

# SW To Lose Orchestra Next Semester

"I refuse to let Southwest students, the administration, or faculty accept any blame," said Mr. Robert N. Nordman, instrumental music department head.

Mr. Nordman was referring to the SW orchestra, which will be dissolved at the close of this semester. There are no longer new string students coming to SW since the string program on the elementary level was terminated several years ago.

SW is not alone in having problems with maintaining an orchestra. Other area schools are experiencing similar difficulties in providing string players.

One may ask why string players cannot be taught in high school. "It would be like a literature class

where the students hadn't learned to read yet," said Mr. Nordman.

The voters who refused tax increases, resulting in too few teachers with little time working with antiquated equipment are responsible for the end of our orchestra, according to Mr. Nordman. "Unfortunately, it takes a catastrophe to make voters see what's happening," Mr. Nordman believes.

In December 1969, after two years of conferences and correspondence with instrumental music consultants and various superintendents, Mr. Nordman wrote a 21-page report suggesting improvements for the St. Louis elementary school string program.

In the report were graphs predicting the end of the orchestra at SW. Although everyone agreed with

the ideas for rescuing the program and felt it was important, there was not enough money and insufficient supervision to do anything about it.

The new supervisor of instrumental music is working hard to create a renaissance in the string program at the elementary level, but Mr. Nordman is not optimistic. He's having difficulty obtaining sufficient funds to do much more than what amounts to too little too late," he said.

The stage band will take over the orchestra's long held role as accompanist for future operettas. This will limit the possibilities to shows having specific band arrangements.

Even Mr. Nordman's most optimistic prediction puts 1974-75 as the first year SW might possibly have an orchestra again.

## SOUTHWEST PIONEER

Southwest High School

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MARCH 24, 1972

### Faculty OK's Task Force Proposals

By an overwhelming majority, Southwest's faculty approved all the items on the Principal's Task Force Report that was presented for approval on March 10.

Faculty approval was the second step in the procedure for putting the task force proposals into effect, following Principal Robert M. Young's suggested revisions.

As the third step, the student body was to have voted on the eight provisions and three proposed committees last week.

Although slight in comparison to votes of approval, most opposition was voiced about those items involving classroom planning, critical evaluations, and personal seating arrangements in classrooms.

Very few opposing votes were tallied for provisions A, dealing with mutual respect of teacher and student, B, dealing with mutual courtesy, or H, in regard to the private possession of a locker for each student.

The remaining items, the right to expression of personal viewpoint and the right to periodic grade conferences and access to grades, passed with little opposition.

Senior Jim Thomas, Task Force member, commented of the faculty passage. "It turned out bigger than we thought it would. The committees will be the strong points."



Photo by John Dengler

### Stage Struck

April 20, 21

Leads for the Senior Play, "Stage Door," are (from top), Brad Slavik, Nathalie Aksentijevic, Bob Orf, Jane Jurgensen, Sue Baylard, and Valerie Mayse.

### 'Stage Door' Leads Picked

Audiences will get a glimpse backstage in the theater world when the Senior Class presents the play *Stage Door* on Thursday and Friday, April 20 and 21.

Mr. Robert Lewis, dramatics teacher, will direct the play written by Edna Ferber and George Kaufman which deals with girls who are aspiring to become actresses and the conflicts involving in achieving success.

*Stage Door* is a contemporary play with eighteen female and eleven male parts. Mr. Lewis wanted a large cast "to give the opportunity to stage a good play for as many people as possible."

Seniors Sue Baylard and Jane Jurgensen play the leading roles of Terry and Jean, two good friends who become Broadway and Hollywood actresses. The other principal actors are Nathalie Aksentijevic, who plays a suicidal, Valerie Mayse playing the comical Judith, Iris Farrell as Mrs. Orcutt who runs the theatrical home for the girls, Brad Slavik as a producer, and Bob Orf, who plays a playwright. All the players are presently seniors.

The cast was chosen on March 7 and 9 by Mr. Lewis, Miss Sharon Culli, Mrs. Marie Markowski, Mrs. Martha Ryan, and Miss Kathy Brenneke.

### Appalachian Girl Aided By Advisory

Five year old Tina of Jackhorn, Kentucky now has clothes, toys, and an education due in part to the efforts of Mrs. Sharon Alexander's junior advisory.

The effort began in November as a project to unify the advisory. Fifteen dollars a month is sent to a Save the Children Federation Center where Tina is registered.

