do anything for his school because he never had the chance, or when he was offered the chance he wasn't ready for it, and it was never offered again.

DON'T GIVE UP HOPE

The five dollar prize is still offered for the best essay on cheating. Slip your essay under the Prep News door.



"WHEN" SIES

Monday December 26

Mixer at Visitation with the Chessmen-- sponsored by the Junior Class of St. Teresa.

Tuesday December 27

Big 8 Pre-Season Basketball Tournament at the Municipal Auditorium



Hamstrung Hawklets. Mr. McCabe, S.J., presents the long-awaited awards to the lanky harriers who made up this year's cross-country team. The harriers including: Steve Pavel, Jim Grigsby, Tom Pruett.

Friday January 6

Basketball: Rockhurst vs. Ward at Kansas National Guard Armory

Saturday January 7

Mixer here at 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday January 10

Primary Elections for Student Council

Friday January 13

St. Teresa's Mixer with the Epics. Student Council Election Assembly.

January 14

Basketball: Rockhurst vs. Southwest here at 8:00 P.M.

Entrance exam for incoming Freshmen

Tues. thru Thu. January 17 - 19

Semester Exams

Friday January 20

Basketball: Rockhurst vs. De la Salle at Mason - Halpin Field House

Saturday January 21

N. A. I. A. Track Meet at the Municipal Auditorium

Friday January 27

Basketball: Rockhurst vs. Miego

January 28

Basketball: Rockhurst vs. Paseo at Southeast Field House at 8:00 P.M.

Pictures



Proud Prez. Steve Chartrand proudly accepts the pin which is symbolic of his office of Student Council President. Father Kloster presents the "gavel" at the First Quarter Honors Assembly.

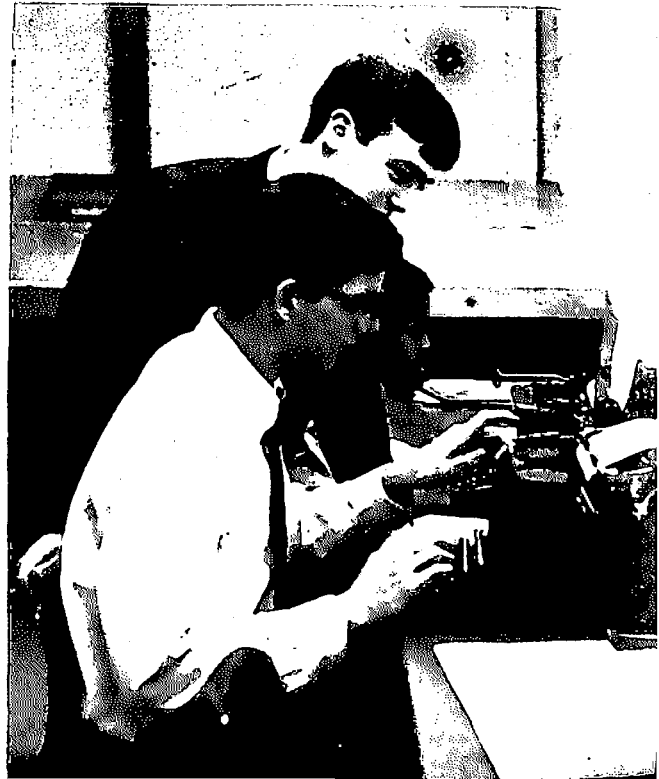


Van on the street. Chet (or was it David?) Van Buskirk interviews passerby Virg Staponski in the pep rally skit before the Central game.

Stage hands. Jim Tobin, George Donnelly, and Craig Sole apply the finishing touches to the scenery on the set of "My Three Angels."



Mailmen. Jerry Krumm (left) and John O'Malley apply addresses to the November issue of the Prep News. These stalwarts not only mail all subscriptions and exchange copies, but they are also responsible for selling ads.



Deadlineup. Editor Tim Shramek and Marc Hughes rattle the Prep News typewriters in an effort to meet the copy deadline. Dennis Reardon (standing) gets in the way.

Sports

VARSITY BASKETBALL

Rock on the Rampage

The Rockhurst team that went into action for the first time November 25 found itself lacking the height that had made Rockhurst Number 1 in the city last year. A lesser team might have panicked to find it's tallest starter boasting only 6' 1" of height. But the intangible spirit and drive of the Hawks, largely due to the encouragement and confidence instilled into the team by Mr. Nickel, coupled with their aggressive press and calculated offense, were expected to offset the height disadvantage.

