

# TORCH

Vol. II  
No. III

DECEMBER 1963

Ferguson  
Missouri

## GUIDANCE NEWS

Students who failed three or more subjects the first quarter have or will be called to the guidance office. They will be talked to and remedial measures taken.

The guidance office is screening 8th grade boys for potential drop-outs. These boys will be placed in a special class in the 9th grade.

After Christmas, the ninth graders will fill out their high school plan. Ninth graders continue to inquire about the grades of the Differential Aptitude Tests.

## LIBRARY NEWS

The library is once again opening its "Paperback Exchange Club" for all students. This plan was very successful at McCluer.

In order to be in on this, the student must bring a paperback which he owns, provided it is on an approved list of paperbacks. He may then exchange it for another paperback in the library. The student may stop any time he wishes and the book he has is his. There is no time limit and no signing.

## Know Your Principals

Ferguson's Principal, Mr. Niehaus, says he enjoys his job very much. He also enjoys duck hunting. He is the proud father of Nina, a sophomore at McCluer, and Terry, a freshman at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

This is his tenth year as principal in the R-2 district. Previous to this he worked in St. Charles. He attended Beaumont High, in St. Louis and continued on to St. Louis University to receive his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees.

Mr. Ferguson, the Assistant Principal, received his Master's and Bachelor's degrees from University of Missouri. He has been an assistant principal for three years and previously taught social studies.

He enjoys reading, wood-working, and romping with his two sons, Kent, who is going on three, and Kerry, ten months old.

## Jr. High Choral Groups Sing Vespers

A processional with the lighting of the candles began the Annual Ferguson Junior High Vespers on December 15. The Vespers were presented by the A Cappella Choir, Madrigal, Motet Choir, directed by Mr. McCormack, and the Girls' Glee Club, directed by Miss Gagnepain.

A capacity audience again heard this concert of sacred and seasonal music. McCluer high and former junior high students Cynthia Burns and James Fredrickson were soloist and accompanist.

Following the processional, the A Cappella Choir sang "Gloria in Excelsis" by Vivalde; "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by J. S. Bach; and a "Russian Carol" by Maltzeff.

The Glee Club then sang several numbers among them, "Sound the Trumpet" by Purcell; "O Jesu Sweet" by J. S. Bach; and "Deo Gracias" by Britten.

"Songs of Mary" by Brahms; "Allon, gay begeres" by Costeley; and "Sing Noel" were the selections performed by the Madrigal.

To conclude the program, the Motet Choir sang "O Magnum Mysterium" by Victoria; "From Heaven Above" by J. S. Bach; "Laudate Dominum" by Mozart; and "The Lord Bless You and Keep You."

## MADRIGAL SINGERS CAROL FOR CHARITY

The Madrigal singers, directed by Mr. McCormack, sang Christmas carols for the Carolers Association of St. Louis last Wednesday, the 18th of Dec. and Thursday the 19th. On Wednesday they sang at the Clayton Inn and at the Frontier Room of the Montclair Hotel on the following day. The money collected will go to various charities through the Carolers Association. At the Clayton Inn alone, \$150.94 was collected. The Junior High Madrigals have been performing for the Carolers Association many years.

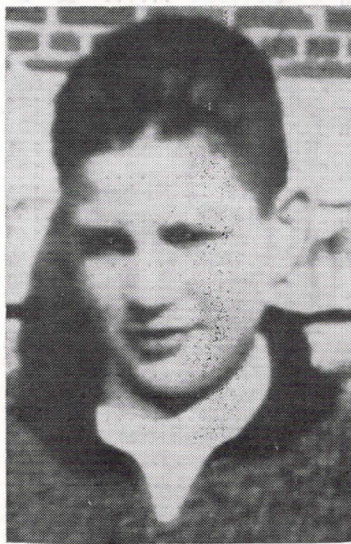
## French Classes Support Orphan

Michel Lerouzie, a French orphan is being supported by Mrs. Finney's and Mrs. Byrd's French classes. He is replacing Gery Fontaine, who has completed his training in the home and is pursuing higher studies elsewhere. Michel lives at Notre Maison in Leme, France and is an eighth grader. His birthday is on March 8, 1950, and he is now 13 years old. Michel is in training as a farmer and likes history, geography and sports.

Michel is a fortunate orphan, having about two hundred foster brothers and sisters and receives about \$150 a year. This is paid voluntarily at 75c per person. On his birthday and at Christmas his sponsors try to send him \$10. This goes for luxuries such as tooth paste, soap, etc.

For Christmas, Michel, as most of the orphans do, sent a handmade card with Christmas greetings. He also sent a printed card given him by Richmond Children's Fund Organization in Richmond, Virginia. As a return greeting, the sponsors are sending either hand printed or regular cards with personal greetings.

The Richmond Center mentioned above is the translation center for many letters from many orphans all over the world. The money collected is sent to Richmond, unless it's a personal gift, and Richmond takes care of the financial works of the adoptee. Richmond also keeps the sponsor informed about their child as to any change of study or location.



Michel Lerouzie, French orphan who is being supported by the French Classes.

## Honor Roll Additions

The name of Steven Courtois, 8th grader, should have been on the first quarter Honor Roll list.

