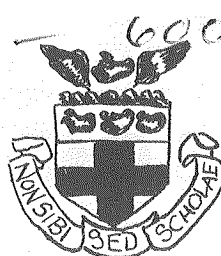


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2 Playwickian



631 PARENTS JOIN P.T.A.

The Neshaminy High School Parent-Teacher Association opened its series of programs with the annual "Back to School Night" Monday, October 15. This gave parents the opportunity not only to meet their children's teachers but also to gain insight in their courses.

Mr. Godfried Hayn, President of the PTA, termed this event as "very much of a success."

The total Jr.-Sr. membership is 631. Although this is short of its potential, it is almost double last year's number.

The entire program this year is geared toward the activities of the school. November's meeting is entitled, "Guidance". All activities will be discussed. Since there are many who do not know about our co-curricular activities, this topic will be presented in February. The topic for March is "Curriculum." Dr. Demetrio Boeurandas, the new curriculum coordinator will speak.

Sophomore Nominations

Sophomores, according to Mr. Macht, their class dean, seem to be adjusting well to senior high school life.

The sophomores have not yet held class elections. However, petitions for nominations are being circulated and students are urged to turn them in as soon as possible.

All sophomore students who attended Neshaminy in the freshman year and made the honor roll for the last marking period were awarded letters. Those students that made it in the eighth and ninth grade received pins.

JUNIORS

Being a large class, communication is a constant problem, therefore each English class will elect a representative who will gather ideas and suggestions from anyone in the class and bring them to a meeting where they will be discussed.

Dues were also a point of discussion. A great number of Juniors have failed to pay last year's dues. These people were urged to pay their dues because money is needed this year for the Yearbook and the Junior Play.

Some other students have not picked up their class ring and they are urged to do so. Juniors may also order a class ring at this time and they will receive the ring before the Christmas holidays.

Vol. 1 Ed. 4

NESHAMINY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, LANGHORNE, PENNSYLVANIA

October 31, 1962

Drama critics predict Senior play's success

AND SO DO THE SENIORS...

The Senior Play "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder, will be held on two successive Saturdays, November 10 and 17. Called by

There are several double parts. Dr. and Mrs. Gibbs will be played by Mike Bowman and Susan Jack; Mr. and Mrs. Webb by Ted Cochran and Judy Newton; George Gibbs by Scott Parker, and Emily Webb by Carol Zerbe and Brenda Weir. The other players are Lee Adams, Len Martin, Ed Foley, Wesley Harris, Billy Rees, Dale Wunsche, Marc Leaderman, Bill Hutton, Tom Nebiola, Harry Rice, Peter Botha, Jerry Weir, David Proshker, Penny Brown, Peggy Kitts, Arlene Young, Babette Bac, Linda Clark, Kathy Lezak, and Sandra Scott. The organist will be Kathy Detwiler and in charge of costumes is Barbara Mae Phillips. Lighting will be taken care of by Louis Sirkin, Dave Hull, Bob Hamilton, and Frank Hague. Mr. Frescoln, the director, is assisted by Dee Guyer and Vickie Fischer.

many 'the greatest American play' it concerns the love and marriage of a young couple just out of high school. The setting, is New England in 1900, and there is little scenery.

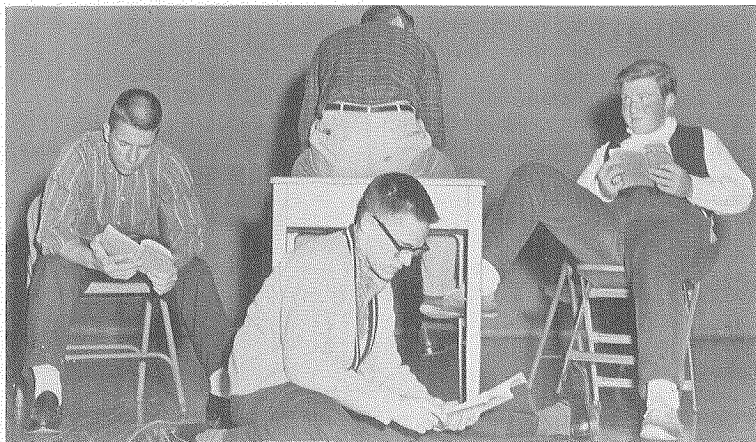
Juniors Urged To Pay Dues

The first meeting of the junior class was held October 24 in the auditorium.