The Hawklets lived up to these expectations in that first game by downing the Hogan Rams. 46-38. The Hawk press, which was used to good advantage during the entire game, stymied the Ram offense. Outstanding play by seniors John Hill and Bob Fitzgerald, who together held Ram ace John Stacy to only 4 tallies from the field, was a decisive factor in the game. Senior Doug Bruce constantly worried Stacy with his quick, adept steals while scoring 10 points during the contest Hill led the Hawklets with 12 tallies, but his main contribution to the Hawks was his defense and board work. If their opening game was any indication of the style of basketball the Nickelmen will play this year, Hawk fans can look forward to an exciting, successful year.

A Hard Day's Knight

Saturday, November 26, the Hawks met the Southeast Knights on our home

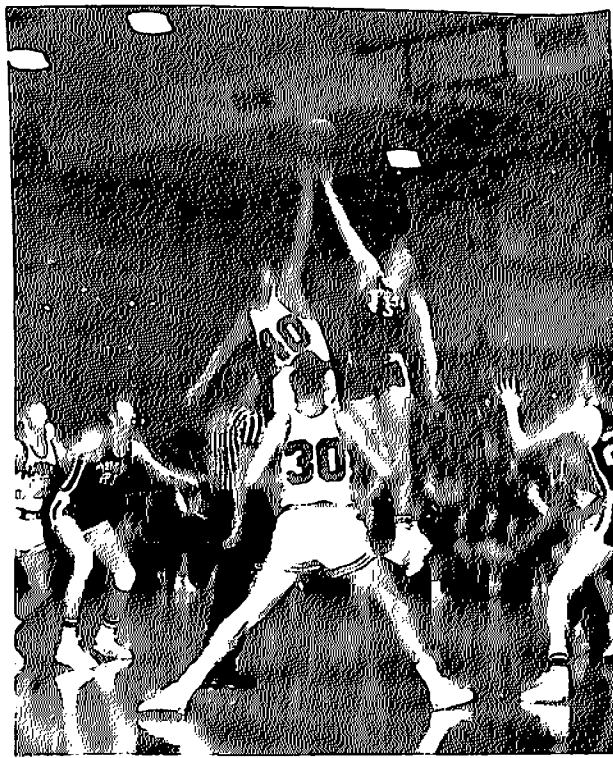
court. High scoring Rock ace John Hill tallied 26 points as the Hawklets soundly defeated the hapless horsemen 64-49. Pete Santoro and Bob Fitzgerald followed behind Hill with 10 and 9 points respectively. By the first quarter the Hawks possessed a 3 point lead, 9-6, but they exploded to a 31-18 lead by the halfway mark. The second half was simply a matter of expanding the Rock's already sizable lead to the final 64-49 spread.

The following week saw the Hawklets rated second only to Central in the weekly standings drawn up by the Kansas City Star.

Fouled up Hawks

On Friday, December 2, the Hawks were handed their first defeat by the Central Eagles, Class L champions of Missouri basketball last year. For the first twelve minutes of the game, the Hawk press and determined offense

Debut. *John Kafka tips off the 1966-67 basketball season against Hogan as Bob Fitzgerald confidently waits for the tip to come his way.*



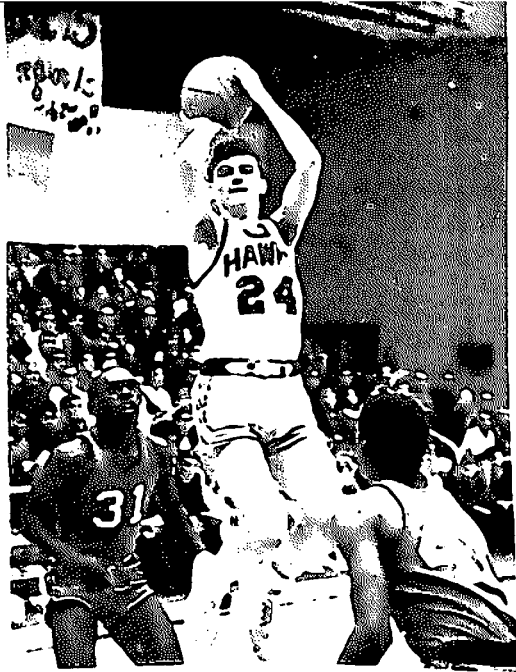
successfully countered the overwhelming height advantage the Eagles possessed – over three inches per man on the average. But in the second quarter, John Hill drew his 4th personal foul, and the overly eager Hawks followed up with several offensive fouls. By the end of the first half, the Eagles led 21-16. Then, in the third period, they blew the game open, picking up 12 of 17 foul shots. Although the Eagles got off only 9 shots from the floor in the second half, their charity shots helped them to pad the score to 55-38 by the end of the game. John Kafka led the Hawks, scoring 9 counters, and Bob Fitzgerald and John Hill, with 9 and 8 rebounds, respectively, vaulted the Hawks to a rebounding edge over the Eagles.