## Student Council Collects For Orphan

Members of the Student Council went to all classrooms on December 11 to collect donations for our Greek orphan, Constantina Tsakayanni. Our school will support her for this year and Mr. Cates, Student Council sponsor, stated that \$141.97 was collected on that date. Though \$180 is needed and contributions did not total that amount, there will not be another collection made. The additional money needed will be made up some way.

Final plans have been made for the two Christmas dances, and everything is all ready to go. You may buy your ticket from your Student Council representative for 20c for the 8th grade, and 30c for the 9th grade. Students should bring their identification cards with them to the dance.

December 20th is the date of both dances, but the times are different. The eighth grade dance will be from 3:15 to 5:30 p.m. The ninth grade dance will begin at 7:30 and end at 10:00 p.m. Bill Livsey's Band will provide the music for both of the dances, as did the band he was in last year provide the music for the eighth-ninth Spring Dance. The decorations for both dances will be the same, but they are to be a surprise. Student Council members hope to see large crowds in the girls' gym.

## School Board and Public See Video Tape Programs

A short demonstration of what could well be tomorrow's method of teaching at Ferguson Jr. High was given December 4 at a school board meeting held in the girls' gym.

The public was invited to come and see video-taped education programs made at R-2 schools during National Education Week. Featured in various films were the principal of Vogt School, Mr. Cooper, Mrs. Young, music teacher, and Mr. Mitchell, audio-visual director of the R-2 District who was the guest speaker for the program.

## Band Performs For PTG

The Concert 'A' Band performed before the P.T.G. on Tuesday night, December 10, 1963.

The band played *The Thunderer*, by J. P. Sousa; *Classic Medley*, by Purcell; *Bequene*; *Sonatina for Band*, by Frank Erickson; *The Christmas Suite*; *Bolero*; and *March of the Champions*.

The band consisted of 107 people, and was conducted by Mr. Stacy, the director.



# Class and Club Clippings

## Aquarium Club

Members of the Aquarium Club have announced a successful propagation of Siamese Fighting Fish. There are approximately thirty-five young Bettas which hatched over the Thanksgiving holidays, although an extremely large number of the young fry could have been saved if food would have been made available over the weekend. Another aquarium will soon be in use for the baby Bettas, it will be within the five to ten gallon size range. The club members have moved the aquarium to room 104 and will hold all future meetings there.

A change in the membership requirements has been put into effect recently — anyone not owning an aquarium but having interest in tropical fish may join in addition to those who do have one. Large color-photos of various species of tropical fish are on display above the tank, and anyone wishing to view them is invited to come in during his leisure.

## French Club

The last two meetings of the French Club were used to talk about the Mardi Gras, the Christmas Party and to see three movies.

The movies, shown at the first meeting were the construction of, and the accommodations of the steamer, LaFrance. Part of the meeting was used to discuss the above topics.

At the second meeting, 4 committees, the planning committee, cake committee, punch committee, and the decorating committee, were formed for the Christmas Party being given December 21, 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. The party will be given at Cindy Helbours house. Expected are about 40 to 45 persons.

Next the Mardi Gras was discussed briefly, and it was decided the Spanish Club would be invited to come.

## Shop Classes

Saws, hammers, drills, screwdrivers, wood and nails are being used by our eighth graders to make a what-not shelf. When they are done with these they will begin on some sort of a plastic project.

Taking a peek at our hard working ninth graders, we see they are busily working on footstools. When they get done with this project they will move on toward a harder one, planter lamps.

## Spanish Club

Preparations are being made for a party in February with the French Club. A pinata party is under consideration by members. New membership rules have been established in previous meetings.

## Bowling Club

The Bowling Club has had a good turn-out from the start. A lot of the bowlers have missed one week but that is about all. Any bowler who misses more than three weeks in a row will be dropped from the roster, unless the person has a good excuse.

None of the teams in either league has a big lead on any of the other teams in their league. The last place teams have been upsetting the top teams.

The following are the standings of the teams and their high average bowler, and of the high games and the high series as of two weeks ago.

### GIRLS

Team	Won	Lost
1. Eight Balls . . . . .	17	7
High Av. — Brendell		
2. Spares . . . . .	15	9
High Av. — Holmes		
3. Gutterdusters . . . . .	14	10
High Av. — Burgdorf		
4. Alley Cats . . . . .	14	10
High Av. — Hartmann		
5. Petticoat Pals . . . . .	12	12
High Av. — Stevenson		
6. Teenmates . . . . .	11½	12½
High Av. — Setvak		
7. Turkeys . . . . .	10½	13½
High Av. — Geldmeir		
8. Team Eight . . . . .	6	18
High Av. — Jeffares		

### High Game

(1) Burgdorf . . . . .	166
(1) Holmes . . . . .	166
(3) Setvak . . . . .	161

### High Series

(1) Setvak . . . . .	437
(2) Setvak . . . . .	406
(3) Holmes . . . . .	404

### BOYS

Team	Won	Lost
1. Gutterduster . . . . .	16	8
High Av. — Jim Elliot	140	
2. Winners . . . . .	16	8
High Av. — Bob Shea	166	
3. Alley Cats . . . . .	15½	8½
High Av. — Cliff Taylor	184	
4. Pin Pushers . . . . .	15	9
High Av. — Dennis Wall	121	
5. Ten Pins . . . . .	11	13
High Av. — Nieberding	133	
6. Pinbreakers . . . . .	9	15
High Av. — Steve Shea	140	
7. Strike Outs . . . . .	7½	16½
High Av. — B. Wall	130	
8. Strikers . . . . .	6	18
High Av. — Doug Meyer	128	

