

Old Building Undergoes Facelifting

Southwest had considerable facelifting over the summer. Major improvements were: the restoration of the fourth floor, completed locker changeover, a new floor and painting in the cafeteria, new lighting for the old building, exterior painting, and new curtains in the auditorium.

Spiegel Glass, general contractors, completed the work on the fourth floor, which was damaged by fire last year. Restoration included new lighting, painting, replacement of destroyed flooring and doors.

All lockers were changed over to facilitate students using their own locks. The changeover was made on 1,400 lockers that originally had built-in locks. Some lockers were converted to the new style last spring to test their effectiveness.

The cafeteria floor was covered with vinyl one week before school started. Earlier this summer the cafeteria was painted as well as the exterior of the old building. Another improvement of the cafeteria was the installation of two exhaust fans

in the ceiling near the doors leading to the main hall.

All offices, classrooms and the first floor of the old building had new fluorescent lighting



photo by John Dengler

An electrician installs new lights in the old building.

installed. The work, which took almost the entire summer, was completed by Briener Electric Company. Also, room 400 was to have fourteen mercury-vapor lights installed by Briener. Installation of the lights was scheduled for last week.

Volland Studios replaced all the curtains in the auditorium. Many of the old curtains were badly torn or frayed.

Other improvements will be continued as the school year progresses. The Fetto Electric Company will begin modification of the fire alarm system. Assistant Principal Gene Gladstone said, "There will be fewer alarm boxes because there are more than enough needed for the area covered."

Mr. Gladstone said that plans for storage room under the auditorium balcony were sent to the Board of Education for next year's improvements. This storage room would be used to hold all audio-visual equipment. At the present time three rooms are used to store the AV's supplies.

SOUTHWEST PIONEER

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photo by John Dengler

Mooo!

Crowded staircases are typical scenes between periods at SW this year. Enrollment is the largest ever, eclipsing 2,770.

Pioneer Calendar

Oct.

5—No school, teachers' in-service meeting

8—Hello Day, double aud and dance

13—DAT tests for freshman

14—DAT tests for freshman

19—Freshman orientation, period 7

23—Homecoming football game and Miss SW Dance;

23—National Merit Tests for juniors

23—Scholarquiz—SW, CBC, Maplewood

25—Holiday—Veterans' Day

Enrollment Approaches 2800

Over 2,770 students are enrolled at Southwest this 1971-72 school year. The total number includes approximately 620 seniors, 660 juniors, 700 sophomores, and 800 freshmen.

Although the Board of Education estimated that freshmen classes would be smaller, this year's total enrollment is larger than ever. According to Miss Bonnie Burgett, administrative assistant, our freshmen class is short of last year's record high by about twenty students.

The student-teacher ratio at Southwest is 27.8 to 1, slightly above state requirements, while the student-counselor ratio is 395 to 1.

Twelve Teachers Join SW Faculty

Twelve new teachers have been added to Southwest's faculty to make a total of 107. This number is down from last year's total of fifteen.

Two teachers have been added to SW's largest department, English. Mrs. Sue Davies, who has been away a year on maternity leave, has returned and is teaching freshmen and juniors. Miss Linda Moran, who was a student teacher here last spring, is teaching freshmen and sophomores.

The Social Studies Department has gained five teachers this year. Mrs. Wilma Bremer, who taught Black Humanities at SW last year, is now a full time instructor here and is teaching Black Humanities, World History, and

Twentieth Century History. Mr. Gerald Mueller, who has taught in St. Louis three years, is also teaching Social Studies. Mr. Warren Rolf, who graduated from SW "way back in the dim past," is teaching freshman history. Mr. Ronald Ward is teaching World History, Contemporary History, and Economics. Also new to the department is Mr. Peter Kincaide, who has taught in St. Louis public schools 21 years.

Miss Carolyn Siegel, who teaches Pre-Algebra, Algebra, and Geometry, as a new addition to the Mathematics Department. Miss Siegel has expressed a desire to start a tennis club here this spring.

An addition to the Science Department is Mr. Ralph Sneed,

who is teaching General and Advanced General Science. Mr. Sneed taught physical education in elementary schools before coming to SW.

New in the Home Economics Department is Miss Gunhilde Dudziak, who is teaching Family Living and Basic and Intermediate Clothing.

The Business Education Department has gained Mrs. Wanda Jones, who is teaching Type 1 and Stenography.

