

The Log

VOL. XXXVIII NO. 7 FORT VANCOUVER HIGH SCHOOL VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON DEC. 21, 1967



Queen Malissa Parsons and her escort Chuck Hancock shown as she is being crowned by Bill Mikesell. (CLELAND PHOTO)

Queen Malissa Rules Over 'Christmas By Candlelight'

By Glenda Schweigert

As the clock in Fort's cafetorium struck the magic hour of 10 pm on the evening of Dec. 16, Princess Malissa Parsons was crowned as the queen of the 1967 White Christmas Ball.

Selected by the couples attending the "Christmas by Candlelight," Queen Malissa was presented by Boys' League second vice-president, Bill Mikesell. Completing the royal court were Princesses Linda Hunter, Vickie Jackson, Sue Kemp, and Candy Ladd.

Arriving with his bag of good-

ies, Santa Mike Borge passed out candy canes to one and all before disappearing into the night.

Candles atop Christmas-decked tables, a towering Christmas tree, and florescent lights provided the winter atmosphere. A Christmas wreath near an entrance to the cafetorium was the setting as Mr. Cleland snapped pictures of the royal court and arriving couples. Decorations were made by the Triad Art Club.

The Triads, a combo from Portland State College, provided music throughout the evening. Cookies and punch were served as refreshments.

Chairmen of the various committees that prepared for the dance were Rick Webb, publicity; Mike Smith, refreshments; Larry Graser, check room; Don Rash, decorations; Bob Weekly, clean-up; Mike Poe, tickets; and Bill Mikesell, entertainment.



JUDY WALZ

DAR Selects Top Citizen

Selected Dec. 13 as the 1967-68 DAR Good Citizen was Senior Judy Walz, student body activities coordinator.

Each senior advisory nominated three girls Dec. 7 on the basis of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. The names of the nominees then went before the faculty, where the final choice of the contest entrant was made.

Representing Fort in the statewide contest, Judy completed a questionnaire Dec. 15. This was sent to the state DAR chairman for judging. The state winner will be announced in March of 1968, and will receive a \$100 Savings Bond or a \$75 scholarship to the college of her choice. She will also receive a pin and certificate of award.

The name of the state winner, her questionnaire and recommendations, will be sent to the national contest.



(OLE PHOTO)

A blanket of new-fallen snow fulfilled the anticipations of an extra holiday for Clark County students. The sub-freezing temperatures prevailing for many days finally brought the snow early Tuesday morning. The weather conditions accompanied with icy roads, resulted in hazardous driving for buses. Shown above taking advantage of this year's first snow fall are Jo Walz, Nancy Fauble, Katny Baker, Judy Walz, Sandy Rolene, Vicki Armstrong, Dot Fleet and their winter creation.

Musicians Stage Yuletide Concert

Fort's band and choir presented their annual Christmas concert Monday evening in the auditorium.

Starting the evenings program was the concert band under the direction of Mr. Dale Beacock. Their first number "Concerto for Trumpets and Winds" by O'Reilly featured trumpet soloist senior Jim O'Banion. The band also performed "The Christmas Suite" by Slalters.

Between the Band and sophomore choir the audience was entertained with several Christmas carols. A brass band consisting of Wayne Strouhol, Barb Dimmick, Steve Nelson, Brian Livingston, Burke Harris, and Keith Haisch.

The sophomore choir took the stage singing "Alleluia," by Bach, "African Noel" with Bob Newton as drum soloist, "Merry Little Christmas," by Martin and "Do You Hear What I Hear?" by Siemeone.

The Swing Choir did their number "Time Again," "Sleigh Ride," and "It's Christmas Once Again." Following the Swing Choir was the sophomore ensemble.

Last on the program was the A cappella choir. Marching in from the back of the auditorium they sang "When the Sun Had Sunk to Rest."

After singing several other songs they closed the program with "Silent Night."



Helping to raise Christmas spirits were Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus for second lunch, Marilynn Mattox and Mike Shoemakers.

(OLE PHOTO)



Fort Grads Visit Trapper Territory

Today, for the third consecutive year, Fort's student council sponsored a special alumni day for Trapper graduates according to Judy Walz, chairman.

This activity gave all Fort's alumni who are working or attending college a chance to visit old friends and teachers while they are home for Christmas vacation. The college students were also invited to visit classes and offer their opinions of college life.



