



PROWLER

Vol. V No. 4

O'Fallon Township High School, O'Fallon, Illinois

Dec. 20, 1974

Winners Third Year In Row Juniors Win Spirit Chain



Mark and Greg Headberg watch as Doug Mathews adds to the Spirit Chain.

The final results of the spirit chain drive were the juniors first with \$313.24, sophomores \$286.84, seniors third with \$186.51, and freshmen in last place bringing in \$116.71.

The Spirit Chain is a traditional charity drive which has been sponsored by the Student Council for the past several years.

The purpose of the drive is to give the money that was donated by the students of each class to senior citizens and needy families in the O'Fallon area. The money is then divided by four and one fourth goes to the winning class in the Spirit Chain competition. Traditionally this class in turn donates the money back.

Another portion of the money goes to the Needy Family Fund in town. The grocery stores then contribute food to match the amount purchased by the fund. The food is distributed in baskets to needy families.

A third portion of the money goes to senior citizens and shut-ins in O'Fallon. They receive \$5 and at least a half hour visit from the Student Council members delivering the \$5. The old people seem to appreciate the visit as much as the \$5.

For the fourth portion of the money, Public Aid sends names of people, some on aid, others not but needing assistance. The Student Council then purchases whatever is recommended by the social worker in the way of clothes or gives the family a sum of money for Christmas that the social worker suggests they are capable of handling.

This year, canned foods and toys were also accepted during the Spirit Chain drive. They were collected in large containers which sat in the cafeteria during the lunch hours.

There was also a dance sponsored by the Student Council which required two canned foods and \$.50 for admission.

Honor Society Adds To School Charities

The members of the National Honor Society and Student Council combined their efforts last Sunday to raise money for the needy families in the O'Fallon area.

They collected donations by soliciting from house to house in various neighborhoods and subdivisions.

The students met at the high school at 1:00 to receive their assigned street routes and identification cards.

The combined effort between house to house soliciting and money raised at the high school band concert totaled approximately \$480.00.

Various Organizations Boost Steve Junod Fund

Twenty-year old Steve Junod, a 1972 graduate of O'Fallon High School, is receiving help from OTHS students in a fundraising campaign. Steve was afflicted with spinal Meningitis when he was eleven, and he will undergo an operation that will cost \$15,000. Stands are being set in the cafeteria during lunch hours so that contributions can be made toward the operation.

The movie, "Jesus Christ Superstar", was shown last night as another fund-raising project for Steve. This was sponsored by the Drama Club and Tri-M. Donations were also accepted during the chorus concert Dec. 8.

Steve's mother works in the school office as a bookkeeper. She said that many personal contributions as well

as contributions from various organizations have been made towards Steve's operation. She seems very confident about the situation.

Steve went to New York in August for tests. He will return there for the operation which is on Jan. 7. He will remain there for six weeks.

In the operation, they will put a brain pacemaker in his brain to stop or control various forms of motor disorders. This will prevent Steve from having seizures.

In the back of the brain, electrodes are implanted, which are connected by small wires to receivers implanted in the chest. An antenna taped to his chest will send signals from a pocket transformer to the receivers. These receivers then send the signal to the brain.



Miss Lynn Albrecht, escorted by Mark Klaus, was crowned Christmas Queen at the annual Christmas Ball held Dec. 7.

EDITORIALS



Slow Music for Formal Dances

Everyone looks forward to formal dances. It is one of very few times that a girl can put away her blue jeans and put on a special long dress.

The Christmas Ball and the Prom are classified as formal. Yet, there remains a tendency of the bands playing at such affairs to limit themselves primarily to fast songs. It should be stressed that a young woman in a long dress cannot dance to quick tempoed songs without making herself and her escort appear out of place. This also applies to guys wearing suits and ties.

This year, the Christmas Ball band failed in this respect. Very few slow songs were played. The ones that were played came only after requests.