### High Game

Cliff Taylor . . . . .	227
Mr. Boelsen . . . . .	226
Bob Shea . . . . .	224

### High Series

Cliff Taylor . . . . .	597
Bob Shea . . . . .	562
Mr. Boelsen . . . . .	516

## Home Ec. Classes

All home ec. classes are busy getting ready for Christmas. They have been making cakes and Christmas cookies. In order to give the girls some Christmas hints, a Union Electric Company representative gave a class demonstration on easy-to-make gifts and decorations.

## EXCHANGE COLUMN

**BEEP LINE!** What's that? West Ladue Junior High tells us that it is, essentially, conversing between the beeps of a busy signal. Wild! But the telephone company doesn't go for it.

**Nipher Junior High** held their annual Student Day on November 26th. The students instructed classes and served in administrative and counseling posts. The student teachers had to have a B or better average in the subject to be taught.

German students of Nipher Junior High went to see the German art exhibit at the city art museum. The tour began with a portrait painted in 1527 and continued through the Renaissance. It ended with displays of modern artists.

## Slide Rule Club

The Slide Rule Club, sponsored by Mr. Meyer, had its final exams at the end of five meetings last week. The Slide Rule Club's final meeting will be Wednesday, December 18.

Mr. Meyer said whether or not there will be another Slide Rule Club in the spring depends on whether or not he decides to have new students or the same class with more advanced problems.

## Art Classes

Pinata-like Christmas decorations, and animals are the objects being worked on by the seventh and eighth grades in art classes. They are made of paper mache and tissue paper.

The ninth grades are stylizing simple objects, and doing tissue and construction paper designs. They then take their stylized shapes and print with various colors of ink on colored or white construction paper. They are somewhat like advertisements of the objects used, but there are no words involved.

## Top Twelve at Ferguson

**Washington Square —**  
The Village Stompers

**In My Room —**  
Beach Boys

**Sugar Shack —**  
Jimmy Gilmer and the Fireballs.

**You Don't Have To Be A Baby To Cry —**

The Caravelles

**Fools Rush In —**  
Rick Nelson

**Dumb Head —**  
Ginny Arnell

**Shake a Tail Feather —**  
The Five Du-Tones

**Mean Woman Blues —**  
Roy Orbison

**Bossa Nova Baby**  
Elvis Presley

**Everybody —**  
Tommy Roe

**Wonderful Summer —**  
Robin Ward

**Kids —** Jerry Lewis

## WHAT I'VE LEARNED FROM WATCHING TELEVISION

The main thing I have learned from watching television is exactly nothing! Sure, you watch these dumb television shows night after night, but what do you really learn? That's right, You guessed it! NOTHING.

Now you may think by watching the television show, "Bonanza," that you would learn how to ride a horse, but those crazy cameramen are always focusing on all the pretty girls. Even when there's a show-down, you never learn to shoot a gun. The reason for this is that the Cartwright boys are always gang-ing up on one guy, then being about four or five guys to focus your eyes on, you get very dizzy.

Another show you would expect to learn something from is "The Beverly Hillbillies". I sure would like to learn how to fix possum innerds, but then again the cameras are always on that skinny, buckteeth kid named Ellie Mae. I, myself would also like to learn how to make Granny's Lye Soap, because I've heard it works just as well as that new Ivory Liquid in your dishwasher, and I've also heard that it leaves your hands so soft and smooth.

In the commercial where the Jolly Green Giant comes out with a can of peas, I can't help but wonder who his tailor is, and how much he would charge to make that sarong of leaves for me.

Now you have my impression of television shows, from cowboys to commercials.

— by Jane Foote

## TEN COMMANDMENTS OF SCHOOL

### THOU SHALT NOT:

1. Whisper in class (shouting attracts more attention).
2. Borrow thy neighbors pen (steal it).
3. Skip a class (take a whole day off).
4. Dislike school (hate it).
5. Run down the stairs (the bannister is quicker).
6. Smooch in the halls (the basement is darker).
7. Push in the halls (tripping is easier).
8. Fail in June (do it now and avoid the rush).
9. Tear up books (burning destroys the evidence).
10. Throw snowballs at the other students (the teachers are slower).

## STUDENTS HEAR CHORAL ASSEMBLY

An assembly performed by the A Cappella Choir and Madrigal Singers was held in girls' gym on December 16th and 17th during the 6th period. Most of the songs sung were done in foreign languages and originated during the 16th century.



# QUIZITOR

This month's jolly Quizitor question is:

"What would you do if you caught Mama kissing Santa Claus?"

Candy Cromer: I'd advise a divorce to her.

Laura Beshler: I'd laugh.

Fran Frey: I don't believe in Santa Claus.

Ann Dokmo: I'd join her

Mr. Ferguson: It depends on Mama.

Vicki Grubbs: I'd go kiss Rudolph.

Mr. Swift: My mama?

Ed Krueger: I'd go back to sleep because I know that if he caught me I wouldn't get anything.