The class officers were introduced: Lee Sanders, President, Sue Schaeffer, Vice President, Tom Urouhart, Treasurer, and Jill Atkins, Secretary. Also introduced was Mr. Baba, the new Social Advisor, who said how glad and proud he was to help the junior class.

Lee Sanders summarized the executive meetings in which the idea of a Junior Dance in February or March was brought up. The Junior Play was also discussed along with the Prom committees which will soon be formed.

Gordon, Stop Clowning, Start Studying!



Seniors diligently rehearse their lines for the class play "Our Town". From left to right they are: Tom Nebioli, Greg McBride, Scott Parker (with his back to the camera), and Gordon Hershey.

Senior Confab Ends With A Song

The first meeting of the senior class was called to order in the auditorium of Neshaminy Senior High School, October 25, 1962, by Scott Parker, the class president, to discuss the plans for the following year.

Mr. Brady then spoke and welcomed the seniors back for their last year in high school with the statement that "leadership should begin in the senior year" and he hopes that this year will be the biggest and best time of our life.

Gordon Hershey, class treasurer, said that the class dues must be paid -- soon, so the class of '63 will be able to meet the many expenses of the senior year. He will be collecting dues in the library from 7:45 until 8:15 every morning.

John Wichelman, class vice president, discussed the senior play, "Our Town", which will be presented in the high school auditorium on November 10th and 17th.

The Christmas Ball will be held on December 15, 1962. Committee chairmen will be chosen and they will choose their own committee members and in this way more should be accomplished, making it one of the biggest dances of the year.

Mr. Franks talked about the Victory Dance which will be held on Thanksgiving night and also Gym Night which will be on March 14 and 15. He also discussed school spirit; it is very poor and if it does not improve, in the following games the cheerleaders will sit with the rest of the student body rather than try to organize the cheering.

Tentative list for senior class activities:

There will be a trip in February on which forty senior boys will go to Willow Grove.

Name cards will be ordered and sold through the school store. A committee will be chosen to decide upon the style of the cards.

EDITORIALS

AN EPIDEMIC OF SILENCE

A rumor has been spreading throughout rival high schools in the area. Neshaminy's student body, the rumor goes, has been suffering from an acute and prolonged case of laryngitis, and until a few days ago, the doctors had given little hope for recovery.

It would be a great deal less embarrassing to the student body if these rumors were true. As it is, we are left to face the truth — Neshaminy has reached a new "high" in its utter lack of school spirit. Never has there been such an immense student body and such little spirit.

Friday night, after a two day "campaign" to boost student support at athletic contests, Neshaminy made what appeared to be a rather remarkable first step toward recovery. Although many supporters stayed home from the football game to escape the freezing wind and snow, student attendance was good, and the volume of frequency of their cheers louder and more than ever before. The unexpected appearance of three scantily clad Indians (pale-face variety) stirred the crowd up even more.

It is hoped that the revival of school spirit at Neshaminy will continue to grow.

So much attention has been directed towards our lack of cheering, we have been advised that unless our cheerleaders are given some support soon, they might just as well sit with the crowd and watch the game in silence. While these "warnings" were at first received with grumbling and murmurs of "what good will that do," they have already triggered some fast action.

PAVLOV ...

A SMART MAN

Some time ago a man named Pavlov did some interesting research in the field of conditioned responses. He discovered that dogs would salivate when they heard a bell that had previously been rung before they were fed.

At Neshaminy there are few students who salivate when they hear a certain bell; however, some have developed another more disturbing "response". They forget all else and make a mad dash to the cafeteria, briefcases, pocketbooks and hair-waving in the breeze.