HOWARD PARKER

Trapper Wins Speech Contest

Fort's entry in this year's Voice of Democracy speech contest will be Howard Parker's speech entitled "Freedom's Challenge". Winning the school contest because of no other entries the oration was recorded and sent on to district competition on Dec. 16.

Howard and his parents will be honored at a Veteran's of Foreign Wars dinner on Jan. 13 where he will be presented with a \$50 savings bond and a key ring.

The speech defines freedom as the natural relationship between men and goes on to declare that "Our challenge today is a challenge to make freedom a reality in our personal lives, our nation, and the world."

Howard talks about what individuals can do and then about what the nation can do. The realization of the true meaning and potential of freedom will affect in a big way the future of civilization.

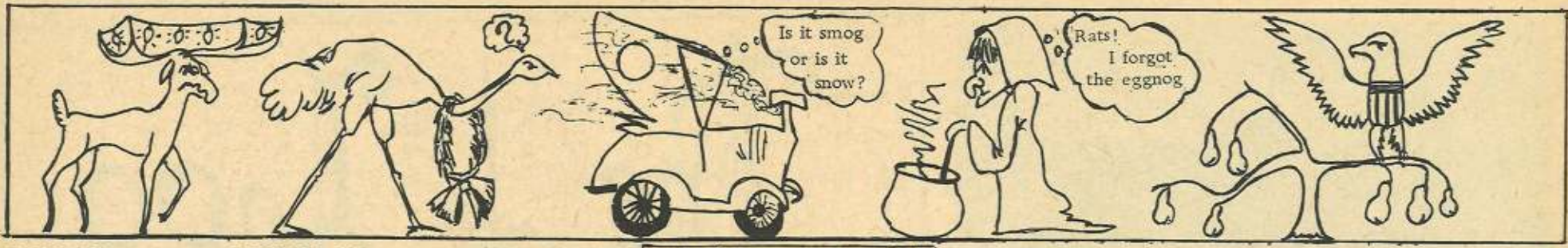
Students Pick Boys' Rally

Recently elected to serve on the boys' varsity rally squad for the '67-'68 basketball season were Seniors John Boyle, Rick Burby, and Jim Curtin.

When asked if being elected to the squad came as a surprise John replied, "After my cheer, YES!" He is a member of A cappella choir, participates in drama and enjoys "eating hamburgers."

Rick, a member of Lettemen's Club, Tawanka, A capella choir, and varsity wrestling thinks being on rally squad is "just great." When asked why he tried out Rick replied, "I just wanted to do something for my school." He lists hamburgers and cherry 7-ups as favorite foods.

Jim Curtin says, "I tried out because I thought it would be fun to be on rally squad and it really is. I'm having a ball!" He is a member of Tawanka Club.



It Was a Very Good Year . . .

By Vicki Armstrong
 1967 . . . it was a very good year. What do you remember best of 1967 as the new year creeps closer? Of course, there are just some things that almost everyone remembers: the dances, the Bay games, and the all-city musical.

Do you remember last year as the new year began with the Fort-Bay basketball game, then on Jan. 21, the Hi-Y ski trip? Remember those wrestling matches? Can you recall the months of March and April brought the Senior Class play Cheaper By The Dozen, election of the next year's officers, a super-huge rummage sale, and My Fair Lady. Time passed quickly and soon this year's seniors and juniors said good-bye to last year's seniors as we watched the Senior Farewell Assembly, Baccalaureate, and Commencement.

June 9, we all set out for the annual three month freedom period. But we all seemed to return on Sept. 5, ready to conquer the new school year. No sooner had we returned, when on Sept. 8,

our football team smashed Camas 19-6. Don't forget Red and White Day or the Girls' League Mix.

Oct. 19, marked a day of student opinions and protest. Who could forget the sights and sound of Nov. 6 when fire over took parts of the Fort, and as a result our Bay Week assembly was held on the football field for the first time ever. And then there was the follow-up Fort-Bay game on Nov. 10, that ended in an agonizing 12-12 tie; Nov. 18, the Dads' Club Pancake Feed, and Dec. 1, the basketball jamboree. And seniors, don't forget those pre-college tests!