Several students at the dance were obviously dissatisfied. This was documented by the increase in the number of participants in dances during slow tempoed songs.

For those who like only the fast dances, we give them support. However, the Christmas Ball and the Prom should be reserved as special formal affairs.

The Junior class should be urged to keep this in mind for the Prom, for music is an important part to making the formals different from an after-game dance.

Steve Gribat

Books

I Never Danced at the White House.
by Art Buchwald

According to the book's jacket, "Buchwald scores again with a richly, hilarious book sure to put off any Whitehouse invitations for another century or so." Art Buchwald's new book proves claim to his title as "King of the Satirist." He covers the Washington scene as it has never been covered before. His writing ability combined with his talent to criticize leads to pure reading enjoyment.

The book reaches all spectrums of Washington, but complements none. All books must have an era. Here he chooses the Nixon era, which provides enough information for three books. He misses no incident in his coverage of these most interesting years.

The book is divided into short stories, each with its own plot and characters.

Unafraid of the high and mighty, he comments on the latest fads and fetishes with a wicked, cruel, and delightfully funny zest. Tactless, witty, and always funny, Buchwald scores again with "I Never Danced at the Whitehouse."

Record Albums

Masters of the Airways

Commercials on the radio acclaim this album as a force unknown to the universe. And after listening to this album I decided the universe was better off not knowing about it.

"The commercials go on to say more. 'To listen is to surrender, they say.' 'Masters of the Airways' will make prisoners of your ears, they say."

After these statements the friendly K-SHE DJ comes on and says "Masters of the Airways available at Lame Duck Records." That's a good place to buy it, because this album is a lame duck!

Mirage - Camel

Camel takes flutes, guitar, bass, drums, and synthesizer and mixes them together to make a mellow, electronic sound. The band played with the Blue Oyster Clut and Wishbone Ash this Thanksgiving Eve at Kiel auditorium in St. Louis. Reaction to the concert was varied, but most people agreed that Camel was better than Wishbone Ash and Blue Oyster Cult.

LETTERS to the Editor

No Class Cuts

After reading the article on "jocks" and "freaks," I became concerned with the misconception that some students have about the nurses' office at OTHS.

I agree that "jocks" can be found in the nurse's office at almost any hour of the day; however, the idea that they are there to get out of class, "even when they are not sick" is very wrong. In this instance, I must support the "jock" when he is in the nurse's office. It is on his "free time." (Anyone caring to check the daily records to sustain this statement may do so.)

However, the subject of "freaks," "socialite" and "socialite freak" is another issue. These are the ones who frequent the nurse's office with vague complaints of "stomach ache," headache, dizziness and others in attempts to get out of class for one or more hours. They don't want to be counted absent from school, just want to be here for free periods when they can "get together" with their fellow freaks, socialites or socialite freaks.

So, again, I would appreciate more "jocks" and "jockets" at school, because as a rule they are the physically fit and well persons, and usually have a fairly good mental attitude also.

Gloria Knewitz

Jockettes New

Mrs. G. Knewitz has explained everything the way it is with the "jocks," "freaks," "socialites," and "socialite-freaks", but she has a new category for those girls who wear good clothes and jeans, and also get good grades. They are the "jockettes", and are usually the ones who enjoy PE and extra-curricular activities.

The "jockettes" don't belong to any clique, and can be found almost anywhere at OTHS. They have their minds made up as to who their friends are, and what they want to do.

If being classified or stereotyped upsets you, always remember that you're as good as the next guy, and he's no better.

School Spirit - Dead or Asleep?

This is my last year at OTHS and I'd like to make it as fun as possible. But since I have been here

the spirit in this school has been getting worse instead of better.

A good example would be the

dances. When I was a freshman, everyone seemed to enjoy them. The kids would dance and have a good time. Now, no one wants to go to them.

I've noticed the change not only with the dances, but also with a few other things. The pep assemblies

seem to do nothing for the kids except to get them out of class. It seems that the only time the pep

assemblies are enjoyed is when the kids are involved in the assembly.

