



The Purple Clarion

HARRISBURG HIGH SCHOOL

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Thieves steal over \$5,000 in electronic equipment

During Thanksgiving break, the school was burglarized with a total of \$5475.63 of computer equipment being stolen from Mr. Paugh's and Mr. Harper's rooms.

Because wrestling and basketball games were going on, the school's alarms were turned off. The prowlers apparently removed the glass from the teachers' doors and proceeded into the rooms. The criminals carefully selected their wares and left. Among the things stolen were seven disk drives, a camcorder, an Apple IIGS computer and monitor, and various other electronic items.

A police investigation is underway to look into the theft. A similar incident was reported in Carrier Mills. Several disk drives were also stolen there. Anyone with any knowledge of the burglary or the whereabouts of any of the merchandise should contact Mr. Gordon.



After giving blood, Jarrett Mattingly has his blood pressure checked by Mike Gribble.



Senior Dave Bear has his temperature and blood pressure checked by the head nurse from the Evansville chapter of the Red Cross. The Red Cross sponsors the annual drive.

Thirty-three students share blood in drive

The annual blood drive organized by Mrs. Cheryl Clark ended a success after a questionable beginning. The day before the drive only twenty students had returned their consent forms. However, procrastinators brought their forms on the day of the drive to boost the number of donors to 33.

The requirements for giving blood are as follows: one must be seventeen years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds, have parental consent, and be in good health. The donors had their blood pressure, pulse rate, and temperature taken.

Many students wonder why anyone gives blood. Mrs. Clark said, "Many students have given blood in the past, so they don't do it because of peer pressure. They do it because it is the responsible

thing to do."

Mrs. Clark's Health Occupation class worked the blood drive. They aided the nurses and provided moral support to the donors. Senior Valerie Williams, a Health Occ. student says, "While I was giving blood, I got really dizzy and almost passed out. But I'm still glad I did it."

Many students said the entire process was painless. Some students on the other hand were nervous about the whole event. Senior LeAnn Gilliam said she yelled "Ouch!" but she admitted it was "more nerves than pain."

The blood drive was much smaller than last year. Mrs. Clark hopes the underclassmen will follow the lead of the few brave upperclassmen to make the next year's blood drive.

Walker's Word:

Girls, it's not true

by Brent Walker

Okay, I'm wondering. Who bought "Girl You Know It's True," by Milli Vanilli? Who cheered and wet their pants when the dynamic duo won a Grammy for Best New Artist? A show of hands? None? It doesn't matter; I know who you are. I see your face turning red right now.

Milli Vanilli's Grammy was taken from them because it was discovered that they didn't actually sing on the album. It is a technicality, yes. After all, they did do their own stomping around in biker shorts.

"Didn't sing on their own album?" you ask. "Well, Brent, who did?" The people who actually, honestly sang on the album were studio singers Charles Shaw, Johnny Davis, and Brad Howell. The last two are listed as backup singers on "Girl You Know It's True."

"How could they do this to me?" you ask. Easy, I say, money. Once upon a time, Fab Morvan and Rob Pilatus were living in a poor housing project in Munich. A record producer named Frank Farian saw them and thought they were too good looking to be this poor. After all, good looking people are above poverty, even if they have no useful talents. He offered them \$4,000 plus any royalties to dance and mouth the words to

pre-recorded songs. Thus, Milli Vanilli was born. Needless to say, Rob and Fab made a lot of cash.

Milli Vanilli continue to say that they are victims of the lying, greedy record producer. It's pretty easy to call yourself a victim when you're sitting on a few million dollars. They wouldn't be in this situation if they themselves hadn't been lying, greedy people to begin with. When asked how the group could play charades in public for so long without a conscience attack, Rob said, "We just wanted to live life the American way." Nice cop-out, Rob. Turn the guilt onto the American public. How European!

Before you weeping, wailing Milli Vanilli fans hang the boys in effigy, remember this. They wanted to do their own singing for their new album, but Farian wouldn't let them. As cheap and underhanded as that sounds, I honestly can't say that I blame him. Picture, if you will, a legless cow in heat. That's about what Milli Vanilli sounded like at a recent press conference when they did their own singing in a fifteen second version of, "Girl You Know It's True."

Let's be honest for a moment. Milli Vanilli's music wasn't that good to begin with. It catered to junior high girls with a 14 IQ. It was produced by machine and had absolutely no feeling at all. Why were they such a hit? They were

good looking. How many girls (maybe even a few boys) would rather see Milli Vanilli prance around in tight pants than see ancient Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards cough up a huge, yellow, old-age induced goober right in the middle of a solo? With a lack of talent, yes, good looks are all it takes to be a success.