Just recently we have started a new basketball season, and everyone looks ahead for success in the New Year. Today is Alumni Day, a day for old Fort students to come back, visit, and remember.

So, let's remember also. Remember the good things of 1967 and forget the bad. Let's wish a little idealistically for 1968, wish for better times, a time to correct mistakes made in an old year. 1967 ----- it was a very good year!

And so we come again to Christmas with all its color and joy, its magic and wonder, its spirit of good will and warmth. But how do we come to Christmas? What it means to us depends on what we bring to it, not in gifts and outer display, but in the inner offerings of love and faith that abide in the heart.

Ester Baldwin York

Interview Reveals Ideal Xmas Gifts

By Jo Walz
 Holly and santas and bright lights set the atmosphere for another season of Christmas cheer and merriment. For some the season may become just a bit tiresome as a result of seeing store windows and downtown streets adorned in a festive decor since Halloween. But there is one special aspect of this joyous yuletide season that people never seem to tire of, no matter how much talk and emphasis there is on it. When questioned about ideal Christmas gifts, students responded with a variety of answers.

Very popular gifts among the juniors were various cars, ranging from a 1968 gold XKE to a "metallic blue Camero" suggested by Junior Bruce Domreis. The students weren't the only ones who felt a car may not be such a bad deal. Mrs. Zylstra expressed a liking for "a sparkling blue T-Bird, just the right shade to match my eyes." Greg Lund revealed a craving for a pair of lavender cords and Nancy Fauble came to the conclusion that she really wouldn't argue if she were to find a million dollar bill in her stocking.

The sophomores views on an ideal present mainly included cars and their driver's license. But Jeannie Priel felt that a small, brown monkey with huge deep eyes would make her happy.

The seniors seemed to have a little something different in mind. Without the slightest hesitation Sandy Rolene felt decided she'd love to see "something really "groovy" under her tree this year," and Mark Wallum very simply inquired "Who?"



To some, lights, stores and snow are the only aspects of Christmas. (OLE PHOTO)

What's Inside Counts . . .

By Howard Parker
 I look at the lights, the mistletoe, the busy shoppers, the harried clerks and I know it's Christmas. Somehow the sights and smells and presents seem to mean less and less each year. I don't really care if we have a tree. Sure it's nice but gee what a big deal. Santa and all those presents I've got to get just seem like a pain. Christmas is just a commercial conspiracy. All the extra things to do just make me more crabby.

When I was little man was it swingin'. I mean it really got me. But now the whole mess just seems like part of my demented childhood.

Skip the Baby Jesus bit for a minute and what have you got. Decorations, school vacation, maybe a little snow, all in all a wonderful time - an especially good time for the folks to add a few more goodies to the already overflowing collection of today's monster generation. A few trinkets for the little ones around the house and boy what a neat guy am I! Many without Xmas how would we cheer up that drab winter? And what would we do with all the extra money.

Christmas. The tinsel is of no real value at all. It's the goodies that count. And if the trappings make it seem even better, why so be it. Bring 'em on.

And now the thing - what's in the package: That little tinker born so long ago brought into the world an idea so great that even today it isn't very well understood. It's a message to bring good-will to the hearts of men and peace to the world. In our day it can give us hope for humanity, the simple fact that he did come. Through this little baby grown to a man the world got a glimpse of God and be we Christian, Hebrew, or Moslem in this great season all of us can be joyful that his spirit is loose upon this wonderful world and working always in his people.



It seems that when the choir sang at Lloyd Center, Nancy Currie just didn't like those Portland guys crowding around. But Nanc, did you have to slug him?

Pat Ulowetz, do you always wait on the top of lockers for Mrs. Kelly to come by so you can jump off and scare her?

Good old, Santa Don Rash, way to go and get a bloody nose all over your beard.

Collette Williams it's rumored you sing "Jingle Bells" real fine in front of your English class.

Letter To The Editor

Eagle Habit Favored To Turkey's Jovial, Unrefined Living Habits

Since the Log feels that open and frank discussion is necessary to the maintenance of a free society, I feel it my duty to reply that slanderous, ridiculous and inaccurate editorial concerning our fine national bird, the bald eagle.

The bald eagle is a truly American bird. It was named by the same colonists who dined on the turkey. As a hunter obeying the law of the wild, it upholds the American ideal of justice. It does not threaten to carry off small children; this is a myth and demonstrates the naivete of the Log article.