There are two other children in the family, and their father, a student, supports the family on an income of less than \$1000 a year.

The advisory appointed Marvyna Lewis secretary and Doug Jeffrey treasurer. Together, they collect the money and write letters to Tina.

### SC Improves Lounge

Improvements made in the Smoking Lounge (room 116) by Student Congress have had positive results. New furnishings make the room brighter and are designed to entice students to keep the room clean. Mr. Pat Meloy, SC sponsor, commented on this point, "The better something looks, the greater tendency people have to keep it looking that way."

The clean-up project actually started last summer when SC officers recruited Mrs. Regina McKinney, math teacher, to make the curtains.

In September, a committee from SC was appointed to finish the project. Five wooden spools used to coil electric cable were obtained free from Guarantee Electric Co. to be used as tables.

Mr. Art Miller, shop instructor, was asked to sand the spools and make necessary repairs. Mr. Meloy praised Mr. Miller on the co-operation of his classes. Both spools and curtains were fireproofed.

Future hopes are to paint the room, first, with a gray primer and then a wax. This will prevent anyone from writing on the walls.

Debbie Vinceri, SC treasurer, stated, "The smoking lounge doesn't have to be a mess; it's only what the students make it."

### Students, Teachers To Retreat to Fordyce House

Thirty Southwest students and fifteen faculty members will attend a seminar retreat at Fordyce House, the retreat and conference center for St. Louis University, on April 7, 8.

The purpose of the seminar will be to improve racial understanding at SW.

Teams will be established consisting of one black student, one white student, and one teacher.

The students attending the seminar were selected by a student committee. A wide range of students was chosen, including many underclassmen, in the hope that the effects of the talks would carry over next school year.

Photo by John Dengler



### Spool Proof

Senior members of Student Congress, Mariam Caldwell, Debbie Vinceri, Dave Wymer, and Nelson Berra are hard at work painting the new tables for the Smoking Lounge.

### Pioneer Calendar

Mar.	24	Mid-semester exams periods 2, 4; Pep Aud, period 7
27-31		Spring vacation
April	12	Band-Choir Concert
	13	Report cards issued
	18	PTA Meeting, 1:15 p.m.
20-21		Senior Play, <i>Stage Door</i>

# Unique Method Benefits Students

Is there some subject in which you are interested, but is not being offered at school? Have you always wanted to read about the Impressionist painters, or African Ubangis, or the migratory habits of birds, but never found the time?

If Southwest had an independent study program, you could research a topic of your choice and receive credit for it. In independent study you could work on your own, at your own pace, but receive help from a teacher when you needed it.

Three students at Southwest are now taking an independent study course in calculus. Because the calculus course was discontinued this year, seniors Denise Koehr, Arlo Hasselbring, and Tom Espinola, attend regular math classes but study calculus instead, getting individual help from Mr. Frank Merchant, math teacher, when they need it. Calculus tests are administered by Mr. Merchant, and the students receive grades and full credit for the course.

"Independent study is a

By Anne Jemas  
PIONEER Editorial Writer

terrific solution for taking a course not in demand, but you have to rely on yourself to learn the subject. You work at your own pace," commented Denise.

Last year, a form of independent study was employed in Mrs. Sue Lampros's A.P. and E. class when for the remaining five weeks of the course, the students were allowed to research any subject they chose within the bounds of the course, and were required only to turn in a paper at the close of the term. Senior Nathalie Aksentijevic, who decided to study fashion history, said, "When the book isn't there to hem you in and confine your ideas and studies, it becomes pretty exciting to pick your field of interest."

Independent study is an established part of McCluer North High School's curriculum. All of the courses at McCluer North last one quarter, like our midi courses,

and students there have the option of taking a subject on an independent study basis. At the beginning of the term, the student and teacher discuss what would be a fair amount of work for each to accomplish within the quarter.