John Wildermuth: Take a picture and blackmail her.

John Loveall: I'd say, "Take off the suit Dad, that's not needed."

Dave Green: I've heard of bigamy, but S. C.?

Gordon Snyder: I'd hide my face, I can't stand those love scenes.

Tim Holloway: Tell him his reindeer is overparked.

Gale Giebe: See if he had Red Goose shoes on.

Rick Dunford: Tell Mrs. Santa Claus.

Betty Couranz: I'd tell Daddy.

Debbie Dawkins: I wouldn't be surprised.

Harry Reed: Go kiss his girl helpers.

Jacky Moxley: I'd say, "Give me 25c and I won't tell Pop."

Micky Schlichtemier: Nobody'd kiss my mom.

Becky Hanson: How can you kiss him with all that fuzz?

Fantasia Fink: I'd steal his sled and run away to Santa Claus land.

Vicki Johnson: I'd want to kiss him too.

Gary Nelson: I'd say, "Hi, what are you going to give me?"

## Crossword Answers

Across: 1. pumpkin; 5. anvil; 7. R.I.; 8. on; 10. Ed.; 12. colonist; 15. May; 16. moist; 17. UN; 18. Ve; 20. maize; 24. do; 30. hold; 31. K.I.L.; 32. Pa.; 33. lei; 34. glint; 37. R.I.; 38. R.D.O.; 39. odont; 41. bi; 42. nerve; 43. cans; 44. yams; 46. K.Y.; 47. oil; 48. oh; 49. Standish; 50. Rye.

Down: 1. Plymouth; 2. Pros; 3. Kilt; 4. none; 6. leaves; 9. Hi; 11. Dye; 12. C.I.A.; 13. sum; 14. tradition; 19. musket; 21. Don; 22. Indians; 23. Pilgrim; 26. Holidays; 27. Ale; 28. G.I.; 29. Harvest; 35. L.D.; 36. Turkey; 37. Rock; 40. on; 41. Bali; 44. Yid; 45. Soh; 47. On.



## TILLY TORCH

Dear Tilly,

I just heard the news. There is no Santa Claus! I can't stand it! I told my girlfriend, and she has known for quite a long time. What can I do to feel better? I feel as if I lost my best friend. (I am a boy)

Just Heard

Dear Just Heard,

Go pay the Easter Bunny a visit, he'll cheer you up.

Tilly

\* \* \*

Dear Tilly,

What can I do about a girl who thinks she is the prettiest thing that ever set foot on earth; and she isn't? She also thinks she is better than anybody else and she thinks her clothes are better than anybody else. Everybody is sick and tired of her. What can we do?

Sick and Tired

Dear Sick,

This girl doesn't sound so bad. Very much like me, beautiful, handsome, brilliant, charming, reliable, etc. It sounds like, to me, you are jealous of her.

Tilly

\* \* \*

Dear Tilly,

I know a boy likes me but I can't get him to say it. How can I accomplish it?

Waiting

Dear Waiting,

Teach him to talk.

Tilly

\* \* \*

If you would like to write a letter to Tilly, drop a note addressed "Tilly" in the Red and White Torch Box.

## Ninth Grade Personality

Captain of the football team, in his second year on wrestling team and looking forward to a good season in track — Who is this person? Why it is Al Holmes.

Al is 5' 6" with brown hair. He has no favorite teachers, but gym is his favorite class. His favorite sports are football and wrestling. Al attended Vernon School and McCluer Jr. High before coming to Ferguson.



How do you know how to tell if there's an elephant on your back in a hurricane?

You can hear his ears flapping in the high winds.

## Odds & Ends

We hope this issue finds everyone cheery and in the Christmas spirit.

But let's waste no time. Let's see what Santa has in his bag of goodies.

Some 7th grade couples Santa has right on top of his bag are: Becky & Steve; Phylis & John; Jackie & Gary; Toy & Terry.

And what 8th grade couples do we find as we dig a little deeper?

Barbara & Terry; Barry & Karen; Sandy P. & Richard S.; Sue & Cliff; Cathy T. & Paul M.; Cathy & Wayne.

And lastly, but certainly not "leastly", we find the freshmen couples:

Barb C. & Bill H.; Mickey S. & Herbie M.; Teresa B. & Doug D.

Hey, Kathy Olson, have you heard about your freshman secret admirer?

No? Why don't you have Mike F. Tell you all about it?

And what's this we hear about 8th grader Irene S. and freshman Danny B.?

Does everyone know about the Richard Spillenkothan fan club? We hear Sandy Pavletic is president. True, Sandy?

Linda L., are you having much success with that sophomore?

News spreads fast if you have an open party, just ask Nancy B.

We will close by stating (for the benefit of all 8th and 9th grade girls) the wish for the month of December:

"We wish we will be asked to the dance!"  
(Get the hint, boys?)

## Seventh Grade Personality

This month's seventh grade personality is Randy Barrett. He stands 5 feet 8½ inches high and has green eyes. His hair is sandy in color. He celebrates his birthday on February 27th.

Social studies is his favorite subject and his favorite teachers are Mr. Blattel and Coach Quigley. His favorite sports are baseball and football.

Before attending Ferguson Junior High, Randy went to Lee-Hamilton School.