Also, at some sports, hardly anyone shows up; for example, wrest-

ling, golf, and cross-country. There are seldom announcements as to when these sports are. There-

fore, no one ever knows when such sports have an activity.

I'd like to see this school get some

enthusiasm back into the kids for the future students at OTHS.

Maureen Lillie



O'FALLON

PROWLER



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The OTHS Prowler is published once a month by the Journalism Classes. Every aspect of production is done by the students, thus making the Prowler a truly student publication.

Santa Visits Everywhere

Perhaps it is about time you were informed about that mysterious fat man who slides down your chimney on Christmas Eve.

The original Saint Nicholas was the bishop of Myra and Lycia in Asia Minor in the early 4th century A. D. He was the patron saint of children, young people, and also pawnbrokers.

December 6, his death, is the feast day of Saint Nicholas in some Catholic countries. Nick wears a red bishop's robe and rides through town on a white horse on the eve of the feast. He inquires about the behavior of the children during the past year and hands out presents to them the next day.

The name Santa Claus comes from the Dutch Sinter Klaas. The early American Dutch pictured him as a jolly old man with a good natured wife named Molly Grietje.

Somewhere during the 18th century, Santa Claus was combined with the Norwegian Kriss Kringel who contributed the sleigh and reindeer.

Women-libbers will be happy to know that Italy has a female Santa named Befana. Other names for St. Nick include Jule-Nisson, a gnome from Denmark, Father Christmas from England, and Pere Noel from France.

German children look eagerly for a visit from Sankt Nikolaus. In Russia, little ones anticipate a visit from Ded Moroz, (Father Frost), who is always accompanied by his Snow Maiden, Snegourochka.

Sleep Fills Extra Hour

If you were given one more hour every day, how would you spend it?

Many OTHS students were asked this question. It seems that most kids are sleep-minded. They would rather sleep more than anything else. There were a few more industrious people who said they would get things done that "they never have time for otherwise". Some said they would do things that they wouldn't do otherwise."

Another category of people said they just wanted to get out of the house and party or go messing around. But, on the contrary, there were those who wanted to sit by themselves and listen to music, write a letter, read a book, watch TV, sew, or eat.

The more ambitious group would do their homework or exercise. One girl perked up and stated, "I'd shave my legs!"



O'Fallon Language Dept. One of Best in County

The wide variety of languages taught here at O'Fallon makes it one of the best language departments in St. Clair County.

The department is headed up by four years of French. In the first two years of French, the department is dedicated to develop audio-lingual skills which include correct pronunciation, comprehension of contemporary spoken French, and the ability to communicate basic thoughts, needs and wants.

In the third year of French, similarities and differences are presented through specialized units which cover daily life. The fourth year of French is an advanced course for the students to gain a greater knowledge of French civilization and culture.

OTHS also features four years of

German to the students. The first year of German is dedicated to giving the students a good foundation in correct pronunciation and correct translation of stories and words. German II and III are reviews in depth of first year German. German IV is an introduction to German culture and society. The culture is introduced in third year German but is developed more fully in fourth year.

Spanish, too, is a popular subject here at OTHS. It offers four years of extensive study in the culture and history of Spanish countries, with complete courses teaching the ability to listen, speak and read the

language. The department wishes to develop an appreciation for Spanish society and language.

O'Fallon has two other languages which aren't quite as well known. They have Latin I and II and Conversational Russian, which are both

taught to expand the student knowledge of languages. They both teach the basic grammar and vocabulary along with some of the culture.

There is no one specific answer to the question, "Why study a foreign language?" Reasons are as varied as students, for only each individual knows why he wants to learn a particular language. Students who plan to attend college are urged to take a foreign language. While a majority of colleges have dropped the foreign language requirements for entering students, most will grant college credit to entering high school graduates who demonstrate a foreign language proficiency on an advanced placement test. The opportunity to transfer high school achievements into college credit is a strong encouragement for qualified students to pursue a three or four year program in a foreign language.