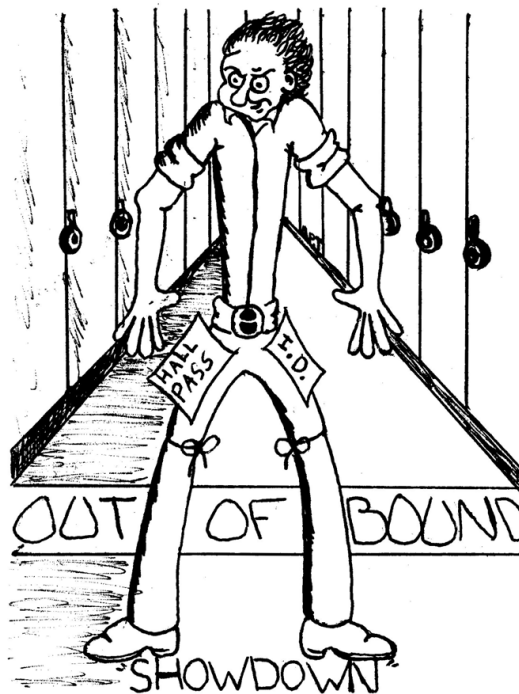
After coming to an agreement, the student completes a form, or "contract," explaining what he will do to receive credit for the course. For example, a student could write one lengthy paper on "status in the family" to receive a credit in social studies.

Students in the independent study program do not compete with each other, are not divided into tracks, but, rather, work at their own speed. The assistant supervisor for secondary education at McCluer North, Mr. Henry Prokop, feels it is to the student's advantage when he "is not making a comparison to other people."

The independent study program could be incorporated into the midi courses at Southwest. If a student preferred to work on his own in a particular course, he could set up a contract with his teacher, and meet with the teacher only when he needed help.

Even better, a whole midi course could be devoted to independent study in each area. If enough students wanted to research a social studies subject on their own for a quarter, they would form a class of students each doing different things, getting individual help from the teacher, and receiving credit in social studies.

This way, students who are interested in a valid subject that is not being offered is given time and credit to study something they want to know about. Also, since many colleges have independent study programs, the high school student would have the opportunity to see if he can work on his own



## Are Penalties Effective?

The penalty system at Southwest has been a controversial issue for several years. Some believe the system is too lenient while others say it is harsh; but few find the assigned penalties (suspension points, study halls, etc.) a deterrent. Most students punished for cutting a class, or smoking out of bounds, will continue to do so.

No effort is made to reform a student who has broken or bent a rule. Perhaps if the punishment suited the offense, something could be gained from the experience.

Recently, a constructive form of punishment has been adopted at SW. Students having no free study periods are required to clean cafeteria tables in lieu of receiving suspension points for infractions. This form of correction is a step in the right direction.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to devise suitable punishments for all violations. However, cleaning johns, picking up litter, and washing graffiti from walls, for example, would serve as ample reproof for smoking in johns, littering, or vandalizing school property.

## Elective Course Exposure

Lack of knowledge rather than lack of interest in elective courses is probably one reason many students are not aware that Journalism is worth English credit or that Psychology-Sociology is a social studies credit course.

There are many standard elective courses such as Family Living or Dramatics that are skipped over by students making out their schedules. Sometimes the students do not know what kind of credit they will get for a course.

Other times, they have a stereo-typed impression of what the course entails.

To remedy these problems, PIONEER suggests that there be an underclassmen orientation program, much like college day, arranged sometime before schedules are made out.

Each elective course could be represented by a panel of students taking the course, along with the teacher and some materials used in the course, such as textbooks or hand-outs.

Students could be free to go from panel to panel asking questions on what the course has to offer and what its credit is.

This would probably help to decrease the problem of students being stuck in a class for twenty or forty weeks that may not serve their needs or interests.

## Library's New Look—Going Beyond Books

By Kathy Williams  
PIONEER Editorial Writer

Have you ever stopped to wonder why the library here at Southwest looks somewhat strange? One of the causes of the recent furniture shuffle is the acquisition of an invaluable resource of knowledge in audio-visual equipment.

A total of \$2,146 has been spent within the last year for micro-slides, films and the machines that project them.

"There are a lot of materials that the students are not aware of here," stated Mrs. Mildred Connors, one of the librarians. "The students that do use them are enthusiastic."

The majority of students who use the A.V. materials are most intrigued by the micro-film reels and machines. There are two viewers which not only magnify the micro-films, but can make duplicate copies when necessary.

In the multiplying stock of micro-film, there are articles from 54 magazines and an impressive collection of 200

reels of the *New York Times* dating from 1854. The Schomberg collection of 131 reels is a rich source of black history and culture beginning from 1827.

Photo by John Dengler



A student utilizes a new resource available since the addition of materials to SW's library.

An interesting addition to Southwest's library is the collection of microfiche materials. There are three microfiche readers in the area of the library which has been enclosed for A.V. usage. One of the reader-printer machines can be converted to make photo copies of microfiche and aperture cards. The microfiche cards make available materials on urbanization, housing, health, etc.