Now basically there is nothing wrong with the desire to run to lunch. (We may even be harboring another great miler). Running to lunch when there are a thousand other students moving, or trying to, through the corridors is another matter. It is remarkable that we haven't had any serious mass collisions.

Until the school is expanded, the student body decreased, the lunch periods lengthened, or stoplights are installed at all dangerous intersections (and none of these seem plausible) wild dashes through the halls should be halted for everyone's good.

the PLAYWICKIAN

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Gordon Hershey.

The Last Word

I wish to express my opinion on "To Be or Not To Be" — an editorial printed in the previous issues of the "Playwickian." It stated, "The Playwickian welcomes any students' comments." Here are mine.

First of all, I quote from October paper "the ultimate goal of the 'conservative' is to secure attention." This is WRONG. As a matter of fact, it is the complete opposite. The 'conservative' style of dress, if you have noticed, is very simple, plain, tailored clothes. It consists of basic colors, the majority of which are browns and tans. Those persons in the student body who wear, for example, brightly colored tight skirts and sweaters surely attract a great more attention than the 'conservative' dresser.

Also, extremely teased hair is out. Whoever drew the picture of a so-called 'conservative' with this hair-do is also out (of their minds). I will grant you, there are some who wish to attract attention. Those students are not true 'conservatives' for they do not realize the real purpose behind the style.

I don't consider myself 'conservative.' So, you realize I do not speak from personal feeling but rather from observation.

On "Senior Conservative Day," those students participating in the activity were found wearing many of the same items presently in their own wardrobes. So proving that the seniors who dressed in this manner were in a sense ridiculing themselves.

Many of the aspects concerning this style dress are secretly admired and accepted by others who do not wish to admit this fact. This trend of clothing is sold widely by our most popular department stores.

The purpose of this article is to correct once and for all the wrong idea concerning 'conservatives' expressed by some of the student body and most of the faculty. I would appreciate any further opinions for or against mine.

Thank You!

One who is neither I've nor Jive

We Cheered
Some Friday.
Now Let's
SEE what
WE can really
do this WEEK-
Let's BACK UP
CHEERLEADERS

Mr. Michener Autographs

Miss Bromley's Book



Perspicacity And Obliquity on Debating Can Be Fun

Since the beginning of time, mankind has had a desire for combat. The pre-historic man resorted to brutal, physical combat. Modern man has refined this art to a sport requiring brutal, physical exercise. But at Neshaminy, a few diligent intellectuals go into combat not with clubs or shoulder pads, but with perspicacity and obliquity.

These stalwart defenders of the faith are known as the Neshaminy Debating team. Though combat is normally a manly art, this aggregation has a very lovely distaff constituent. Mr. Robert Franz is in charge of arming these knights with their facts, figures and farces.

For those unfortunates who are unfamiliar with the honorable and manly art of debating, an attempt shall be made to elucidate the purposes. The sport had its genesis in the courtroom. Two teams, one of affirmative persuasion and one of the negative viewpoint, plus one or more judges, constitute a de-

Resolved: That the U.S. should promote a common market for the Western Hemisphere.

This year Neshaminy has joined an eastern Pennsylvania Forensic League. We will be debating schools from all over Bucks, Chester, and Montgomery Counties. We will also schedule a debate with anyone with whom it is mutually convenient. Last year without a league, Neshaminy beat Pennsylvania H.S. in a school assembly program, and lost to Woodrow Wilson H.S. The team put in a splendid showing at the Delaware Valley Forensic Competition, and the Temple Speech Festival.

Returning to this year's team are Seniors; Margery Rudman, Cary Nelson, and Ted Cochran. And Juniors; Kathy Summers, Allan Gershenson, and Archie Heavner. Many new candidates have come from the minor Forensics Class.

Anyone interested in joining this crusade of intellectualism (and bombast), may sign up with Mr. Franz in A-8.

This year's topic for consideration is:

Want To Be A Writer Be A Girl

"The best way to become a writer," Pulitzer-Prize winner James A. Michener told over eight hundred students at Neshaminy High School, "is to start out as a girl, marry a hard working man, have two children, and, when they're in school, use your free time to write."