'Average' Student Stumbles Through

From the very first break of dawn, I settled on the observation of your average student. Upon entering the cafeteria I immediately found my subject. There she was, 30 minutes early, sleepy-eyed, yet wide awake. She finds when she sets her books on the table that they do not remain there very long, because one side of the table is three inches shorter than the other side. She suddenly realizes it is going to be a great day.

First bell rings and off she goes. She thinks, "First hour English, another one of those thrilling films, 'The Proper Development of a Paragraph'."

After a good sleep comes second hour, Home-Ed. Still wide awake, she earns a final grade by absolutely murdering her casserole, the fishiest tuna fish ever burnt.

Next is third hour P.E. volleyball, her greatest subject. With all her grace she jams a finger, stubs a toe, and trips leaving the gym.

Fourth hour Chemistry (or maybe I should say catastrophe) then begins. Maybe, she thinks Einstein's theory applies, but, as you observe, by the dreadful smell and the burnt ceiling near the chemistry lab, she is apparently wrong in her calculation.

Now we see her heading for fifth hour. Out of nowhere pops one of

those three-foot freshmen, who sends her books sprawling over the hall. Then, in vain, she tries to run down her 1,500 papers that were stuffed into her books.

Her only homework is a big geometry test to study for. Racing to her locker, with a sign of relief, she thinks, "Days end." Arriving at her locker she discovered some nice person has put gum in her keyhole. Wouldn't you just know that the book she doesn't have in her hands

is geometry. No janitor in sight--she is ready to just sit down and quit when a ray of hope breaks the horizon. The school's only all-thumbs janitor appears with his usual over abundant amount of clumsiness. Later, much later, our average student finds a drenching downpour awaiting her, and her ride not.

So ends one average student's average day at OTHS.

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Visitors to Kinkaid Lake will not soon forget OTHS conservation students who left this reminder of their presence there this summer for a clean-up and maintenance project.

OTHS Conservation Class Beautifies Kinkaid Lake

Beach facilities at a U.S. Forest Service area on Kinkaid lake will be a little better next year thanks to a volunteer work project by O.T.H.S. students.

On Nov. 3, the conservation class lead by Mr. Turley, traveled to Murphysboro, Ill. From there they traveled by jeep to Kinkaid lake, where they performed a series of maintenance and general work projects at the swimming area, as a part of a class project.

Mr. G.H. Lyon Jr., district ranger for the Forest Service and sponsor

of the project, said the Forest Service estimates the students completed maintenance work valued at over \$400, along with general improvements in the recreational facilities at the lake.

The work completed included general cleanup of the entire beach and picnic area, excavation and repair of drain pipes beneath the beach, staining of a bathroom and 10 picnic tables, construction of a grassy waterway to carry water away from the drainage terraces, and cleanup of a log and stump piles.

The work force included 21 students under direction of Mr. Lyon and Mr. Turley.

Obviously the benefits of this work will not be realized by the people of O'Fallon, but by the Murphysboro-Carbondale area residents who use the recreational facilities at the lake.

Students Abuse 'Free' Time

Mr. Bellina, Mr. Knight, and Mrs. Eckert agree that too many students spend time standing in the halls or in the rest rooms together during unscheduled time.

Mr. Bellina says, "Almost every school that did have unscheduled time no longer has it. It created too much of a problem." If the students would be in the cafeteria or the library, and in the halls, using the telephone or sitting in the rest rooms, this problem would not exist. If the students do not start obeying this rule, the free time will be thrown out of our school system.

The students have the first fifteen minutes of each hour to do as they please. If students need to leave after that time, then they should go to Mr. Knight or Mrs. Eckert's office for a five minute pass.

A student who disobeys the rules is disciplined by being put in a study hall for a certain amount of time or by losing free hour. This disciplinary action is in the Student's Handbook.