Film loops are also a part of the new equipment acquired this year. Twenty-eight loops have been purchased which contain demonstrations in biology, chemistry, and gymnastics. The eight new record kits have enlarged the library's record collection.

New facilities will have to be found for this new equipment if its usage will be effective. Speaking for the librarians, Mrs. Connors said, "We hope for another room which will be set aside for A.V. equipment. Sometimes it is so crowded that students cannot work."

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## News Shorts

### Band, Choir To Perform

The date for the Band Choir Concert has tentatively been set for April 12, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium. Admission is \$.50.

### Deadline Set for REFLECTIONS

Entires for *Reflections*, Southwest's annual literary publication are due April 10. Any student wishing to contribute original selections of poetry or prose may do so through his English teacher. The magazine will come out in mid-May at a cost of twenty-five cents a copy.

### Five nominated for Awards

In a national program sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English, Juniors Susan Kinast, Chris Pashos, Jerri Smith, Mark Thompson, and Pat Virtue have been nominated for citations of excellence in English with special emphasis on written composition.

### PIONEER Reporters Win Honors

Nine PIONEER staff members won awards at the Junior Journalist Press Conference writing contest held at Washington University February 26.

In the Excellent category, winners were seniors Jane Ash for editorials, Denise Koehr for leads, and Steve Rakel for sports. Meritorious awards went to senior Nathalie Aksentijevic and junior Sue Henderson for features and senior Jim Thomas for sports. Honorable mention went to seniors Anne Jemas and Wendy Pfaffenback for news and junior Kathy Williams for editorials.

PIONEER has received the highest rating, All-American, for the first semester, awarded to the paper by the National Scholastic Press Association.

### Talking Becomes a Game

Learning can have its humorous side effects as students in Mrs. Ruth Morrissey's sophomore English class found out recently. Instead of simply having her students write out English usage exercises, Mrs. Morrissey believed they would learn more quickly if they could associate the work with a humorous experience. Therefore, students took sentences from the book exercises and stated them without comment to various members of the faculty for their reactions. Here are some of the results:

To Miss Celeste Henshaw: "Neither of the these answers is correct." Reply: "What was the question?"

To Mr. John Hogenmiller:

"Are all of the books on the shelf?" Reply: "What books?"

To Mr. Larry Gross: "The last of the assignments is complete." Reply: "What's that?"

To Miss Mary Griot: "Several of the games were cancelled." Reply: "Yes, I know they were."

To Miss Sharon Culli: "The view from the mountains was splendid." Reply: "I'm glad you liked it."

To Miss Frances O'jile: "One of my friends has the flu." Reply: "So What?"

To Mr. Robert Young: "Most of the snow has melted." Reply: "I didn't even know it was snowing. Glad to know it."

Who said the art of conversations is dead?



Photo by John Dengler

### He Nose How

Displaying his nose of steel, Senior Class President Frank Givens takes time out from balancing his books to do an encore from the Senior Show, "72 Skidoo," in room 32A.

Photos by John Dengler



Acts from comedy to rock bands were presented at the senior show, "72 Skidoo," March 2.

### Seniors Become Teachers

## The View from the Other Desk

By Rosalynn Van Heest  
PIONEER Feature Writer

Thirty-three Southwest seniors are finding out what it's like to be on the other side of the desk. These students, who are members of the Cadet Teaching Program, are serving in fourteen elementary schools in the SW district.

Every afternoon the Cadet teachers arrive at their assigned schools at 1 p.m., and work there till 3:15 p.m. Aside from their usual jobs of teaching classes, these students tutor slow learners, assist with class projects, and help the children produce plays. One teacher's aide brings her guitar and plays for the children.

"I feel the best thing about the program is that everyone concerned benefits from it — the teachers, students, and us, too," commented Rich Hartmann, who is in charge of tutoring eight third-graders at Wade School. "I have already decided that I want to be a teacher."

"I just love it. The kids are really sweet, and it's great to know you've helped somebody," noted Barb Haralson, who tutors first-grade slow learners at Mallinkrodt School. "I almost wish it could be for the whole day," she added.

Carolyn Specking, who works with slow math and reading students and teaches fourth grade at Longfellow School, likes it because "it gives me experience with different children's personalities. I have a fantastic teacher, Miss Sweeney, and I really enjoy working with her."

Another advantage of the program was revealed by Jack

While several problems have arisen, the Cadet teachers have enjoyed their work very much. They find great satisfaction in knowing that they have helped the children.