This unfortunate mentality is becoming a trend in American society. For example, on one of this season's earlier episodes of *The Simpsons*, perennial loser Homer bought a miracle hair growth formula and was soon a junior vice president at his company, even though he had no idea how to do the job. When he lost his hair again, he lost his job. It was funny, but it was also pretty disturbing.

Physical appearance is quickly becoming too major a criterion when it comes to attaining any vestige of success in the '90s.

THE PURPLE CLARION

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Gulf Crisis: Just another double standard

by Clint Popetz

Everyone hates Saddam Hussein. We hate his mustache, we hate his international hosting of guests, and above all we hate his constant stream of rationalizations and propoganda. But it is time to take a step back and compare his reasoning to that of the United States, and it is time to recognize the double standard.

Saddam claims that Kuwait once belonged to Iraq and that he is only taking back what was originally his. Although this is historically correct, most of the world dismissed it as gibberish. Leaders don't just invade other countries and claim the land for their own on the basis of some ancient ownership, do they?

Let us shift our gaze to another Middle East hot-spot: the Palestine Question. Israeli police recently shot and killed Palestine youths, who were armed with stones, at the wailing wall in Jerusalem. Fifty years of death and destruction have taken place in Israel and the occupied territories because, after World War Two, millions of Jews came to Palestine and claimed the land as their own,

albeit with United Nations permission. They forced Palestinian families out of their homes and killed those that would not leave, on the basis of an ancient ownership. Sure, thousands of years ago that land was owned by Israeli ancestors, but is that a good reason to take away a people's nation and force them into exile? It seems it was quite logical when the United States was the main country pushing for the creation of the State of Israel, but when that guy with the mustache uses the same line, he's a bloodthirsty tyrant.

Of course double standards are an integral part of politics, and I do not intend to take Iraq's side in any way. But propoganda is harmful no matter which side it comes from, and it is time to stop making sweeping judgements on the policies of foreign leaders. Those judgements might just describe our own government's policies.

Quake scare keeps many students home

Iben Browning's earthquake prediction for December 3 must have scared a lot of people.

About half of all students were absent on that Monday. WEBQ had announced that any absences that day would be excused. Unit #3 schools were the only county schools in session.

Most of the students who stayed home on the third said they just watched TV or slept all day. D.R. Agin said, "I wasn't worried about the earthquake, but the absence was excused, so I stayed home."

"My mother was worried about the earthquake and made me stay home," said Tammy Wright.

Toby Marcum filled his day with "Froot Loops, skateboard, and a few naps."



On Earthquake Day, Jesse Nelson has his hard hat ready, while Josh Ragan does not take his off. Student Council asked everyone to wear hard hats in a spoof of the panic.



Senior Jaci Prather reaches for the elusive rebound.

Reagan full of insight

Our 40th president, Ronald Reagan, led this country through one of its most prosperous periods, but when he wasn't balancing a budget or creating a new world order, he was full of interesting thoughts and insights. Here are some of his more memorable comments...

ON COMMUNISM: "I'm no linguist, but I have been told that in the Russian language there isn't even a word for freedom."

ON WAR: "Boy, after seeing Rambo last night, I know what to do next time this happens."

ON THE ENVIRONMENT: "If you've seen one redwood, you've seen them all."

ON NUCLEAR WAR: "Nuclear war would be the greatest tragedy, I think, ever experienced by mankind."

ON THE AFTERLIFE: "I'm concentrating on dog heaven."

Lady Bulldogs grab conference win

The Lady Bulldog basketball team won its first conference game against Herrin, 48-40. The game on December 6th evened their record to 4-4 over all, with a 1-2 record in conference play.

Amy Cavender and Jaci Prather were the only double digit scorers, with 14 and 13 points respectively.

The Lady Dogs had previously lost conference

South Seven favorite Herrin.

Overall, the team won games against Murphysboro, Benton, Hardin County, and Herrin, with losses to West Frankfort, Mt. Vernon, and McLeansboro twice.

"The season got off to a slow start, but we seem to be improving with each game," noted senior guard Jaci Prather.

MARINES

Pride.

You'll find it in a few good men.

There's one thing you notice about this man the minute your eyes meet his. He's not just any kind of man, he's one of a kind. From the determined look in his eye to the perfect cut of that dress blue uniform, he possesses an unusual quality that says he is something special. That quality is pride and you'll find it in every Marine.

Take a good look at this man. If you think you see yourself in him and are looking for more information, call 1-800-MARINES. Who knows, you too may have what it takes to wear that dress blue uniform.