New Occupations Course Proves Very Profitable

Several of the OTHS students are finding school can be profitable, especially students taking the new Office Occupations course.

The class is part of a cooperative program for students who are interested in the on-the-job training. The program is under the Business Curriculum and is coordinated by Mr. Butler.

Before a student may take the course, he must meet certain requirements. Student must take related information, which includes work on office machines. They are also encouraged to take one or two advanced classes in shorthand, bookkeeping, data processing, and/or general office procedures.

Some of the jobs available to students who are interested includes typist, stenographer, bookkeeper, file clerk, key punch operator, and receptionist.

Students in the program are enrolled in regular classes and one related occupational information classes during one half of the day. Students then train on the job the other half of the day.

These students in the program receives no less than 75% of the minimum wage. They are required to work a minimum of 15 hours and a maximum of 24 hours per week. This maximum of exclusive of Saturday.

When possible a schedule is set up as to rotate the student within the

trade or occupation. Rating sheets are filled out to evaluate the students involvement.

The program benefits more than the student. The employer also benefits. The program allows prior screening of applicants. It also

supplements training programs already established. This helps build good public relations in the community.

Some of the employers responsibility include, interviewing and hiring the student of his choice sent by the school. He explains the companies policies and rules. Makes arrangements about hours and wages with the program coordinator, keeps the student a full year if he is satisfactory. He then will periodically fill out an evaluation sheet on the students progress.

The students are placed in jobs in the O'Fallon area. Three of these students work at the Bank of O'Fallon. They are Susan Gorand, Gwen Pannier, and Terri Farmer. Two of the girls Susan and Terri work as tellers, while Gwen works in the bookkeeping department.

Two of the girls work here at school. Kathy Ahning is described as a "Girl Friday" in her work in the office. Nancy Moody works in the main office, where her jobs range

from filing to opening lockers.

Carol Labryere works with Mr. Mitchell in the AV department. Theresa Morris works as office girl for the O'Fallon Motor Company. Another student works in O'Fallon's other bank, The 1st National Bank of O'Fallon. Karen Hastings works as an office assistant.

One of the out-of-town workers is Tami Anheuser. She works at the Casablanca beauty parlor in Fairview Heights as a receptionist.

This is the programs' first year.

OTHS. The program was offered to ten students this year. Mr. Butler, Program Coordinator, feels the class is limited due to student participation, and the problems of finding places for the students to work. He likes the idea of the program, but feels it needs improvement with experience.

Sugar Prices Affect OTHS

High sugar prices may affect baked desserts but will not affect lunch prices at OTHS.

For O'Fallon High lunches it means less baked desserts and the salted desserts we do eat will be from recipes that call for little sugar. Fruits will be served more.

Dorothy Schneider, the cafeteria manager, gave her views on the sudden burst in the cost of sugar.

"Last year it was \$10 to \$12 for 100lbs, and now it is \$64 for 100lbs. She believes that just like our oil we sold a lot of it to foreign countries and now were suffering. Also the rumors that we had some bad sugar crops.

Not only does the sugar price raise affect sugar it also affects sugared canned goods. Its cheaper for the consumer to buy sugar at the grocery store than for a large baking place to purchase whole sale.

"I won't raise the lunch price unless I go into the hole too much, other schools have already raised their lunch prices".

The government give a few extra commodities such as beef and turkey which helps even out the price Mrs. Schneider says its a mystery to everyone as to why we had such rise in sugar prices and she doubts it will ever be 10¢ a lb. again

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PANTHER



SPORTS

O'Fallon's J.V. Gets Off To Good Start

Tonight at 6:15, before the varsity game, the O'Fallon J.V. basketball team takes on Jerseyville.

Last week, the Panthers were bumped by Wood River, 54-48. Bill McClure led O'Fallon with 12 points. Before that, Mascoutah trounced the Panthers, 64-38. No Panthers got into double figures. The other loss was to Triad, 58-52. Bill McClure

put in a 19 point effort.