## Eighth Grade Personality

This month, by popular demand, Richard Spillenkothan is our eighth grade personality. He is 5' 7", approximately 5113 days or 14 years old, and has very dark brown hair when it's wet.

Richard's favorite subject is history and he likes all of his teachers pretty much.

His hobby is sports and his favorite sports are basketball and football.

He attended Central School before coming to Ferguson.



## ANTICIPATION

By Carolyn Burt

The moon was just coming up over the roof-tops on that cold winter evening when Carla and Jack rode up to the house in a new Cadillac deluxe. Though the snow was falling and the temperature was far below freezing, the two had ridden home with the top down on the shiny red convertible.

The smell of Christmas was in the air with the aroma of goose and plum pudding baking in the oven, and seeping out through the doors. The smell of burning pine boughs surrounded the icy white birch trees outside the house. The Yuletide spirit was further conveyed by the ringing voices of the distant carolers. The outline of a large green fir tree could be seen through the French doors, and bright, shiny ornaments glittered through the steamy glass.

The couple was walking towards the porch. Arm in arm, they seemed well suited to each other, Carla was tall for her age. Her long, blonde hair shone beautifully in the moonlight, and her large blue eyes seemed to dance with excitement. She held on to Jack's arm as if she would fall if she were to let go. Though she had enjoyed her evening thoroughly, she was desperately waiting and hoping that Jack would propose. Christmas was such a wonderful time, and Jack seemed to be getting serious.

Jack walked quickly when making his way to the porch. His tall body and dark hair made him look like a twenty-year-old John Wayne, and his dark eyes shone with eagerness, yet there was about him an air of nervousness. He too appeared happy at the events of the evening, but anticipation and insecurity shadowed his eyes.

The couple sat together for awhile on the porch swing. Jack, every now and then, moved closer and closer to Carla. She, in turn, moved away from him. Her "hard to get" routine proved to be very successful until she was in the very corner of the seat. At this point, Jack moved even closer, put his arm around her, and said uncertainly, "I just have to ask you something, Carla dear. I've been thinking about it all evening, and I've finally come to the conclusion that there is nothing at all improper about it. I hope you won't take offense at the idea of..."

"Please, Jack," Carla interrupted impatiently. "Can't you come to the point? Get on with it please."

Jack coughed and tried to clear his throat. His eyes were watering and there seemed to be a nervous tone in his voice.

"Please, Carla, would you,

## Why Men Die

Editorial — by Kathi Reed

Why did men of the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, the World Wars, and every other war die? For their country, of course. And yet many of us ask what we can get from our native land. Would these men and men of the future die for their country if they didn't consider what they were able to do for their country?

The late President Kennedy gave to the young people of America and the world a great bit of advice, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." Let's hope the young people of America and the world will remember this and let it rule their lives for generations.

## Cheerleader's Corner

Now that we have both basketball and wrestling at the same time, we'll need twice as many FJH'ers to cheer our teams to victory. Let's all go to those games and really yell!

As for our chants, here's one for both wrestling and basketball:

P-O-I-N-T-S, rack 'em up, stack 'em up any old time. (repeat) And for basketball, we change the familiar "We want a pin right now," to:

We want a basket now, we want a basket now, Clap, Clap, Clap. And for any sport and any time, we say:

The Comets are the best, the Comets are the best, Clap, Clap, Clap.

## Fads 'n' Fashions

Things really seem to be in the swing of Christmas around old FJH. On the fashion side of it we see that there are a variety of colors and styles.

A favorite twosome with the girls are the wool and corduroy jumpers worn with ascot blouses. For lounging around during the holidays, crepe blouses with tie collars worn with stretch pants are very comfortable. Fur lined boots are a smart addition to both of these outfits.

The newest fad for the boys is the "Santa Claus Pajamas," especially with the wrestling team.

For a special date for the Christmas dance, velveteen and mohair dresses seem to be a big hit. Hope ya'all have a real c-o-o-l time!

See you next month with the results of the dance.

could you . . ." His voice suddenly became dignified and he sat straight. "My dear, would you do me the favor of not eating onions before our next date? You see, I have an allergy."

## — TORCH BOX —

Dear Torch Box,  
Who thought of that crazy crossword puzzle?

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled,  
Yours truly.

\* \* \*

Dear Torch Box,  
Why can't I take Cleo, my pet snake, on the bus with me?  
Cleo's best friend

Dear Cleo's Best Friend,  
No offense, but the bus driver might not like Cleo's looks.

\* \* \*

Dear Torch Box,  
Why can't girls wear slacks home on the bus?

L.S.C.

Dear L.S.C.,  
Your still on school premises.

\* \* \*

Dear Torch Box,  
Why aren't girls awarded letters for varsity sports when a lot of us take the time, trouble, and effort to win?

Fellow Girl

- Dear Fellow Girl,
- 1) We don't play enough games to feel that a girl deserves it. (They play two games)
  - 2) We want to stress fun rather than rough competition.
  - 3) Bookkeeping system is too complicated.
  - 4) Letters are given to the girls at the high school and we would take away from their importance.
  - 5) The letter sweaters would be too small for girls to give to the boys.

## A STUDENT'S PRAYER

Now I sit me down to study  
I pray and hope I won't go nutty.  
If I don't ever learn this junk,  
I pray real hard, "Don't let me flunk!"