Marines

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Dogs open Season

The 1990-91 edition of the Bulldog basketball team has begun the season on somewhat shaky ground. The team has split their first two games with Eldorado and Carrier Mills, while losing their first conference game to Mt. Vernon.

The Bulldog fans did not know what to expect coming into the season. The Dogs are playing their first season under new head coach Ron Reed. Coach Reed has brought a new up tempo style of play to Harrisburg. The team lacks size so it will have to depend upon quickness and relentless defensive pressure.

In the first conference game against physically superior Mt. Vernon, the dogs showed that defensive talent. Going in as a heavy underdog on the Ram's home floor, the Dogs showed strong determination en route to a

ten point loss. Their tenacious defense in the fourth quarter helped erase the 25 point third quarter deficit. Senior Chris Lucas led the scoring with 23 points while Chad Lakotos contributed 18.

The Dogs have only one returning starter from last year's 13-12 team. Senior Brandon Shelton averaged ten points per game last year and is looked to for team leadership this year. "I feel as if I'm a leader. However, every player must work together to be successful," Shelton commented.

The team will play a killer schedule throughout the 90-91 campaign. The Dogs compete in the always tough South Seven Conference. Carbondale is picked to win the conference while Mt. Vernon and Benton are picked for second and third respectively.



Senior Brandon Shelton muscled through a group of Mt. Vernon defenders for a rebound.

Wrestlers begin season strong

The Harrisburg wrestling team, lead by Head Coach Langley and JV coach Al Way, are their usual dominant selves this year.

The Varsity squad holds a conference record of 2-2, with many non-conference wins such as 1st place in the Benton Invitational. The JV team has gone undefeated this year, with a 4-0

conference record. The freshman team has also done well, taking 22 out of 33 matches at the Marion Invitational.

Attitudes toward the 90-91 season are high. Wrestlers are confident in their abilities, and as Coach Way put it:

"As long as we can all stay healthy, we can do extremely well and place high in the conference"



Three club members attend tournament

Three members of chess club, despite being short a fourth team member, wound up in 6th place at Murray High School's Earthquake scholastic Chess Tournament.

Juniors Jennifer Kerley and Shawn Sanders and Sophomore Diana Grisham comprised HHS's team,

competing in the high school novice category.

The team, arriving late and with no pre-registration, was forced to sit out the first round of play. A regular team consisted of four, and HHS was short a team member. Faced with two strikes against them, HHS managed to rally for the second round and came away with three wins.

Going into round 3, with 3 points, HHS was already beating three schools who had participated in the first round with full teams.

After round 3, HHS chalked up another point and headed for lunch.

Upon returning to the 4th round, they were slowed down and claimed only one more win.

Shawn Sanders led the individual points going 3 wins for 4 games, Jennifer Kerley was 2 for 4, and Diana Grisham was last with 1 for 4.

"I was surprised to win a game at all! Especially after getting up at 5:00 a.m. Chess seems less than worthwhile at 5:00 in the morning," commented Diana Grisham after the tournament.

Shawn Sanders felt that he "knew what the big show was about, and looked forward to devastating the assembled chess wimps." While Jennifer Kerley considered the day well spent in trying her skills at chess.

The team hopes to attend another tournament later in the year,

without the threat of a predicted earthquake hanging overhead.

The Earthquake Scholastic as the Murray match was nicknamed, due to being held December 1, saw a lower attendance than expected.

As the head administrator registered HHS late arrivals, he commented that some teams were probably staying away because of Browning's prediction.

Fast Facts

from Bathroom Reader
(personal library of
Editor Brent Walker)

In 1980, the Yellow Pages accidentally listed a Texas funeral home under frozen foods.

Your fingers and toes are the coldest parts of your body.

In the early '80's a toad was discovered that meows instead of croaking.

Turnout impressive at Rotary lunch

Recognition was given to twenty-one straight A students when they attended one of the weekly Rotary luncheons. Rotary members paid for each student's meal in order to acknowledge their accomplishments for the past nine week grading period.

Students were excused from classes at 11:45 on November 26 to go to the Gateway Inn. There, they enjoyed the restaurant's buffet and visited with several of the Rotary members. During the meeting, members introduced the students by telling their various extracurricular activities.

After the business meeting, the guest speaker, Monty Field, explained operations at the Illinois Department of Juvenile Correction located in Harrisburg. Superintendent Field informed the audience that the center was closed as a mental health institute in 1982 and was first used for juveniles in July 1983.