Mr. Barnett Sinnett, who has taught 20 years in St. Louis, is teaching music here.

Also new to the staff of SW is Mr. William Fricke, a security guard.

Merit Scholars

Make Semi-Finals

Seniors John Baltzer, Thomas Espinola, Valerie Mayse, Martha Renner, Rosalynn Van Heest, and Rebecca Vuch are among the 15,000 semi-finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Testing Program.

As semi-finalists, they will compete with students all over the country for about 3,000 Merit Scholarships to be awarded in 1972.

This year's number at Southwest is the highest SW has had in recent years. "We're making a good comeback. SW has more semi-finalists this year than any of the other St. Louis public high schools," Mrs. Kelly, assistant principal, commented.

About 96 per cent of the semi-finalists are expected to become finalists and every finalist will be eligible to compete for Merit Scholarships. However, because NMSC's funds are limited, only about 20 per cent of the finalists will win Merit Scholarships. Merit Scholarships will be announced publicly next April and May.

Mr. Ecker Recovers

Mr. Anton Samples New Role

Students were puzzled a few weeks ago when they reported to Mr. Al Ecker, administrative assistant, only to find a new face behind the familiar desk. Mr. Leon Anton, social studies teacher and football coach, was sitting behind that desk during most of September while Mr. Ecker recovered from a chronic back problem.

Mr. Ecker had been in traction at St. John's Hospital since September 3 with a chronic back problem possibly involving a ruptured disk. Mr. Ecker was to have returned to Southwest last week but may need to go back to the hospital for surgery to correct the back problem.

"I wouldn't want it," responded Mr. Anton when asked if he would like his temporary job full time. Mr. Anton feels it is the most unrewarding job in the school because only problems seem to come through the office door.

Sorting through a huge pile of unprocessed cut slips, Mr.

Anton remarked, "To associate only with problems all day long is very unenjoyable. I miss the classroom and teaching students."

Used to the rigid discipline he requires of the football team, Mr. Anton doesn't know if he was any harder on the students in this job than Mr. Ecker. A few students walking out of his office felt that the temporary disciplinarian was at least Mr. Ecker's equal.



Mr. Anton: "To associate only with problems is not very enjoyable."



photo by John Dengler

Student Congress Officers (from left) Debbie Vincer, Sandy Wyatt, Dave Wymer, Joann James, Sue Baylard and Miriam Caldwell, members of "Our Gang," are up to their breeches in hanky panky plans for the Hello Day and next Friday.

Rascals

Bum Steer

Wage Freeze Makes Spender Boil

By Debbie Regan
PIONEER Feature Writer

President Nixon's ruling on the wage and price freeze has had a dismal effect on my allowance. Calling me into the oval room, the board of directors, namely my father, made it perfectly clear to me that a raise in my allowance could be made only in a dire emergency.

The only problem in my family is convincing my father that I am in dire need of raising my allowance.

In order not to squander money on makeup, I spend half of my mornings scrounging in

my mother's drawer, looking for old discarded lipstick. Lately, though, my lips are developing an old age pucker. I became desperate for mascara and used insoluble ink, which makes me look like Tiny Tim. Replacing earrings caused me some trouble, but I didn't give up. After many experiments, I found that gluing flower petals on my ears isn't as bad as it sounds. But lately, my ears have been wilting and I have to water them twice a day.

Since my father wouldn't give my mother money to buy

patches to sew on his pants, my mom patched them with his old socks. It's funny, but my father keeps putting his shoes on his knees!

After two weeks of using a sledge hammer to flatten bottle caps for a necklace, my biceps were swollen. My father finally gave me a small raise in my allowance when I was sent home for beating up our wrestling coach.

My father may be fudging on the freeze. My mother found some silk handkerchiefs in his pocket and asked if they were new. Silence followed. My father finally said hesitantly, "I went to see an Egyptian dancer and these were given out as souvenirs." I thought he didn't like dancing.

Everyone else in our family is beginning to notice that the bare necessities aren't as simple to obtain as they were for me. Right now, my brothers are trying to slit their already worn-out soccer socks with a razor blade that has gone through the forty shaved-faces test, so they have an excuse to buy new ones.

My father is stranded in the middle of the highway. He tried to save on gas by adding water to the gas tank. Now the mixture is only good for salad dressing. And my mom is in the kitchen crying, probably adding onions to the one-course meal that we've had everyday for five weeks now — BEANS!