Now I lay me down to rest,  
Thinking of tomorrow's test.  
If I should die before I wake,  
That's one less test I'll have to take!

— Pat Scott

What's purple and eats people?  
A man eating plum.

\* \* \*

How do you make a statue of an elephant? Get a piece of stone and cut away everything that doesn't look like an elephant.

\* \* \*

What weighs 500 pounds, is yellow, and sings?

Two 250 pound canaries.

\* \* \*

What's red, green, yellow, blue, gray, and ivory?

A madras elephant.

## Bookworm Corner

### ROAD RACE

by Phillip Harkins

"For a fateful second or two Dave was frozen with fear. In that brief time his mind seemed paralyzed but his body worked automatically. He jerked his foot off the accelerator, slammed on the brake. The skid worsened with the tires screaming as if in a death grip."

Jalopies, Model A's, Jaguars, and Duesenbergs played an important part in "Road Race," a marvelous book especially written for car-crazy boys.

Defiant of all laws, the Milltown Hot Rod Club dared Dave Neil to race Constable Currie through Branchville. Dave had waited some months to join the hot rod club. Here was his choice.

He took the natural way out, but ended up in trouble. How racing driver, Webb Walden, saved Dave and many other car enthusiasts makes this an exciting book for both boys and girls.

Our school library also has many other books about auto racing, some fiction, some non-fiction. Among the fiction are: "The Day of the Drag Race," also by Phillip Harkins, "Hot Rod Angels" by Sdney Bowen, and "Rough Road to Glory" by William Gault.

— Reviewed by K. Reed





## — THE TORCH —

This is a monthly newspaper published by and for the students of Ferguson Junior High School. It is published for the enjoyment and information of the student body, faculty and parents. The staff is composed of the members of the ninth grade journalism class.

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## Girls Sports

This month the seventh, eighth, and ninth grade girls have all been busy playing and learning the rules of basketball. This year some new rules have been added, and now the rules are similar to that of boys' basketball.

This year the qualifications for being a member of the varsity basketball team have changed. In the past any ninth grade girl was eligible for the team. Starting this year seventh, and eighth grade girls will have to participate in basketball intramurals in order to be eligible for the varsity team in their freshman year. Tryouts were held December 17th and 19th. The members of the team will be posted in a later issue.

### Seventh and Eighth Grade Boys' Intramurals

Winner in the 8th grade table-tennis singles tournament was Gene Fluri. In second came Doug Nieberding followed by Jerry Hogland in third.

Capturing first place in the 7th grade was another Fluri, this time Tom. In second came Don Hohengarten and in third Randy Barrett.

Table tennis doubles finished this way. In the 8th grade the team of Gene Fluri and Doug Nieberding, first and second place winners in the singles matches, took first place. Ritchie Gorczyca and Tony Gschwendner made up the team that took 2nd place. John Kasten and Don Dunlap placed 3rd.

Placement in the 7th grade tournament was: 1st place, the team of Tom Fluri and Rick Frederickson; 2nd place, Rich Deuser and Barry Wall; and coming up in 3rd was Neil Gardener and Nick Giordano.

Coming up next in intramurals will be wrestling after the holidays followed by badminton and basketball.



Merry Christmas



## Comets Win Fifth As Vikings Are Added to Streak

Ferguson's matmen were victorious in their 5th consecutive meet on Monday, December 16. Normandy was the victim in the 53-3 battle.

Wght.	Name	Result
95	Correll	points
103	Grotrian	pin
112	Bastian	pin
120	Fox	pin
127	Moellman	lost on points
133	Holmes	pin
138	Dix	pin
145	Rallo, L.	pin
154	Rallo N.	pin
165	Claffy	pin
180	Brinker	pin
Heavy	Schultz	pin

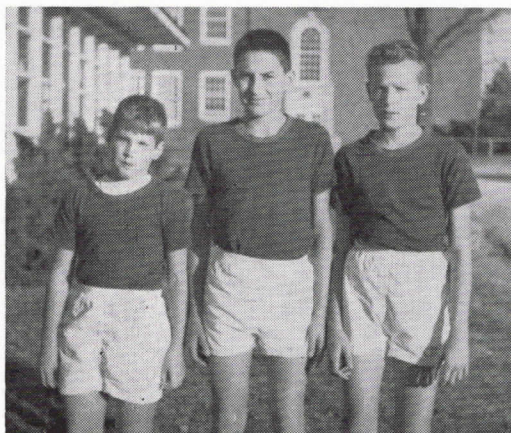
## Wrestlers To Hold Tourney For Freshmen

Our school is starting a new wrestling tournament called the Ferguson Freshman Tournament. The tournament will be the first freshman wrestling tournament held by the R-2 District and teams entered include Coolidge Jr. High, from Granite City, Illinois; Hazelwood Jr. High, Normandy; Riverview Central Jr. High, Riverview East Junior High, St. Louis University High School, and Ferguson Junior High.