On the other hand, the turkey is a stupid bird which cannot fly and catches cold easily. It spends its life wobbling around feeding its face and squawking "gobble gobble." Cowardly turkey fathers even try to kill their own children. Did Benjamin Franklin know this?

The stately eagle has long been recognized as the "king of birds." It is a symbol of courage, freedom and dignity, and thus is an appropriate emblem for the world's foremost organizations. Would we be the greatest nation if we followed the turkey's example of stupidity, cowardice, dependance and meekness? We can be rightfully proud of our noble national emblem, the mighty eagle!

Harv Rotschy

The Log

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Editor-in-Chief Eva Unger
 Advisor Miss Mary Dickey

If you find a mistake in this paper please consider it put there for a purpose. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes. "The Machinists"



Choir Carols Xmas Songs

By Kris Henderson

The weather was cold the night of Dec. 7 and the north wind was blowing but the spirit of Christmas was still in the hearts of the A capella choir as they sang carols for the shoppers at the Lloyd Center.

Bundled up in warm coats, mittens, and even stocking caps, the choir boarded a bus at Fort which was to take them to their performance scheduled for 7 pm. Arriving early the choir was given fifteen minutes to walk around and enjoy themselves. Many headed for the various candy shops and loaded up on nuts and sweets while others took in a little window shopping.

When their leisure time was up they assembled beside the huge Christmas tree in the middle of the shopping center where they sang a number of carols as a crowd gathered to hear their favorites from "Silent Night" to "White Christmas."



Spanish Club members relax after a filling meal at the Spanish Club Christmas party (KIGHT PHOTO)



Sophomores participate in a skit during the annual GAA Initiation and Christmas party. (REAGAN PHOTO)

Girls Meet Santa During Xmas Fun

Sophomore PE Class skits, the initiation of the new GAA members and Santa Claus in the form of Rick Webb were the highlights of the GAA initiation and Christmas party held in the girl's gym Dec. 14.

After explaining GAA and its purposes President Darlene Lynch gave membership cards to the incoming sophomore, junior and senior members.

Skits were presented by the individual sophomore PE classes. Period four had the winning skit in which Bobby Vilhauer and Sharon Bell portrayed little boys who reviewed their good and bad deeds of the past year.

As they reminisced, the scenes were portrayed by other members of the fourth period class. Second

place was won by the period three PE class, with the first period class winning third place. Skits are judged on originality and in use of Christmas as a theme.

Santa then arrived to pass out candy and candy canes to all GAA members, old and new. Christmas-type refreshments were then served



The *W.M. Daily*

By Grant Williams



If you're the type that won't allow your patience to be strained by the ol' idiot-box, you might be interested in such things as the new books that are coming out. One is Mark Twain's "Long Lost and Forgotten" Letters From the Earth, about which he exclaimed to a friend, "This book will never be published... in fact, it couldn't be, because it would be a felony." Felony or not, the preceding sentence was not only enough to get it published, but kept it on the New York Times best seller list for 18 weeks, and it still helps sell the book by remaining clearly visible in bold orange type on the back of the book. Who says crime doesn't pay?

Concerning a series of eleven letters written by "Satan," on his opinions of man's religion, sent to his friends in Heaven, Mr. Twain's sarcastic remarks at first caused the book to be banned, and caused him to be referred to as a "dirty old man" in some circles. Dirty or not, this reviewer feels that for \$.75 the "new, uncensored writings by Mark Twain," are worth their price in enjoyable reading.

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Feminine Athletes Initiate Members

The girls' gym was the scene of the lettergirls' playday-installation after school on Dec. 5. New members of the club had participated in initiation the entire day.

New lettergirls were told to wear a skirt three inches below their knees, fake freckles, and ribbons, which added color to the pigtailed required for the day. The three girls who did not observe the initiation rules were punished with the chore of cleaning off the plates of the other members of the club after the meal which followed the playday. Senior Barb Kerkhoff and sophomores Patti Keller and Bobbi Vilhauer had kitchen duty after the installation.

The afternoon installation consisted of a variety of games in which new members competed against the veterans of the club. The girls played jollyball, volleyball, and a balloon game.

After the games the lettergirls devoured a meal of spaghetti, french bread, vegetable-jello salad and milk.