Two Supervisors Man Study Halls

A new dimension has been added to study halls at SW this year. Mr. William Genck and Mr. Timothy Knieste, two official study hall supervisors, have been added to the faculty.

Mr. Gene Gladstone, assistant principal, explained that instead of having teachers handle four classes and one study hall, it is more economical to hire regular study hall supervisors at substitute wages with teachers freed to teach five full classes.

Mr. Knieste is a social studies major who just graduated from Missouri University in St. Louis. Although he would like to teach at Southwest, he enjoys

his study hall job and says, "I don't find it too boring."

Mr. Genck is an English major from Southwest Missouri University and a 1965 graduate of Southwest.

Commenting on the dress code, smoking lounge, and free study, Mr. Genck says, "The students are doing now what we would have done at the time." He obviously has a small advantage over students since he was a student here himself.

"Kids are sneakier than they used to be," he says. "Having gone here, I know most of the tricks they try to pull although they are not quite as well polished with their trick as we were."

Traveling Teachers Discuss Trips

By Arnell Hinkle, Sue Henderson
PIONEER FEATURE WRITERS

Although many may not realize it, teachers can have fun during the summer. In fact, several teachers at Southwest have done unusual and exciting things before returning to school.

Mr. Steven Techner, math instructor, spent two weeks on a Canadian farm learning how to weave. He and his wife drove to Canada, stopping off on the way at various cities and camp-sites.

Mr. Techner's schedule included eight hours of weaving and two hours of weaving theory a day. "There's a surprisingly great amount of theory in weaving," Mr. Techner said. "After only two weeks I had 20 pages of notes." Weaving theory involves the actual setting of the loom and patterns.

When asked if the Southwest art department should initiate a course in weaving, Mr. Techner said, "It would be interesting, but weaving requires great patience. I've got patience galore."

Mr. Gary Shell, math instructor, completed a twenty-six day cross-country trip this summer through the East on his 350CC motorcycle.

He was on no strict schedule, traveling when he felt like it and stopping periodically

along the way to rest and read.

"The freedom from a schedule was particularly appealing," he recalled, "and when riding a cycle, you can see so much more of the scenery since you really don't have to keep your eyes on the road every second."

Mr. Shell traveled light, carrying only a sleeping bag, camping out along the way.

Of the people he met, he reflected, "I got a real education this summer. In all my experience in camping out, I have found the most cordial people to be: campers and hippies, who shared food and firewood with me whenever I needed any."

However, roughing it did have its disadvantages. The first night of his stay in the Smokeys, he inquired if there was any trouble with bears in the parks. The ranger reassured him that he would be perfectly safe as long as he did not venture from his tent. However, not having a tent, he spent the night very awake.

His itinerary included: Memphis, Atlanta, Washington D.C., the Smokey Mountains and Civil War battlefields.

Will he ever tire of his journeys? "Eventually, I suppose, I will get tired of it, but only if I ever see everything there is to be seen."

Mrs. Imogene Clayton, physics instructor, saw the sights in and around Geneva, Switzerland on her vacation.

For twenty-eight days, she was the guest of her former college roommate and husband in their chalet in St. Claude, France.

She found Geneva to be growing rapidly with ten-story buildings going up all over. She was saddened, however, that the more historic parts were not totally preserved.

The only real drawback was the language barrier. In Switzerland, three languages are spoken: Italian, German, and French, none of which she could speak.

Miss Cathy Brennecke, math instructor, also spent her summer across the Atlantic.

She visited Italy, France, Switzerland and Germany with a friend.

Her favorite place was Venice. She liked the art and architecture and the ruins of past civilizations.



photo by John Dengler

Mr. Steve Techner, math instructor, displays a piece of cloth he wove himself. Mr. Techner spent two weeks last summer learning how to weave at a weaving school in Fulford, Quebec.

In Stitches

News Shorts

Transfers Gain Free Study

Unlike last year, transfer students will gain free study privileges as soon as their transcripts are received and approved, according to Mrs. Mary Kelly, assistant principal. The change was instigated by Student Congress last spring.

As in the past two and one-half years, sophomores, juniors, and seniors who received no F's last June in full credit subjects may exercise this privilege.

New Uniforms Brighten Cheers

Eight long years of tradition have been broken with the introduction of new sweater uniforms for the cheerleaders, and fashionable saddle shoes have replaced the familiar tasseled boots. The Pom-pon squad also plans to keep warm this winter with new white sweaters displaying the steer and pom pon.