His speech, however, was more than a humorous oration. He discussed writing in general, and the problems that a writer, or anyone in the arts, has to face. "If you have in you the capacity to perform in one of these vital fields," he said, "you should explore every facet of it . . . although often it will be incredibly difficult to do so."

"America," Michener continued, "is a curious country. It has never held the arts in high regard. Perhaps this is due to our rough and ready pioneer spirit . . . However today it is easier than in the past for a writer to exist . . . while as a nation we do not seem to prize the arts, we do support them nobly."

Michener, whose latest novel *Hawaii* won praise for its sweeping and magnificent use of words, stressed the importance for young people to study and learn their language well. The possibilities of ever mastering it, he added, are remote. The English language is the most infinite and profound. We have at our disposal over 600,000 words.

I knew when I started *Hawaii* that it was going to take me at least five years. I have found in my own life that I have never been able to write anything to my satisfaction in just one draft. A work must be hammered out slowly until it is the desired shape and texture."

Besides striving to master the language, Michener felt that the two most important qualities a writer must develop are the confidence to at least make errors, and the willingness to work and learn from people who know more than you do."

Questioned afterward by some of the students, Michener proved to be a man with as many answers as he has facets. Although he has traveled extensively, and written most of his works about other lands, he said that he did not feel traveling was essential for a writer. "The most important is digging in and trying to understand people. One of the greatest love stories ever written was *Wuthering Heights* by Charlotte Bronte, a girl who probably never held hands with a man. Imagination is the key. Shakespeare wrote some of the most penetrating studies of murder, but he never killed a man."

"A good deal of my time is spent giving advice to foundations about to grant loans to young people . . . I never see them, only their written statements. Upon this their future is often determined. Anyone in any field who expects to succeed must learn to synthesize, be succinct."

Once both a successful teacher and business man, Michener voiced what teachers have been repeating for years — the need for rewriting, polishing a final work until it is as perfect as it possibly can be. Commenting on the laments of a student who was assigned a three thousand word composition, Michener said, "When I started to write my last book, I realized that I was faced with a three million word term paper..."

Michener is a firm believer in today's youth. "All young people have to be occasionally reminded to keep their standards high, but it is false to say that American kids are soft. I see no evidence of any weakening in the basic strain."

When asked what he considered the most common faults young writers have, he mentioned what he considered to be some of the most flagrant. "The most common fault young writers have is that they write only about themselves. They do not write from experience, and thus their writing lacks reality. You need to know an enormous lot about something to write about it."

Young people often write without having a specific purpose, Michener felt. "I have never written a word on paper without a purpose, either to get someone agitated, mad, or thinking. Writing is one of the greatest tools for stirring up something."

"Cartoons and television are bad influences on young writers; people get the idea that the little guy fighting ridiculous odds always wins. Life isn't that way — more often than not he dies. This ought to be stated in literature."

SPORTS



by Dave Friedman

Soccer Team on Top

Much discussion has been devoted to Neshaminy's new schedule. Having outstripped by far the local competition, coach John Petercuskie is ever on the lookout for better teams. Only by playing top-notch schools will Neshaminy receive the recognition it deserves.

In 1963, besides Bishop Egan and Section One foes — Bensalem, Pennsbury and Tennent, Neshaminy will tangle once again with LaSalle. They will also meet Easton, Allen and Dieruff of Allentown, Bethlehem, and Phillipsburg, New Jersey, a name which is only whispered in New Jersey.

Asked to comment on this fearsome array, Coach Petercuskie said, "We're not afraid. There is no doubt that it will be tougher; but remember that we've already played three out of the five upstate teams."

With this spirit, we cannot help but improve.

Neshaminy's defending soccer champions have the best team they've ever enjoyed. Therefore it was quite unsettling when they lost an alarming number of early season games. The caliber of play was below what had been expected, and there were rumors that team morale was poor.

Happily, the 'Skins are leading the Lower Bucks County League, and do not appear ready to relinquish that position.