BURGERVILLE
U S A
Mc Loughlin Hts. Downtown Hazel Dell

Fort Spanish Club Holds Annual Christmas Potluck

Dec. 11 the Spanish Club held their annual Christmas party in Fort's cafeterium. The party began at 5:30 when all members and their guests gathered in the faculty room for a dinner of spaghetti, salad, and rolls.

Following dinner several games were played, directed by Linda Horal. The games consisted of various relays. After a number of blows the pinata was finally broken open by Senior Mike Moreland and the race for the candy and surprises began.

The games were then resumed, followed by a dessert of Christmas cookies and pop while

Mistletoe-why?

By Marie Brilliante
As Christmas approaches, the mistletoe industry goes wild. Girls, such as Cathy Noce and Cheri Gnad, pin little twigs onto their hair and off they venture into Trapper country. Boys get tricky too. How did this custom of kissing all begin?

As the story goes, the son of a Scandinavian goddess named Frigga was shot with an arrow made of mistletoe. While Frigga's friends tried to heal her son, she cried tears that became the wild berries on the mistletoe.

Her son lived, and from then on, Frigga ordered that mistletoe should never again be used to arm, and instituted it as a symbol of love by kissing anyone and everyone who passed under it.

Thank goodness for little Frigga.

all in attendance joined in for the singing of gay Spanish Christmas carols. The songs were "Noche de Paz" (Silent Night), "Publicita de Belen" (Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem), "Dias de Novidad" (Deck the Halls) and some others. The night of fun and food was then brought to a close at 8:30. The entire evening proved to be a big success and all in attendance seemed to enjoy themselves.

Health Careers Sponsor Party

Fort Vancouver High School's Health Careers Club held its second annual Christmas party at the Hill Haven Convalescent Home Nov. 9.

Fort's Swing Choir was on hand for the purpose of caroling to the patients in the home's dayroom where cookies and punch were served to the patients by the club. For those unable to attend the party the Swing Choir went from room to room singing Christmas carols. The girls spent the rest of the afternoon talking to 80 individual patients.

Mr. Lloyd Bergman, club advisor, termed the party a great success for one and all. "This is one of our major projects of the year and we all enjoyed it. I'm sure it cheers up the people in the home to know that somebody cares for them besides their immediate families. I'd really like to thank Amy Morton, who was in charge of getting this thing organized." Mr. Bergman commented, -----

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STEVE ATHAY sets for a shot and two points.

Ole Photo

Fort Efforts Impressive Against Preseason Foes

The Trapper hoopsters reportedly have shown high potential against pre-season competition as they defeated Medford and lost to Jefferson and Madison.

Jefferson of Portland invaded the Bay Gym Dec. 8 to play the Fort and defeated the Trappers 59-44. The Trappers built up a 16-11 lead in the first quarter but were headed off and trailed 30-25 at the half. Pacing the way was Senior Ron Rakoce whose lay-ins and jumpshots kept Fort's scoring machine going. The second half saw the Democrats capitalize on Trapper turnovers and lead 46-37 going into the final period. The Fort never regained momentum again. Rakoce contributed 16 points and Jeff's Gary Ladd was high for the game with 19 tallies.

The scene of Fort's second pre-season game was Madison High in Portland where the Trappers suffered a close 53-51 setback. Using an effective zone press and offense, Fort led by as much as 16

points in the first half but settled for a 24-14 intermission margin. After a brief rest the Senators got a hot hand and suddenly were in command against the Trappers. Faulty ball-handling by Fort contributed to the reversal. Coach Click's reserves almost saved the game by scoring the final 11 points while down 52-40 but time ran out.

Last Friday found the Fort down Medford 55-38 in Medford. Taking an early lead the Trappers were never behind as they left for intermission ahead 25-16. Operating with a slow-down controlled offense and a pressing zone defense the Trappers opened up the third quarter. They tallied 20 points to the Black Tomado's 3. The first-string hoopsters left the game after the third quarter ahead 45-19. Shooting a very respectable 49% from the field the Trappers balanced attack was paced by Senior Bill Mikesell's 14 points and Senior Mark Wohlegemuth's 14 points.



PAT ULOWETZ goes into the air for a basket in the Madison game.