Co-captains for the squads are: cheerleaders, seniors Joann James and Kris Keaton; pom-pon, seniors Marie Caras and Rebecca Vuch.

'Culture Center' Float in Parade

Betty Asher and Donna Brown, Two Southwest graduates who created the float, "Culture Center," last May, were to ride their own design along with eight other Southwest students in the Fall Festival Parade last Saturday morning. Also featured in the annual city parade were the Southwest Marching 100, under the direction of Mr. Robert Nordman, and the Pom Pon Girls, sponsored by Mr. Steve Techner.

Steers To Face Rugged Test Against Bulldogs

The Southwest football squad will make their first home appearance of the season when they clash with the Sumner Bulldogs tomorrow in a PHL contest at 1:30.

Sumner had been a perennial PHL cellar-dweller until a year ago. Last season the Bulldogs made great improvement, finishing with a respectable record of 4-4-1. They are rated as possible title contenders in 1971 and will be anything but pushovers on Saturday.

Last Saturday the Longhorns were stunned by a surprising McKinley team, 27-22. In the first quarter SW had several good scoring chances but couldn't capitalize.

Down 27-7 early in the fourth quarter, the Big Green Machine staged a desperate

comeback. A 34-yard scoring pass from quarterback John Whitaker to end Paul Lazare and a 15-yard run by Whitaker brought the Longhorns within a touchdown of victory. McKinley ran out the clock, however, and dropped SW's record to 1-2.

On September 17 against Maplewood, a 25-yard field goal by co-captain Barry Brambilla enabled the Longhorns to escape with a 3-0 victory. Brambilla's kick came with just three seconds left in the game and gave SW its first victory of the season.

A short Maplewood punt had given the Steers possession and good field position with less than a minute remaining. A pass reception by halfback Derek Cummings and a run by quarterback John Whitaker preceded the goal.

This marked the second time in two years that the talented toe of Brambilla has given the Longhorns a victory. In the league a year ago, he kicked a 35-yarder with just 17 seconds remaining, giving SW a 3-0 victory over Sumner.

Last year, SW demolished the Blue Devils, 28-6, and came heavily favored into this year's contest. From the opening kickoff, however, a determined Maplewood eleven held the Steers to an even standoff. Neither team had many good scoring chances.

In what unfortunately is becoming an annual event, SW dropped its season opener with a 13-7 loss to Vianney, September 11. This marked the fourth straight year that the defending CAC champs have corraled the Steers.

For the first time in those four years, however, the Longhorns appeared to be the better team. After halfback Dan Shea returned the opening kickoff 75 yards for a Griffin touchdown, SW controlled the game. Hard running Derek Cummings capped a 70 yard



photo by John Dengler

A herd of opposing tacklers makes the going rough for SW halfback Kurtz in the September 11 game at Vianney. Kurtz wasn't the only Longhorn with troubles, however, as the Golden Griffins edged SW 13-7.

Help!

scrambling for four yards for SW's only TD late in the second quarter. For the day Cummings grinded out 94 yards in 25 carries.

It wasn't until early in the fourth quarter when the momentum switched hands from SW to Vianney. A 15 yard scoring pass from Griffin quarterback John Zeiser to end Joe Boyer broke a 7-7 deadlock and provided the winning points.

As far as the PHL race is concerned, Coach Anton feels

that Southwest, Beaumont, and Cleveland will be the top three contenders. "If we can stay healthy, our chances will be as good as anyone's" he stated.

Beaumont boasts a defense that has given up an amazing average of only 4.3 points per game in the last 19 years.

Cleveland, which has a tradition of winning football, will depend upon experienced players like tackle Rick Melendez and end Terry Chamberlain, both three-year starters, to lead the way.

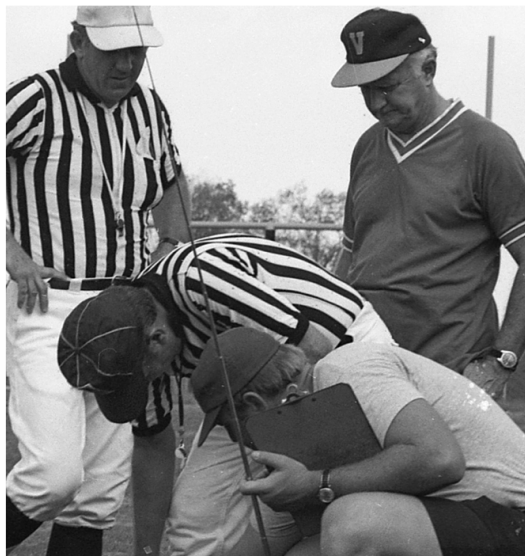


photo by John Dengler

Busted Play

Players aren't the only ones on the football field who get hurt as Head Linesman Charlie Huber proved in the September 11 game with Vianney. Mr. Huber suffered a broken toe when stepped on by a SW player in the second quarter.