O'Fallon's two wins came against Highland in overtime, 68-66 and Mater Dei, 53-51. Mike Betts hit foul shots with seconds left in both games with 20 and 14, respectively.

Coach Hodgdon feels that his team isn't playing up to its potential. Hodgdon says "My team will start winning even if it takes unpleasant methods to bring them around."

Girl's Volleyball Team Begins Second Season

The girl's volleyball team will return from the Christmas vacation to play Jan. 7 at Okawville at 4:00 p.m.

The team should be better this year because of the experience many girls attained from last year. Many players feel that this experience may be the difference between a winning and a losing season. The girls on the team are Karen

Schamle, Diana Cryder, Chris Schwaegel, Rita Yambrough, Barb Sweeney, Matti Bland, Carma Blakey, Donna Moser, Belinda Eaken, Dorothy Reynolds, Cheryl Tiberend, Tracy Sharp, Nancy Angelo, Pam Miller, Debbie Alberts, Peggy Gorard, Kim Davis, Tami Dayley, Katie Lucas. As of yet, the girls have not been selected to play on either team.

Wade Hamilton Wins Annual School Ping-Pong Tourney

This year, as in the past, O'Fallon has held its annual ping-pong tournament.

Despite the small number of participants, there was some good talent. Sponsor Mr. Ferry feels that

the competition improves each year.

This year's winner is Wade Hamilton. Lee Ockner took second.

Duane Sommer took third, and Mark Coville finished fourth.

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Matmen Travel To Mascoutah

The OTHS matmen travel to Mascoutah Saturday at 10:00 to compete in their first invitational wrestling tournament.

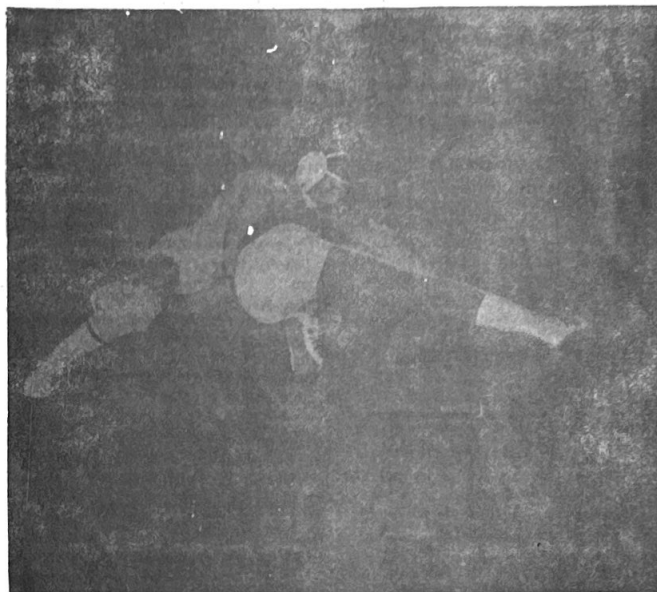
In their last match, Collinsville handed O'Fallon its third straight defeat, by the score of 54-14. Individual winners being Dave Kasten and Kevin Dzombar, by decision, and Andy Barfknecht by a pin.

In earlier showings, OTHS lost to Mascoutah and Triad, 54-12 and 48-10 respectively. Individual winners against Mascoutah were, by decision Kevin Dzombar, and by a pin Andy Barfknecht. In the Triad match, Kevin Dzombar and Jeff

Hunter won by decision and Andy Barfknecht, once again, won by a pin.

The coaches feel that the major reasons for this season's poor record so far, are lack of experience and participants. They think that as the season progresses and some of the wrestlers gain more experience, their records will improve.

The major problem seems to be the very small number of wrestlers this year. O'Fallon has forfeited, on the average, six or seven weight classes in each of its previous meets. The coaches also feel that with a little more school spirit to back the wrestlers; they may perform better.