Jennings Takes Over JV Reins

Leading the JV basketball team on to victory this year will be one of Fort's new additions to coaching staff Coach Bill Jennings.

While attending Oregon he majored in geography and minored in psychology.

Coach Jennings' home town is Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and he attended Eisenhower High School in Yakima, Washington. He was a three year letterman in both basketball and baseball. It



COACH BILL JENNINGS

might be interesting to note that as a sophomore in high school Mr. Jennings was 6'2" tall, as a senior he was 6'5", and by the time he entered college he was 6'6", which is his present height.

Mr. Jennings has had much experience with basketball. For three years at Oregon he played on the varsity basketball team. His team was the last one to be victorious over UCLA. Since then UCLA has won 37 games in a row. Last year Mr. Jennings had the privilege of coaching the Frosh team at Oregon. When asked what he does in his spare time he stated, "I like to play basketball!"

Ms. Jennings, is presently employed at Shumway teaching ninth grade English.

In addition to coaching the JV basketball team Mr. Jennings teaches psychology, refresher math, and Washington State History.

Tankers Swim to Second; Set New Record in Relay

Fort captured a second place in the city relays held at Memory Pool Dec. 8. Hudson's Bay was first with 56 points, Fort second with 48 and Columbia River third and last with 32 points.

Hudson's Bay won the first few events rallying a seven point lead. Fort narrowed the gap to two points before Bay added to their final margin of eight points.

The one event Fort won was the 200-yard medley relay. In

DOWN COURT

By Randy Taylor

Between football and the spring sports there is a rather small but very significant event concerning the students at Fort Vancouver called basketball. It is very important for a school to excel and to look good to the competition. To excel and to look good the team must win ball games. In order to win any ball games a team must have at least five good ball handlers. The Trappers have an over abundance in this department. They not only have five good starters but a good bench to back them up.

Now many of you don't remember but there are sections in the gym reserved for the spectators. There are quite a few seats. Enough places to seat all students from the Fort who want to see a game. The students instill spirit into the team with their cheers and this inevitably leads to a win for the Trappers. This makes the Fort look good to the competition and more importantly makes Fort students feel proud of their school. This little formula is not fool-proof but spirit never hurts the team and a little pride never hurt a student body.

If you showed up at the Jamboree held on Dec. 1 you'll know the caliber team we have. They are up to all pre-season predictions. In the first game against Evergreen, a team which is suppose to be in league contention, the Trappers played the relief team for the last part of the ballgame and still ended with a good light point lead at the end of first quarter. In the Camas game the Trappers still played relief a good part of the game although the final score was not overwhelming.

The following Friday the Trappers lost to Jefferson of Portland by 15 points. The Trappers put on quite a show by playing pretty close ball with one of the best if not the best teams in Oregon. Tomorrow, Fort Vancouver plays Hoquiam at the Bay Gym. Why not come out and see a game?

Fort Opens New Wrestling Season At The Fort Invitational Jamboree

By Jeff Lines

Fort opened its regular wrestling schedule on a sad note with two disappointing losses to the Hoquiam Grizzlies and the Aberdeen Bobcats 24-22 and 27-21 respectively.

At the Jamboree Dec. 9 in the Hudson's Bay Gym Juniors Greg Wilcox and Jack Rnodes, Sophomore Kent Burns, and Seniors Cy Whitenead, Ron Regan, Gary Chadwick and Jeff Hawkins all won matches.

In the Hoquiam match played on Dec. 15, Rnodes, Regan, and Hawkins again came through with wins. Seniors Don Parkey and Lar-

ry Graser were also victorious along with Senior Dick Sinner.

In the Aberdeen setback the fans were treated with a 26 second pin by Senior Larry Graser. Other victors were Wilcox, Burns, Parkey, and Whitenead in this tough match.

There are 12 weight divisions in wrestling for Fort: at 105, Kent Burns; 112, Jack Rnodes; 120, Gary Chadwick, and Jeff Hawkins all Mike Borge; 138, Greg Wilcox; 145, Dick Sinner; 154, Larry Graser; 165, Ron Regan; 175, Mike Graett and at 191, Jeff Hawkins. There is no neavyweight wrestler for Fort due to injury.

The winner of a wrestling match is determined by points. There are a set number of points to each hold. If the opponent is pinned the match is over regardless of the score.