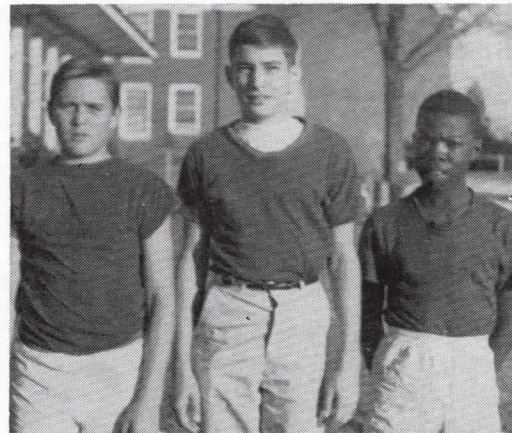
The first matches will be held on Friday, January 24 at 4:00 p.m. The winners of these matches will wrestle again at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, January 25 and the losers will wrestle again at 7:00 p.m. The winners will wrestle again at 7:30 to decide individual winners of each weight group.

Ribbons will be given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Trophies will be given to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place teams.

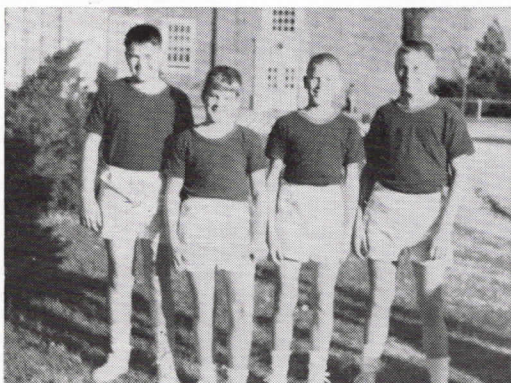
Admission will be 25c per each set of matches for students and 50c for all three. Adult tickets cost 50c each or \$1.00 for all three matches.



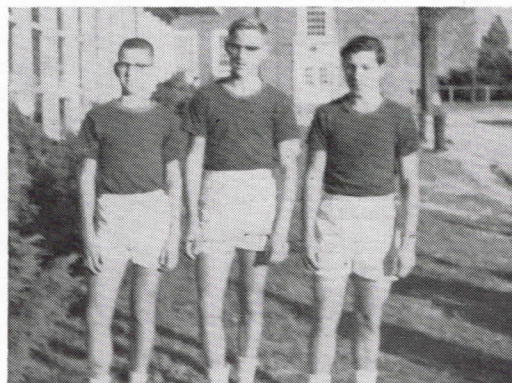
Seventh grade free throw champions from left to right are G. Stymiest, 2nd place; G. Taylor, 1st place; and R. Deuser 3rd place.



Eighth grade free throw champions from left to right are R. Gorczyca, 2nd place; R. Spillenkothen, 1st place; and C. Fant, 3rd place.



T. Logsdon, G. Stymiest, T. Fluri, and D. Williams from left to right, were the tri-captains and leading scorer from the 7th grade champion soccer team.



Eighth grade soccer co-captains and leading scorer from left to right are A. Rudolph, D. Warner, and J. Kasten.



# Comets Shoot Down Riverview For First Basketball Victory

Friday the 13th couldn't daunt the Ferguson Comets as they rolled over Riverview Central by a score of 28-54 in the first basketball game of the season held at Riverview.

The starting lineup showed M. Evers at center, forwards B. Maurer and D. Martin, with J. Thornsberry and R. Downs in the guard positions.

The whirlwind game started as Mark Evers controlled the tip for Ferguson. B. Maurer was the first to score and he was quickly followed by Mark Evers with another field goal. Riverview first got on the scoreboard with two completed free throws. The game continued on at a fast pace with M. Evers and B. Maurer doing most of the shooting. At the end of the first quarter, the score stood at 15-6 favor Ferguson.

New talent was brought in, namely Matt Larigan and Dave Langley in the 2nd quarter which proved an extremely successful one, offensively and defensively. In this quarter Riverview was held to 3 points while the Ferguson score moved up to 29.

A new Ferguson lineup greeted the second half with R. Belew at center, D. Langley and A. Hill forwards, and guards M. Fischer and J. Graham completing the change. Despite this, the 3rd quarter was not a good one for Ferguson's defense. Riverview's five moved their score up to 22 while Ferguson moved to 38.

The starting team took the floor in the final quarter to meet the Riverview challenge and they met it well. As the Comets gained momentum new players took the floor: M. Larigan, A. Hill, J. Fivecoat, J. Foor, and M. Connelly. Through teamwork the Comets moved their score up to 54 and held their opponents to 6 points. The final score was Ferguson 54 and Riverview 28.

Scoring as follows:

Player	Points
M. Evers	13
B. Maurer	11
J. Thornsberry	7
M. Larigan	6
D. Martin	6
J. Graham	3
D. Langley	2
R. Downs	2
M. Fischer	2
A. Hill	2

## Taylor Wins Free Throw Contest

Gary Taylor topped the 7th grade free throw contest with a score of 27 for 50. Not far behind was Gene Stytiest with 26 for 50. In third place was Rich Deuser who was the winner of a shoot off with Dan Gray.



## First Home Game Brings Comets 2nd Victory

Victorious in their second basketball game of the season over the Hazelwood Hawks the Ferguson Comets hope for an undefeated season.

As the starting team took the floor, they were greeted by an enthusiastic home game crowd. The starting team, Mark Evers at center, Berry Maurer at right forward, Matt Larigan left forward, Jim Thornsberry right guard, and Ron Downs left guard, proved to be a very successful combination.