Kevin Dzombar applies headtilt to force pin against opponent.

hoopla

Back in the days when they made their own fun, they were forming the traditions that developed into the game of today. It was like that in aviation, too, when practical flying was new, strange, and wonderful. It still is — the pay is much better, the training is free, and the horizons are a lot wider. But even though we're flying the most sophisticated aircraft in the world today, we still keep a little of yesterday's ideals.

Sgt. Gary May

309 East Main Street

Belleville, Illinois

Phone: 235-2760



Panther Five Host Jerseyville Today

O'Fallon's varsity basketball team will take on the Panthers from Jerseyville tonight at home, JV game is first at 6:15.

Last Friday the Panthers picked up their first victory with a 73-71 win over Wood River. Rick Jones led the offense with 22 points. Ken Betts also contributed 18 points. O'Fallon had an 18 point lead at half-time, but turn-overs almost lost the game.

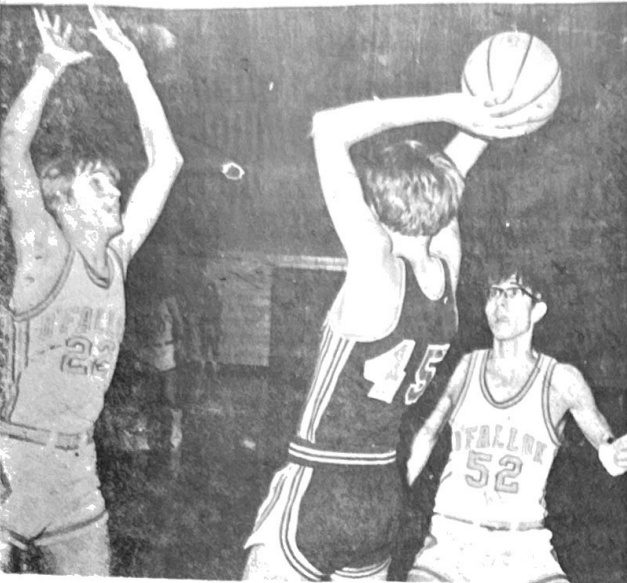
The first four games didn't go as well as O'Fallon dropped all of them. The season opener was taken by Mater Dei, 72-70. Ken Betts and Brian Holland hit for 26 and 22 points, respectively. After that, it was an overtime loss to Highland, 71-65. Brian Holland led scoring with 26. Steve Curran and Dale

Averick both chipped in 10. Next loss came to the Knights from Triad, 85-80. O'Fallon was down by 20 points with five minutes left in the game, but a late rally by the Panthers tightened the score. Rick Jones hit for 30 points that night.

In a big rivalry game, Mascoutah topped O'Fallon, 63-55. The second quarter proved fatal when the Indians outscored the Panthers 21-5.

The coaches feel that the team hasn't put it all together yet. They only seem to play three good quarters a game. Coach Pace said "Once we get started on the right track, we'll be hard to stop."

Currently, O'Fallon's record stands at 1-4 with a 1-3 conference record.



ABOVE: Two J.V. Panthers encircle their Wood River opponent in action last Friday as the Oilers beat O'Fallon 54-48.

RIGHT: O'Fallon's Dave Rowe doesn't let anything stop him from getting the ball; not even a Knight from Mater Dei.

Frosh B-Ballers Host Invitational Tourney

O'Fallon's frosh prepare for their own invitational tournament coming up in the first two weeks of January.

This past week the Panthers went down in defeat to Jerseyville, 55-38. Jeff Lucas, Mike Kondra, and Dave Hopkins all hit double figures at 10 points each.