He cited that the average annual amount spent on a juvenile dependent in Illinois is \$34,053. "This average price to incarcerate a juvenile includes all staffing costs, utility costs, general living costs, and overall development expenses," explained Field.

"It seems that the cost to care for juveniles in our center is increasing simply because more are being committed for drug-related reasons." According to Field the center had to buy more beds and security equipment to control the rising population.

Students were excused from the luncheon just in time to return to 6th hour. Response to the luncheon was better than in past years.

"The guest speaker was interesting because I had no idea so much money was spent on one juvenile," commented senior Clay Crawford.

Another senior, Chris Lucas thought the food was pretty good although he wasn't sure about the "mystery meat."

Attending Rotary were Seniors Shannon Rider, Clinton Popetz, Susan Osterkamp, Tina McIlrath, Christopher Lucas and Clay Crawford. The only Junior attending was Beth Jones.

Melanie Nook, Toby Lyon, Andy Kelley, Leslie Hearn, Ashley Gott, Andrea Glass, Travis DeNeal, Melissa Butler, and Matt Bramlet were the sophomores attending.



Junior Amanda Franks receives help from Clyda Hurley in chemistry.

Hurley's tutoring program helps students

The high school equivalent of Attend and Win is a new program here, instructed by Mr. Clyde Hurley. Mr. Hurley was a student teacher for Mrs. Way's math classes last year.

Working with both Harrisburg and Carrier Mills students, Mr. Hurley says, "This program is much needed because it provides tutoring services to students who have different problems and it is very worthwhile."

Altogether, there are about eighty students involved. They are learning more in the areas of math, English, government, sciences, drafting, and even their personal problems.

Mr. Hurley also noted that his qualifications include math education classes from S.I.U and tutoring programs from S.I.C. "About 75% is on tutoring and the other 25% has to do with counseling", he adds.

Mr. Hurley can be found on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in room 115, to assist any student with their work.

Russian professor discusses Soviet, American differences

Sex, freedom, drugs, politics, and blue jeans are just some of the vast array of topics which were discussed in Mrs. Bramlet's senior English classes when Dr. Elena Potora, a professor of sociology from the U.S.S.R., came to HHS shortly before her return home.

Dr. Potora began the A.P. English Class with a traditional slide show showing glimpses of her home and the people. She then turned the projector off and asked the class if there were any questions; there was dead silence. She then went on, "Then I have a question for you: Do you have free love?"

The excitement began.

The vast differences between the Soviet and American social, economic, and ideological systems were debated, as were the latest changes in the Soviet mindset. She pointed out many of the weak points of the U.S. system, and made clear that there were many misconceptions over the Soviet Union and especially the current political changes.

Dr. Potora was full of energy and strong viewpoints on the freedoms many of us take for granted. In the words of one A.P. student, Clay Crawford, "For only being in the U.S. three months, she was a master of debate and never lacked something to say."



SIU sociology professor Dr. Elena Potora uses slides to illustrate her talk to senior English students about current conditions in the Soviet Union. Alively discussion followed.

Do the low-income families in our area know it's Christmas?

by Tina McIlrath

The holiday season is upon us, and while some are scurrying about deciding which gifts to buy for whom, others are wondering where their next meal will come from, or whether their children will have a Christmas at all.

Various organizations in Saline County are stretching out their hands of volunteerism to help the low-income families in our area. The Department of Children and Family Services is busy during this time of year serving as a major center for the distribution of necessities to people stricken by poverty. It receives donations from churches, businesses, and individuals to be used in giving food baskets to needy families.

The department also directs a special "Share Your Blessings" program that has been successful in 11 counties in southern Illinois. In the program, sponsors agree to buy gifts for a specific child or his family.

The Department of Children and Family Services asks certain low-income families to fill out a "wish list" for their children (21 years of age or younger). Sponsors are then instructed to spend a minimum of \$60 on buying for the child. Last year, 720 children in southern Illinois were given Christmas gifts in this way.

Various places like prisons, schools, clubs, and stores like Wal-Mart, as well as individuals, sponsor children from Share Your Blessings. The Gilliam family has sponsored a child for four years. Senior LeAnn Gilliam comments, "We learned that it's better to request a younger child because older children want impractical things."

Another group, Care and Share, which has existed for one year, serves needy individuals in Harrisburg through an

adopt-a-family or adopt-a-child program. These two programs are more extensive because they cover certain families year round. Churches, Sunday School classes, and sometimes individuals adopt a family in their community and buy gifts and food for them. All year the sponsors spend time with their family, making sure they have plenty of food, clothing, and shelter.