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Happy Holidays

(Editor's Note—
These stories and articles have
been submitted by students through-
out the school.)



REMEMBER WINTER

Do you remember when you
were small?
Your favorite season came
after fall;
When snow came down and
turned things white;
You used to look outside at
night,
Then's when things seemed
fun that day;
That's when cares seemed
miles away.
Those were the days!
I remember when;
Ah, but they can't return again.
So, I'll look back with
memories fond;
Then I'll turn;
And I'll go on.
A Student



- Dec. 22- Hoquiam Here
- 25- Christmas Day
- 28- Evergreen Here
- Jan 2- End of vacation
- Battleground There
- 5- Aberdeen Here
- 9- Col. River Here
- 11- One Act Plays 8 pm Auditorium

CHRISTMAS IS....

Christmas is when the fat man
in red-and-white comes down the
chimney.

Mike Stacey

Christmas is giving presents as
a token of how much you like
someone.

Jerry Bicknell

Christmas is a time of cold
hands and red noses.

David Taylor

Christmas is the twenty-fifth
day of December.

David Stiles

Christmas is knowing there are
only six months of school left.

Linda Langdon

Christmas is a special time for
everyone on earth.

Steve Dotson

Christmas is stale cookies in
every cupboard as a batch has
been made every day since Thanks-
giving.

Christmas is the happiness be-
fore learning that you've been e-
lected to help clean up the "af-
ter Christmas" mess.

Christmas is wading waist deep
through discarded Christmas wrap-
pings.

Christmas is the off-key sing-
ing of all the Christmas carols
you've learned through the years.

Christmas is seeing if someone
got more stuffing in his sock than
you.

Christmas is wondering if Ru-
dolph's nose is hot besides red.

And last but not least. Christ-
mas is knowing that in only 365
days you will be enjoying this hap-
py season once more.

A Student



Tula Rojas explains the customs of a Venezuelan Christmas to Santa.

(OLE PHOTO)

Tula Rojas Recalls Festive Spirit Of 'Feliz Navidad In Venezuela

by Marie Brillante

After going through the same old traditions for over 15 years, many people tend to regard Christmas as a real "drag." However, a member of the Fort Vancouver student body will be experiencing her first sampling of an American Christmas. Tula Rojas graciously took time out of her busy schedule to pause for an interview regarding Christmas in her homeland.

With no classes after Dec. 18 in Venezuela, parties tumble one right after the other until Jan. 7. Aside from having parties at almost any time of the day, Venezuelans, or at least Tula and company, begin their big parties after midnight and celebrate until 7 am.

Christmas traditions in Venezuela are taken from many countries. One custom very Venezuelan is roller skating in the streets. Gathering together, the children skate and sing carols from 11 pm until 3 am. Christmas trees, real or artificial, are an essential part of the Christmas decor. Evergreen trees are imported from the United States by the wealthier people, and instead of awaiting the arrival of a Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, the children look forward to the little Christ Child bringing presents through the window.

Dec. 24 finds the family bustling around in preparation for the big dinner at 10 pm. A special treat for the holiday season called hallacas a conglomeration of olives, meats, raisins, eggs, and other goodies wrapped and steamed in banana leaves. After the big midnight dinner, everyone goes off to a party.

The Christmas and New Year's parties are very dressy affairs. Girls wear long formals, and the boys don suits, and they dance to music provided by an orchestra. At the stroke of midnight during the New Year's Eve party, all the people have a glass of champagne and make a toast in hopes of a better year.

An aspect of their dating system that many Americans find disagreeable is group dating. Seldom does a couple go out alone. They must first invite their friends along. But if their friends are unable to come, then at least the couple made the gesture of inviting others.

One tradition noticeably missing in Venezuela is mistletoe, but with parties from midnight to 7 am, who needs it?

A VISITOR

When I was just small
I was told
Of a funny little man
Come out of the cold.

With a sack on his back
And his clothes all a muss
He would come down the chimney
Without a fuss.

All the goodies he would bring
On that special night
All the toys and the candy
Oh, what a sight!



As I grew up
I couldn't believe
That a man like that
Was a thing to perceive.

On that special night
I climbed into bed
Without a thought
Of him in my head.

Then in the next room
I heard such a noise;
I peeked in the door
To find him and the toys.
A Student



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