The season opened on a good note, as O'Fallon dropped Bethalto, 61-56. Jeff Lucas and Scott Mathews chipped in 20 and 18 points, respectively. The next two games went downhill, O'Fallon losing both

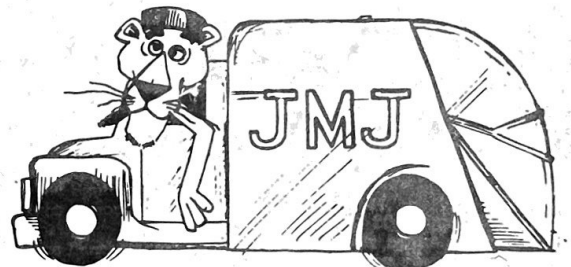
to Assumption, 55-35 and Roxana, 62-54. Jeff Lucas was high scorer with 10 and 26 points.

Turning things around, the Panthers won the next two contests against Triad, 60-38 and Granite City North, 64-60. Mike Kondra led the scoring at Triad with 15. At Granite City North it was Jeff Lucas again with 20 points.

The new coach, Mr. Toler, feels his club is playing good ball. Once the guys get used to each other the ball team should improve greatly. Their current record is 3-3.



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Soph Roundballers Off To Slow-Start

Sophomore basketball Panthers lower record to 1-5 after a humiliating 78-40 loss to Jerseyville.

Last week, O'Fallon dropped to Granite City North, 65-57. Mark Pilger led scoring with a 20 point effort. Earlier Triad humbled the squad, 51-41. A 21 point game by Ferlan Whaley was tops.

O'Fallon has also laid down to Roxana, 44-43, and Assumption, 59-39. Ferlan Whaley was high

point man in each contest with 12 and 17 point efforts, respectively. The season opener found the Panthers coming out on top of Bethalto, 64-56. Jim Thoman led with 14 points.

Coach Ray feels the absence of several sophomores who play varsity has really subtracted from the effectiveness of the team. He still thinks the season will turn out to be a winner.

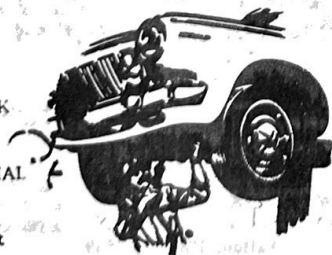
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A Wide Variety of Activities and Fund Raising Set Off Joyous Christmas Season for OTHS



This year, there are numerous activities setting off the Christmas season here at OTHS.

The Student Council has been collecting money for the annual spirit chain. The money being collected goes to the needy families here in O'Fallon.

Many other organizations are working along with the high school supplying these families with canned goods, clothing and toys for the youngsters who otherwise wouldn't have a Christmas. The spirit chain drive will end today, Dec. 20.

Along with the spirit chain, the Student Council sponsored a dance

Friday 13, following the basketball game. The admission to the dance was two canned goods and 50 cents or 1.00. They also sponsored a window decorating contest which also ends today.

In the cafeteria, Christmas is almost here by the look of the decorations. There is one large tree along with a much smaller one to contribute to the other decorations on the bulletin boards. The spirit chains add a considerable amount of color to the cafeteria.

The guidance office, the library and the main office contribute to the Christmas spirit by adding a bit

of seasonal decorations to their rooms.

Some of the various clubs are starting to celebrate Christmas by having dinner parties and after school parties. They are also exercising the giving Christmas spirit.

The Drama Club sponsored the film "Jesus Christ Superstar" as a benefit for the Steve Junod fund. The movie was shown Dec. 19, in the auditorium.

Future Medical Careers plan to fill stockings for people at the Scott Hospital. They also sell candy at the basketball games. The French Club is considering sending money

to a Korean orphanage.

The Spanish Club is sending a Christmas gift to their orphan in Spain. They also had a Christmas fiesta after school Dec. 19. They celebrated by building a penata and having a typical Mexican Christmas with Mexican food and games.

Although Christmas is the season for receiving gifts and vacations from school, the students haven't forgotten all those who wouldn't have a true Christmas without help. As a result, most of the Christmas season's activities were drives and collections for needy people so they too, can have a Merry Christmas.



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