Forty families are receiving aid this Christmas with the Adopt-a-Family program. Care and Share works with the community, Salvation Army, WADI (a community development corporation,) and many schools to find those families that are in need. Care and Share has no source of income other than donations which go directly to the help of low-income families.

Care and Share uses volunteers to help these families or children in other ways as well. In the Adopt-a-Child program, individuals spend time with a certain child during the holidays or year round. The person makes sure that the child is taken care of appropriately and is happy.

Beth Montfort, Care and Share representative, continually searches for volunteers to help the needy families or needy individuals not only at Christmas time but throughout the entire year. "It seems like after Christmas, people aren't near as generous," commented Montfort. She commented that they were in great need of volunteers. "It's amazing what an hour given by a volunteer can do to help those in need."

The Salvation Army is also helping the unfortunate in our community. Volunteers for the Salvation Army continually collect donations in front of major stores like Wal-Mart and K-Mart. The organization then uses the money to buy coats, toys, clothes, and other gifts for children during Christmas.

In the past, \$8,000 has been raised

and spent in Saline County for these projects. The Salvation Army receives most names of needy individuals from teachers in grade schools and junior high schools. Other organizations, like The Daily Register, aid the Salvation Army by collecting used toys from individuals in the community and then transferring the gifts to the Army's station.

The Jaycees are influential in distributing toys to children during Christmas also. For thirty years, members of the Jaycees have dressed up as Santa Claus and delivered toys to needy children or food to their families. They raise money through donations from individuals who are consistent in contributing every year. This Christmas, the Jaycees will help 175 families, close to 400 children.

Member of the Jaycees, Kevin Prusazyck, helps the Jaycees distribute items to low-income family every year. "In the last few years, donations have gone down and we have a little over \$6,000 to spend."

The Jaycees are still being successful at reaching a great number of children through their program.

K-Mart developed their own program several years ago to help children who would not otherwise have a good Christmas. The store acquires names from the schools in Harrisburg, Carrier Mills, and Eldorado and compiles a list of children in need. They then place the child's first name, age, shoe size, pant size, and shirt size on a tag that is to be hung on their Christmas tree at the entrance of the store.

Individuals take one of the tags and buy one thing for the child, wrap the gift, then deliver it back to K-Mart to be delivered. K-Mart and the giving individuals will help 272 children this year.

A couple of organizations help during the holidays by giving food to low-income families. This year, the American Legion and Eagles will distribute a hundred food baskets to people on December 22nd. The two organizations simply ask those in need to call in to receive a basket. Then, the groups check with other programs to make sure that someone does not get more than one basket per family.

The Lord's Kitchen, at Harrisburg Christian Center, serves meals on Tuesday and Thursday nights for people. Anyone is allowed to eat the meal for free. The Lord's Kitchen tries to serve meals on special occasions also.

WADI, Walbash Area Development Incorporation, and Anna Bixby help each and every one of these organizations serving as a reference center. Both centers keep a running list of the needy people they come in contact to help inform other organizations.

It appears that working together various organizations are doing a lot to help every low-income family and child. Beth Montfort, recipient of woman of the year(1989) in Saline County for her work with Care and Share, feels that with every organization working together, the community of Harrisburg could be successful in solving a major problem.

"I would like to package our program and show the state of Illinois how our community can work together for the good of others," commented Montfort. She claims that the success of all of the programs depends upon volunteers.

"The 1980's were known as checkbook charity years because most people felt that making a donation was enough to help the needy in our community," explained Montfort. "Now we must decide to give our time to such a cause."

Helping the troops...



Library club members, Elizabeth Stafford, LeAnn Gilliam, and Tina McIlrath load boxes of books and food to send to U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia. Club members hope that the packages relieve some of the tension and boredom that troops experience.

"Voice of Democracy" winners announced

Sophomore Matt Bramlet won first place in the annual Voice of Democracy speech contest, held in November.

After winning the school competition, his speech will now go on to the district competition; the deadline was December 15th. The winner of the district competition will then go on to the state level of competition and the state winner travels on to the nationals in Washington, D.C.

The contest, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and its ladies auxiliary, is a program designed to give high school students the opportunity to voice their opinions on their responsibility to our country and to convey their thoughts towards the broadcasting media in the U.S.

In the race, Jeff Dunn placed second, and Jamie Orr captured third. Matt stated that when he found out "I was surprised (that I won). I thought Travis DeNeal or Jeff Dunn would win," Matt said. He also noted that from this contest, he learned that "with hard work and determination, you can do almost anything. Plus, a little money has a lot of influence."