Cardinal sin

On December 3rd, the Hawklet quintet journeyed to Raytown South to take on a tough Cardinal outfit. The contest turned out to be a free throw shooting duel. The Cardinals were camped on the charity stripe as they cashed in on 31 out of 33 donations, as a result of 21 Hawklet personal fouls.

An agile Cardinal offense managed to slip by the rugged Rock press in the first quarter, earning themselves a 14-13 edge. The second quarter saw the Hawklets slip six points behind as the Cardinals, led by their sharpshooting forward Kent Scott, continued to solve the Hawk defense. Although The Big Blue's press pilfered numerous errant passes, their sputtering offense couldn't keep up with the high flying Cardinals – that is, until the fourth quarter.

Senior playmaker Doug Bruce turned deadeye and, with five clutch field goals rejuvenated Hawklet offense. The Hawks slowly but surely closed the ten point gap to the delight of the Hawklet fans, and the Cardinals began to crack under the torrid onslaught of Mr. Nickel's



Southern hospitality. Senior Tom Hughes, a transfer from Memphis, Tennessee, displays fine form as he drills in a jumper from 15 feet against the Central Blue Eagles.

cagers. With Bruce nailing bucket after bucket from the 15-25 foot range, and Mark Beauchamp contributing two clutch baskets, the Hawks pulled to within one with 18 seconds left.

South's ball out of bounds. Bruce comes through with a clutch steal. The Hawks, however, were unable to get a shot off as South forced a jump ball and came up with the tip. The hopes of the Hawks were shot with this recovery, and the Cardinals closed out the contest with two free tosses and a hard won 63-60 victory.

Bruce finished the contest with 22 points on 11 field goals in 13 attempts, and John Hill pitched in with 12. Hill and Bob Fitzgerald controlled the boards and Fitzgerald put the clamps on high scoring Mike O'Donnell.

J.V. BASKETBALL

Hot and Cold

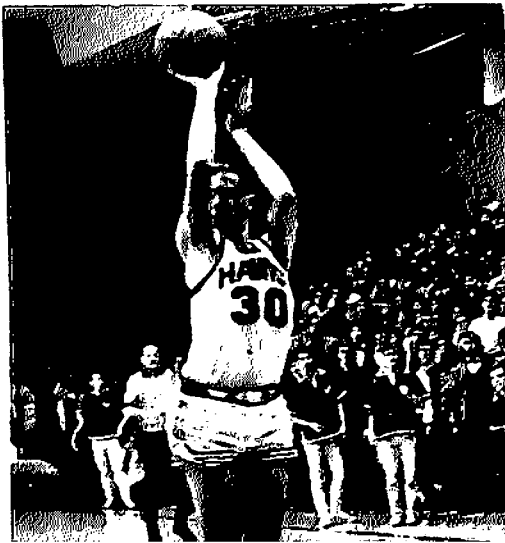
The Rockhurst Junior basketball Hawks, coached by Mr. Cowan, took up where the JV gridders left off as, on

November 25, they trounced the visiting Hogan Rams, 74-28. The junior Hawklets funnelled in 23 counters in the first quarter against only six for the Hogans to exhibit their scoring punch. Junior guard, Pete Santoro, ripped the cords for 15 points to lead Hawk scoring although he saw only limited action. Pat Brosnahan chipped in 12 and Bill O'Connor added 10, as the final score indicated the Hawklet superiority.

The Hawks next entertained the Southeast Knights, but could not match their previous performance. An 18-point second half proved disastrous to the Hawks. They could manage only a total of 11 counters as opposed to 30 for the Knights. Although Bill O'Connor bucketed 14 markers, the final score read 47-40, with Southeast on top.

The on and off Hawklets turned in their best performance of the season to date against the talented Central Eagles. Trailing 34-29 at the three quarter mark, Rockhurst produced a fourth quarter charge and a last second bucket by Pat Brosnahan to pull a well-earned victory out of the fire. The game's hero, Pat Brosnahan, poured in 11 for scoring honors. The final score - Rockhurst 41, Central 40.

Itz Fitz. Senior pivot man Bob Fitzgerald draws a bead on the bucket, displaying the touch that he has developed through long hours of practice.



The next night, the JV trudged to Raytown South and once again were locked in a see-saw battle. They saw a 23-18 lead go down the drain in the second half, as the Raytown South Cardinals assembled a last ditch scoring threat to squeeze by the Hawks in the last seconds of play. A free throw with less than 10 seconds left proved to be the winning margin as a last second Hawklet shot failed, to leave the score 37-36, South.