Sportsmanship

Last week, sportsmanship was discussed in this column. No one had cause to complain about Neshaminy recently, but the stone wall in front of the school does not look good in Orange and Black.

November first is just around the corner, and the coaches of winter sports are pawing the ground. They can't wait to get out the basketballs and wrestling gear, the horse and the fins.

Now who would want to fight John Wichelman?

Where the boys men are



The Soccer Team takes to the victory road. Right now the team stands in first place in the L.B.C. League.

Cross Country Results

Cross Country

Neshaminy Breezes By

Experiences 1st loss

Bensalem's Harriers

William Tennent's cross-country team, on Tuesday, October 9, handed Neshaminy its first loss, 17-36, on Tennant's rain-swept course.

At the beginning of the 2.2 mile race Tennant took the first two positions. By the end of the race, two more Tennent harriers finished strongly to give Tennent, last year's title defender, first through fourth places.

This meet gave Tennent the Lower Bucks Cross-Country Championship for the seventh year in a row. Neshaminy's team is now in second-place tie with Bensalem.

The first ten finishers and their places were as follows: 1. Hant (T); 2. Woolcock (T); 4. Merkle (T); 5. Jewett (N); 7. Palmer (N); 8. Richter (N); 9. Hogg (N); 10. Smigs (T).

Breezing to victory in their last dual meet, Neshaminy's cross-country team outran Bensalem 24-34 on Neshaminy's 2.3 mile course on October 17.

Jeff Hughes of Bensalem, who took first place in the William Tennent Invitational, also placed first against Neshaminy. He outran Neshaminy's first man by sixteen seconds in setting a new course record of 12:07.

Neshaminy's runners, however, made their best showing yet this year by having seven men in under thirteen minutes.

The first ten places are as follows: 1. Jeff Hughes (B); 2. Rick Palmer (N); 3. Bill Mahoney (B); 4. John Richter (N); 5. Charles Hogg (N); 6. Bill Jewett (N); 7. Andy Overton (N); 8. Gene Redko (N); 9. Rich Handfield (B); 10. Steve Sease (N).

Pennsbury Put Down 51-26

The Neshaminy Redskins continued on their 16 game winning streak by defeating a spirited Pennsbury team 51-26. The victory was made in a 33 point second quarter which all but clinched the outcome.

The 'Skins went into the second quarter with a 6-0 lead thanks to Bill Brundzo's one yard effort. They proceeded from there with 33 points, things began, innocently enough, with a 56 yard run by Bob Baxter, who then hit Milt Rassier for the PAT, producing a 13-0 score.

As if Pennsbury hadn't enough trouble, the game's second interception followed almost immediately, this one going to Mark Ciccone. As a result of this and a Preno-Barr pass and a Baxter conversion the score stood at 33-0.

The last N.H.S. T.D. of the quarter came with 13 seconds on a 57 yard gainer by Bob Baxter.

The other touchdowns came one in the third and again, one in the fourth quarter. These were gained by Maury Tome's three yard attempt and Baxter's one yard gain. (Thus giving Baxter a 26 point total for the game.)

Quick thinking by end Phil Lange got the 'Skins to the one on a fumbled kick. Bob Barr then ran it over making the score 19-0.

Another Falcon mishap came as an interception when Rich Lauther brought down a third downer and returned it to the three. Baxter then charged for the T.D. and increased the lead to 26-0.

BAXTER 26 DELHAAS 6

The Neshaminy Redskins marched to victory once again in their 26-6 triumph over Delhaas High School Friday night. The win marked Neshaminy's seventh victory against no defeats.

The Redskins, battling both Delhaas and the weather, were held to a 6-6 tie at halftime. After the slow first half, however, the 'Skins came back with 20 points in the second, starting with Bob Baxter's 51 yard drive to shatter the tie.

Speaking of Baxter drives, it was he who scored all 26 NHS points, bringing his season total to 133, far ahead of all other contenders for the Scoring Championship. Baxter's drives came in runs of 1, 51, 28, and 53 yards.