Bilow, who tutors six children and teaches a first-grade class at Buder School. "I plan to be a teacher, and this program has helped me learn to cope with the problems and situations in the grade school classroom. I also feel I am really helping the kids I tutor," he explained.

Several drawbacks in the program have been found by the Cadet teachers. Some found the grade school math quite challenging because it had changed so much in just a few years. Many students whose jobs are tutoring felt they would prefer teaching a class instead.

Assistant Principal John Close, co-ordinator of the program, explained, "The purpose of this program is to offer students here a relevant experience in child psychology and to be of service. I believe they can help grade school teachers who have problems with overcrowded classes. There are students who are willing to help and teachers who need them."

The teachers have only compliments for the kids who work for them," Mr. Close noted. "After five weeks I can say this program is a booming success."



Senior Barbara Haralson listens to a first-grader's recitation. She is one of thirty-three Cadet Teachers from SW.



By Jim Thomas  
PIONEER  
Sports Writer

The season-ending 60-59 loss to Roosevelt in the State Tournament was typical in many ways of the entire season for the SW basketball team.

It was a frustrating loss as the Steers came close to another big upset over the Rough Riders. In this way, it was similar to many setbacks throughout the year. But, also, it showed that the Longhorns could and did play good basketball against some of the area's finest teams.

A string of three straight late season victories and the fine team play in the close losses to Sumner and Roosevelt turned what might have been a disappointing season into what could easily be called a success.

SW's 10-14 overall mark and 4-5 PHL slate weren't impressive records, but they were the best in three years. The cagers' fifth place tie with Beaumont and Central also topped the performance of the previous two seasons. Turn a few of those one and two-point losses around and the Steers' record could just as easily have been 14-10, instead of 10-14.

As for next year, juniors Gary Wideman and Larry Edinger should provide the nucleus for further improvement. Wideman's ballhandling skills and steady play were a pleasant surprise, while Edinger's late-season performance provided hope for the future.

Two of Coach Warren Gower's top performers were awarded at the recent lettermen's banquet at the Watson Terrace Church. Forward Ken Loddeke, who ended the season with a 22-point per game scoring average was named the team's most valuable player. Senior John Rehling received the most improved player award.

All you karate fans are in for a real treat. The National Karate Tournament finals will be held in the new boys' gym on April 26 at 1:30 p.m. Admission is only one dollar to see some of the best karate experts from all over the United States.

Word has it that there is a strong possibility that SW will field an interschool ice-hockey team next winter. Also, plans are being made to begin a B-team soccer program, according to an unofficial source.

## Track Competes At FVCC

Southwest's track team started its season with meets at Florissant Valley Community College, March 3 and 4.

A track team has to have a great deal of depth to do well

in a relay meet and since SW did not have this depth they were unable to do as well as their individual talent may have suggested, according to Coach Steve Nuske.

In their second meet, March 10 and 11, SW proved to be strong in the shot put and sprints.

Senior Jose Diaz came in seventh in the shot put out of 25 schools and ranked third among the PHL schools. Jose's put was 47 feet 9 inches.

The senior division 880 relay team of George Graham, Leon Hite, Luther Fleming, and Bill Kuba placed fifth out of a large field of 28 schools. They had a time of 1:32.4.

With the beginning of the outdoor season there is still room for more cindermen, but as Coach Nuske expressed it, "We need SW bulls, not SW steers."



Sophomore Ned Thurman practices his form for the high jump.

# 'Bird Legs' Bostic Shows Cool

By Steve Raket PIONEER Co-Editor

"I just try to keep my head together." This is junior Tom Bostic's philosophy of life and sports. He's one of the new breed of athletes — the free spirit.

For a guy who was once called "bird legs" last year by his coach, Tom Bostic is now an important part of the SW baseball team. He was the All PHL centerfielder as a sophomore. According to Coach Ed Graham, Tom has almost everything — good speed, hitting, a great arm, and fine overall raw talent. "He still has a lot to learn, but he's intelligent and learns quickly," said Mr. Graham.

Tom finds baseball the most interesting of all sports. He's played the game as long as he can remember. With his typical cool and flowing confidence, Tom stated his goal in life with

a grin on his face, "I want to play pro baseball .... and have a \$200,000 salary." He said that he admires Henry Aaron as a ball player but added with his machine gun-sounding laugh, "Rick Winkler's my number one idol; I like his style — the way he handles himself."