SOCCKER

Kicks are for kids

Although it is still on a rather small scale, soccer is ever increasing in popularity throughout the Kansas City area. Many grade schools are incorporating it into their athletic programs. Rockhurst was the first area high school to take up the sport, and was instrumental in its gaining widespread popularity.

Varsity soccer coach at the "Rock" this year is Mr. Leonard McCabe, S.J., who has moved up after being assistant coach for the past season. He is backed up by Mr. Gratten, S.J., who will handle the freshman and sophomore teams. The outlook for this year's team is bright indeed, for the Hawk "booters" are deep in experience. The front line is composed entirely of returning lettermen who will be ably backed up by players who all have some varsity experience. Offensive standouts are seniors John Bodden at center forward, Gabe Estrada and Steve Flavin, a co-captain, at inside, and Andy Waters at wing. The defense, while boasting only two lettermen - Rick O'Brien, a co-captain, at center halfback, and Jeff Jennings at fullback - still retains the look of experience, with most of the defenders having seen some varsity action last year.

Diversions

DUDLY'S DASTARDLY DEED

Once upon a time, in the land of Beaver Falls, Minnesota lived a lad, Dudley Deadly by name. Dudley's mother, Gertie, was a wicked old woman. Approximately one year ago she had told Dud that unless he became a doo-bee and quit being a don't-bee, the big fatman in the sky wouldn't bring him any presents. (For the uneducated this is Santa and/or Claus.) Little did she realize that in Dud's small pea brain she had planted the "Grapes of Wrath". After nearly a full year of plowing, Dud's ripe mind (rotting while plotting), had formulated the most treacherous, evil, deceitful, wicked, criminal, and/or mean plot ever conceived! (It wasn't very nice either.)

His plan was simple--so was Dud. He would steal the Sledmobile on Christmas Eve, turn it into the Dudmobile, and give out the presents to all the Jews throughout the world. (We told you it was a nasty plan.) No longer would they call him stick in the mud Dud! Soon he'd have the whole toy racket going for him, all under his Deadly grasp.

Dastardly Dudley Deadly decided now was the time -- he'd strike while the icicle was cold.

December 24 dawned on Dud, and boy did it hurt. After a last minute on everything, devious Dud departed on Beaver Airlines -- the food and ride were miserable, but the service made up for that. Upon his arrival in Anchorage, Dud spotted Ed "Hate those horses" McMahon sweeping up the runway. Hurrying to the local "Hurt Rent-a-Sled" company, Dud picked up a sled and hurried out of town. About three miles out of town he put it down. Four miles out of town one of the

dogs had a flat paw. Alas! There was no man around and Dud knew that he would need this, the eighth dog, to continue. In a lightning flash of creative inspiration Dud fed the dog a piece of Stewart infrared pizza, to take his mind off the pain in his foot.

Leaving with seven dogs, he proceeded onward and/or upward to new heights of glory and/or the North Pole.

Later Dud stopped to deliberate under a spreading Chestnut tree, that was inadvertently planted there by Johnny Appleseed. Dudley deliberated dubiously over this and became greatly overwrought. O shades of Sigmund Freud!

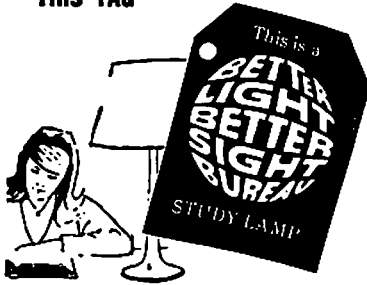
Meanwhile back at the Claus hacienda, preparations were being made for the defense of the Sledmobile against Dud's Deadly doings. For unbeknownst to Dud word of his doing had leaked out to Santa. (Don't ask us how, but in this story nothing can hold water.) Irving elf, head of the North Pole branch of NORAD, decided there was no cause for alarm as he figured anyone with the name Dudley Deadly would prove to be more dudly than deadly.

Therefore when Dud detected the duplex domicile (half of which was occupied by the Clause's and the other by Amelia Erhart -- O shades of discovery!), he perceived no discernible defense and decided that he would have an easy go of it. Thereupon he proceeded directly to the roof, whence he bounded down the chimney, thereby becoming dark, dusty Dudley Deadly. But begosh and begone, this was the day for Santa's test run down the chimney. After he sped down the darkened abyss he handed with a thud, scaring poor Dud into swallowing his cud. Oh shades of nausea!!

Cagey Clause and all the evil elves attacked destitute Dud and threw him into the reindeer's watering trough -- which was frozen solid. This really broke up the elves, and Dud was out cold. Which just goes to show you, don't mess around with any elves that know karate.

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