Harriers To Meet Central, Roosevelt

The Southwest Harriers will meet Central and Roosevelt at Carondelet Park at 4 p.m. next Tuesday. The Longhorns defeated both teams last season and this year's chances are just as favorable.

"Even though many of our top runners graduated, we have several good returning runners," said Mr. Bud Wallach, SW cross-country coach. Seniors Bob Akers and Bob Solomon, and juniors Kevin Wirthlin, Mike Wilson, and Anthony Baron are expected to be top performers for Coach Wallach.

Starting his sixth year as cross-country coach, Mr. Wallach commented briefly, "It's a tremendous sport." As usual, he is very optimistic about the coming season and is hopeful for a repeat of last year's success. SW made a complete sweep of honors in 1970, winning the PHL title, the PHL Freshman-Sophomore title, the District title, and placing seventh in the State meet.

In their first meet of 1971, the Steer road-runners tied for eighth with St. Charles, host for the meet. Most of the top cross-country teams in the area were present at the September 17 Invitational. SW finished with 231 points, compared to 35 for meet-winner Riverview.

Coach Wallach expects another dogfight for both the PHL and District crowns. "The competition for both has

always been tough, and this year is no exception," he stated. Cleveland and Sumner are SW's chief competitors for PHL and District honors. County schools, such as Riverview, Hazelwood, and Kirkwood, are exceptionally tough. The Harriers will meet several county schools in the Beaumont Invitational, October 15, at O'Fallon Park.

The team practices everyday at Forest Park. Coach Wallach is using a new technique — running hills. He feels if the team is fast on their hilly courses at practice, they will run their opponents into the ground on all regular courses.

A pleasant surprise this season has been the work of sophomore Ron Haley. Haley has proven to be tough competition for even the senior runners and shows great promise for the future.

GAA Organizes With New Sponsor

GAA Basketball will organize early this month under the new leadership of Miss Mary Ann Griot. Six senior girls eligible for GAA officers are: Cathy Ernst, Cathy Buhre, Donna Gerhardt, Kris Keaton, Cathy Scully, and Vicki Wellman.

The swim team is hard at work practicing for their meets. The Southside Invitational involves Southwest, Roosevelt, and Cleveland; the Competitive Swim Meet and the Synchronised Swim Meet are the important water events of the year. Sponsor, Mrs. Falker is hoping for juniors Cheryl Wilkening, Joann Klasek and Amy Barrow to be ribbon-winners.

This year the GAA is sponsoring a new organization, Leader's Club. Any girl having free study or who is better than average in phys. ed. can belong. The girls will volunteer to assist the gym teachers in any way possible. This is a very necessary part of the gym program, because of the extremely large sizes of the gym classes.

Longhorns Elect Football Captains

Seniors Derek Cummings and Barry Brambilla have been elected football co-captains for the 1971 season. Both are beginning their third year as varsity starters for Southwest.

Cummings, and offensive halfback, is the first black captain of any team in SW athletic history. He has totaled more than 800 yards over the past two seasons and was the Longhorns leading scorer last year.

Brambilla has seen action as an offensive tackle, linebacker, and placekicker and is considered one of the finest players in the St. Louis area. Last season he was named to the All-City team as a linebacker and the All-PHL team as a placekicker.

Sports Calendar

Football

- Oct. 2—Varsity and B Sumner at SW
- Oct. 9—Varsity and B Beaumont at Northwest
- 16—Varsity and B Roosevelt at Roosevelt

Cross Country

- Oct. 5—SW, Central, Roosevelt at Carondelet Park
- 7—Southside Invitation at Jefferson Barracks
- 12—SW, Sumner, Vashon at O'Fallon Park
- 15—Beaumont Invitation at O'Fallon Park



photo by Rich Hartmann

Coming Through

Senior Co-captain Bob Solomon, second from left, leads juniors Adrian West and Mike Wilson as they thread their way through the pack during the St. Charles Invitational Cross Country meet.