Bostic also plays football under the coaching of Mr. Leon Anton. "He's a hard worker and has a good attitude," stated Mr. Anton. The coach added, "He's a hitter, has good speed, and has great hands and tremendous timing."

Coach Anton plans to use the junior as a receiver and possibly have him do some kicking next season. "Tom will be one of the quality players next year," concluded Mr. Anton. Tom idolizes the pro



Hopeful candidates for the Varsity Baseball Team warm up at a recent practice at Sublette Park. The Steers have to get their stiff arms ready for the season opener, April 3, against St. Mary's.

## Loosening Up Green Monster Primed for Opener

Beware! The Green Monster has prepared its attack and hopes to show no mercy on any and all opposition.

After over a month of pre-season practice, Coach Ed Graham's Varsity Baseball squad appears to be ready and eager for another exciting year. The Steers will again open against St. Mary's, a team which the SW Batmen defeated last year by a 4-1 score.

The game is slated for a week from Monday at Sublette Park. SW will open defense of its co-PHL crown when league play behings on April 18 against the Northwest Blue Devils.

For 1972, the Longhorns will boast an excellent pitching staff and a veteran outfield. No less than five of last year's six varsity hurlers are back and all hope to crack into the starting rotation. They are seniors Bob Downey, Dave Economon, Sam Kerley, and John Whitaker, and junior Tony Miles.

In the outfield, steady senior Gus Mezinis will be back for his third season at his familiar left field spot. He will be flanked by junior Tom Bostic in center, an All-PHL performer last season, who will try to improve upon last year's honors.

Anchoring down the infield should be seniors Johnny

Schilling at first base and Ron Allen at second. Other infield candidates who are also returning are senior Tom Correnti and junior Gene Droege.

Behind the plate, senior Rick Winkler hopes to regain his catching from of two years ago. Rick was hobbled last year with knee surgery.

As far as the league outlook is concerned, Coach Graham stated, "There should be better overall strength and balance in the PHL this year. Five or six teams should be considered. We

should be considered, if for no other reason, because we tied as champs last year and have thirteen squad members returning."

He will be looking for better execution on the part of his ballplayers and the elimination of mental errors.

All in all, however, Coach Graham believes, "Potentially this team is the best of the teams I have coached at SW, because it has more depth in pitching." Hopefully, the "potential" will develop into results.

## Spring Sports Attract Girls

GAA has been on the go during these winter months. Interschool basketball wound up its season in first place with an unblemished league record. St. Elizabeth was the only school to defeat the team in non-league play.

Girl's bowling teams practiced hard for the SW Bowling Tournament. The SW pin-maidens hosted Roosevelt and DuBourg bowlers. This tournament was held at Arway Lanes, March 15.

Meanwhile, the gymnasts are polishing their routines for their meet to be held here on April 8.

Under the new leadership of Phys. Ed. Instructor Miss Jody Krone, the girls hope to do well in competition. Returning team members are seniors Karen Kleppinger and Becky Vuch; juniors Connie Duever, Sharon Schimsa, Trudy Stuckey, and Debbie Witt; and sophomore Patty Thee.

Not to be forgotten, the girl's track team is deep into practice sessions.

Mrs. Erline Falcker, girls' PE teacher, meets weekly with these girls. All their practice and hard work will be put to the test on May 3 in the first meet of the season against Cleveland, Roosevelt, and McKinley.

football player, Gene Washington of the San Francisco 49er's. "I dig the way he runs his pass patterns and catches the football."



Junior Tom Bostic: cool, confident, and collected.

## Sports Calendar

Baseball	
April 3	St. Mary's here (Sublette)
6	SLUH here
10	CBC there
11	Hancock there
13	Vianney here
14	Mercy there
15	Dubourg here
Track	
March 25	State Indoor Columbia
April	
5	Central here
7	Sumner here
12	Southside Relays Roosevelt
14	League Relays

In addition to football and baseball, Tom plans to try to play basketball next year. He wanted to play for Mr. Gower this year but said he was too beat up after football. This is typical of Tom Bostic's style — he takes things as they come. Nothing seems to bother him.

Quickness and ability to avoid major injuries are the things that have helped the 5' 9", 150 pound junior the most in sports competition. He wants to improve his hitting for baseball and get his weight up for football.

"He's potentially one of the best athletes SW will turn out," stated Coach Graham. Tom Bostic could be an important member of three Longhorn teams next year. However, of prime importance now is the drive for a championship baseball season for SW.