The crowd roared as Mark Evers, center, controlled the tip to start off the game. First to put a score up for the Comets was Matt Larigan, who made good a free-throw. The quarter passed quickly and breathlessly but not so quickly as to prevent Ferguson from making good 3 field goals and 3 more free-throws or Hazelwood from gaining their 3 field goals.

Dave Martin came in this quarter to put his 2 points in while Mark Evers added 4 to the Ferguson cause bringing the total to 16 points. Hazelwood's Hawks did not take this lying down, though, with 2 free-throws and 1 field goal, they boosted their score to 10 points.

The 3rd quarter brought back Dave Martin and also Andy Hill. The 3rd quarter was one of high Ferguson scoring. By the end of the period, their total had reached 11 points. Barry Maurer was high man. At the end of the 3rd quarter the score stood Comets 22, Hawks 16.

The final quarter brought in Dave Langley and Mike Fischer. Dave, although he remained scoreless, played a tight defensive ball game. But even with this help, the Hawks scored 12 points, whereas the Comets were held to 7. This brought the final score to 34-28, favor of Ferguson Comets.

Player	Points
Mark Evers	9
Barry Maurer	8
Thornsberry	8
M. Larigan	4
D. Martin	4
Mike Fischer	1

## Basketball Team

### — Player Roster —

Belew, R.	Hill A.	Extra Squad
Connelly, M.	Kammeier, J.	Members
Downs, R.	Langley, D.	Anderson, D.
Evers, M.	Larigan, M.	Stephens, S.
Fischer, M.	Martin D.	Travis, T.
Fivecoat, J.	Maurer, B.	Wilkerson, D.
Foor, J.	Thornsberry, J.	
Graham, J.		Coach Kimpling

## Wrestling Team

Baker, D., Mgr.	Finazzo, D.	Montaigne, J.
Bastian, P.	Fox, T.	Rallo, L.
Borders, D.	Graves, D.	Rallo, N.
Bregenzer, N.	Grobby, G.	Schultz, R.
Brinker, B.	Grotian, T.	Tierney, D.
Brooks, D.	Hankins, B.	Treat, D. Mgr.
Claffy, J.	Holmes, A.	Trotta, M.
Correll, B.	Jones, J.	Wildermuth, J. Mgr.
Cross, B.	Livingston, D.	Williams, S.
Dix, D.	Milward, J.	Wood, C.
Echols, B.	Moellman, H.	Coach Haenssler

# Comet Wrestlers Win First Four Matches -- Set Record of Sixteen Straight Victories

## Riverview Central

Their third victory of the season was the result as the Comets defeated the Riverview Central wrestling team 48 to 8 there on December 10. With this victory, the Comets tied a school record by winning 15 straight wrestling matches.

Dan Finazzo, Bob Hankins, and Dick Brooks wrestled in exhibition matches. Dan and Dick lost on points and Bob pinned his man.

Wght.	Name	Result
95	Correll	Lost on pts.
103	Grotian	Pin
112	Bastian	Pin
120	Fox	Pin
127	Jones	Pin
133	Holmes	Pin
138	Dix	Pin
145	L. Rallo	Won on pts.
154	N. Rallo	Pin
165	Claffy	Pin
180	Brinker	Lost on pin
Heavy	Schultz	Pin

## Hazelwood

Our wrestling team defeated the Hazelwood team 38-16 here on December 12th for their fourth straight victory of the season. This was the 16th straight victory which broke the school record.

Wght.	Name	Result
95	Correll	Points
103	Grotian	lost on pts.
112	Bastian	Pin
120	Fox	Pin
127	Jones	lost on pin
133	Holmes	Pin
138	Dix	Pin
145	L. Rallo	lost pts.
154	N. Rallo	Pin
165	Claffy	Pin
180	Brinker	lost pin
Heavy	Schultz	Pin

## St. Louis U. High

By defeating the St. Louis U. High Junior Bilikens 53-3 in their gym, the Ferguson Junior High Comets picked up their first wrestling victory of the season on December 3.

The Comets won on pins in every match except two. Neil Bregenzer, Tim Grotian, Dan Livingston, and Bill Brinker won on pins in exhibition matches.

Wght.	Name	Result
95	Correll	Pin
103	Cross	Pin
112	Bastian	Pin
120	Fox	Pin
127	Moellman	Pin
133	Holmes	Pin
138	Dix	Lost on Pts.
145	L. Rallo	Pin
154	N. Rallo	Pin
165	Claffy	Points
180	Milward	Pin
Heavy	Schultz	Pin

## Hanley Jr. High

The Comet wrestling team gained their second victory of the season by defeating Hanley Junior High 53-2 here on December 5.

They also picked up four victories before the regular matches when Jim Montaigne, Charlie Wood, Mark Trotta and Steve Williams won in exhibition matches.

Wght.	Name	Result
95	Correll	tie
103	Grotian	Won on pts.
112	Bastian	Pin
120	Fox	Pin
127	Moellman	Points
133	Holmes	Pin
138	Dix	Pin
145	L. Rallo	Pin
154	N. Rallo	Pin
165	Claffy	Pin
180	Brinker	Pin
Heavy	Schultz	Pin