

Advisory Council busy preparing committees

The main purpose of Advisory Council Meeting on Oct. 14th was primarily conducted to organize. Mrs. Irene Aronson was reelected Chairman of the council along with a new vice-chairman and secretary, Dr. Ben Klein and Phyllis Driggs respectively. Each will serve a two year term.

The council now consists of ten committees. They are Membership chaired by Dr. Klein, Telephone Notifications-Betty Kent, By-laws-Ken Matthews, Publicity-undertaken by student Cabinet Director of Communication John Markmen; Attendance - Mae Greenhalgh; Student Rights - Sally Landworth; Job Opportunity Center - Norma Rosso; Multi-Media Centers - Mrs. Aronson, the Reading Advisory representatives who assist Mrs. Ruggiero - Mary Jo McCauley, and the most recent addition, Staff Integration Nina Vance. This committee consists of 10 people and is being conducted by all of the other individual councils in the L.A. City Schools. This was recently initiated by L.A. School district to evaluate ways to integrate minorities among the faculty.

Appointed to the council are; Dr. John D. Chudacoff, Sarah Delgado, Dennis Fried, Diane Glass, Barry Gumbert, Alvin Herman, Dr. June Jones, Saul Marks, James Pyle, Christine Ramirez, June Rosenbaum, Louis Rosenberg, Mary Simmone, Don Smith, Hugh Stocks and Rosalie Weiner. Mrs. Beth Williams, a representative of our P.T.A. is a member on the council and in this same instance faculty representatives Fran Joseph, Betty Bivens, Sandra Holtzendorf and Larry Rubin are also voting members. To finish this impressive list of an involved community are student members: Alan Kassan (School President), Dave Rainer (Sr. Pres.), Cathy Maron (Jr. Pres.), Barry Rosenbloom (Soph. Pres.), and Sue Olshansky (Student Cabinet Director of Community Involvement).

The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the library. Guests are welcome and encouraged to come to get involved.

Any suggestions or opinions on Taft are welcome by all members of this Council.



Taft's new Advisory Council Officers. from left to right: Ms. Phyllis Driggs (Secretary), Ms. Irene Aronson (Chairman), Mr. Fred Frazer (Principal), and Dr. Ben Klein (Vice-Chairman). Photo by Rosenberg

The Taft Tribune

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Taft senior, Alan Gurewitz: Student pilot flies privately

By Bob Yallen

Alan Gurewitz, a senior here at Taft High School, has an interesting life. Away from school, Alan who is a private pilot has accumulated 150 flying hours since he started to fly September of last year.

It took him a little less than one year to receive his private pilot rating, however he has been a student pilot for one year now which has enabled him to solo.

Alan flies out of San Val at Van Nuys and when asked how he got interested in flying, Alan simply replied, "I thought flying was a challenge, especially after my father had tried, and then gave it up." Alan received a 96% on his second attempt of the written flying test which is supposed to be extremely high for a high school student of 17, who is still in school

and who maintains a "B" average. Alan hopes to make flying his career and become either a corporation or airplane pilot. Alan was asked if being away from home so often would bother him, but he boastfully remarked, "Being away

from home doesn't bother me very much; my life is centered around flying and it really is my first love."

Alan has really taken a big step towards reaching his goal of becoming a corporation or airline pilot. Next summer Alan will be flying multi-engine planes for an airplane manufacturing firm. Alan's job will be to fly the planes from Wichita to Los Angeles where they are to be sold. Alan won't be getting paid very much for this, however this job will give him a good chance to build up many hours of flying time and he will also have an expense account.

CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK

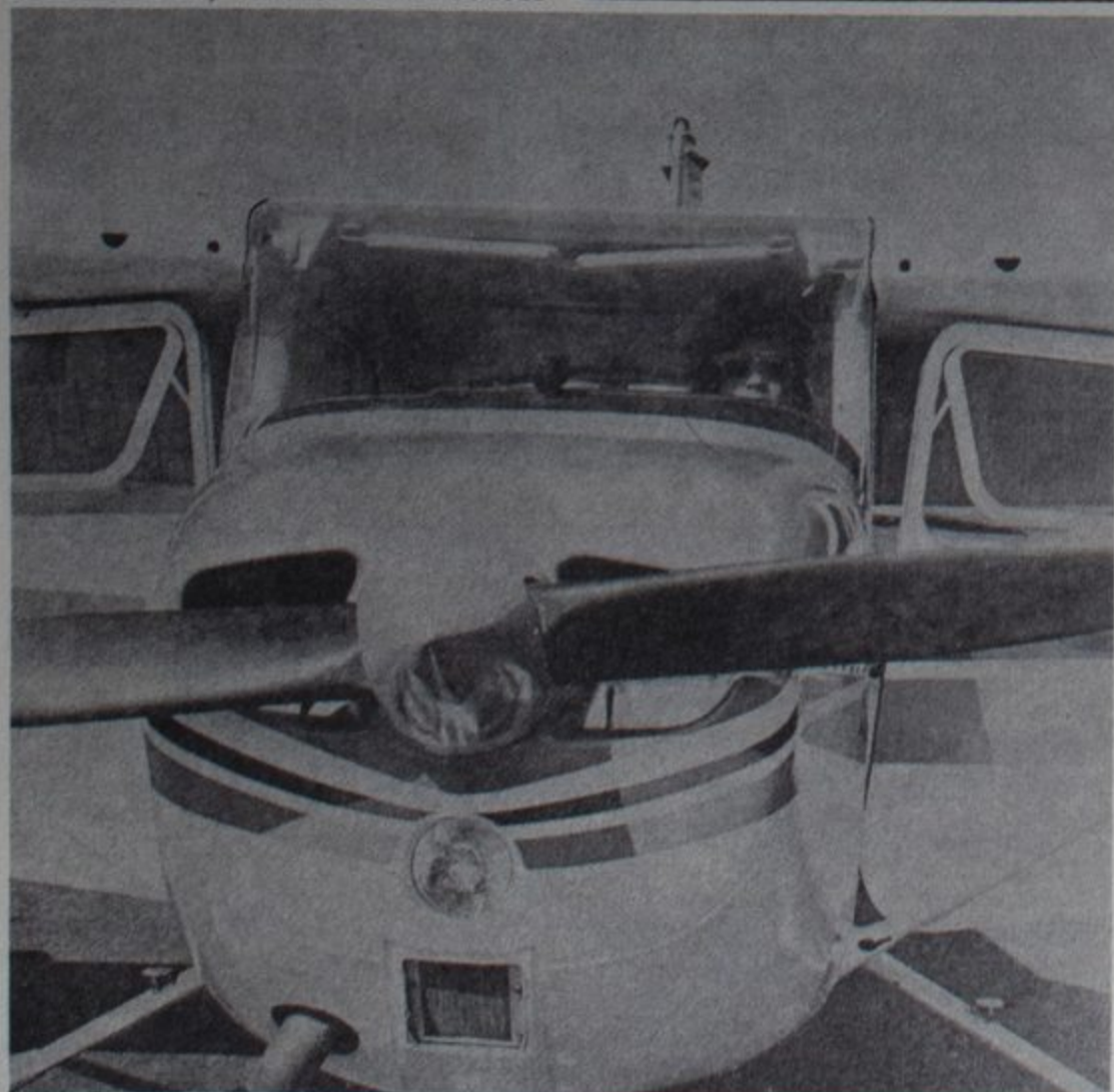
Monday- Veteran's Day- Legal Holiday

Wednesday- Progress Reports and Atinian Pictures

Thursday- Completion of Progress Reports and Atinian Pictures

Senior Class Assembly- Taft Hall

Friday- Dance in Taft Hall cancelled



Alan Gurewitz ready for take-off.

Photo by Yallen

Calif. Junior State holds First all day conference

The California Junior State Angeles Region held their first conference of the year, Saturday, October 19th from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at Cal State Dominguez Hills. It was called "Decision '74" and it dealt with those important events that have already and will happen this year concerning the people of this state. They had a turnout of about seventy students from high schools throughout the city.

The seminar began with State Assemblyman Robert Cline giving the keynote address. In his speech Assemblyman Cline put the responsibility for getting things accomplished in the country not upon the politicians but on the people.

After Assemblyman Cline's speech, the group split-up to attend two different seminars: "The Race for Governor: Brown vs. Flournoy", and "The New Melones Dam: Proposition 17." In these, as in the later seminars, the basic format was for each speaker to make a short statement and then to conduct a question and answer period. In the Governors Race Seminar there

were representatives from both Brown and Flournoy, who were youth coordinators for their respective sides.

After a lunch break, the students again split up between seminars on the effects of Proposition 9, the political reform initiative that was voted into law last spring, and on Proposition A, the Rapid-Transit Initiative that is coming up for vote in November. Defending Proposition 9 were representatives from both the People's Lobby and Common Cause. Opposing it was a representative from the AFL-CIO. During the whole seminar there was a long term heated debate between the representatives of the People's Lobby and the AFL-CIO. At the Rapid-Transit Seminar there was only one representative supporting the initiative.

The students then come back together for a seminar on "Youth in Politics." After this seminar ended, Tanya Thonson, the woman in charge, adjourned the conference. The students, in general, thought it was a very interesting and thought provoking day.

Committees promote Crusade

Taft's annual United Crusade Drive, sponsored by student cabinet, along with the three class steering committees comes to a halt today after one week of fund raising activities, which includes the usual homeroom competition,

the backbone of the drive. At press time, the two most successful classes had not yet been determined, but the winners are to receive a congratulatory party sponsored by a local food outlet; last year the

party was donated by Carvel's ice cream store.

Among the many enterprises used as incentive for the United Crusade, a discount auction was instituted, comprised of cheeseburger coupons from International Cheeseburger Factory and sandwich coupons from Frankie and Johnnies. Other activities involved a candy apple and frozen banana sale, and several bake sales sponsored by various school organizations.

After speaking with Bruce McWilliams, Tribune Liaison, it was known that the money earned for the United Crusade is not only spread throughout the United States and the rest of the world, but distributed amongst the Taft community. To cite an example, last year, the United Crusade allocated to the Taft P.T.A. \$28,000.00 used to finance a Dental Clinic where 285 people from the West Valley region receive care. Moreover, the United Crusade has donated blood when deemed necessary.

Fall Concert highlights classics

Yesterday evening, Nov. 7, at 8 p.m., the Taft music department was in the spotlight in Olmstead Hall, as they presented their annual Fall Music Concert.

The show was divided into two parts, the first part being presented by the instrumental groups, and the second part being presented by the vocal groups. Heading up the vocal part of the show were the Choir and the Vocal Ensemble, presenting several popular and classical selections. For the instrumental portion of the show, which was under the direction of Mr. Ken Kamp, the Jazz Band presented several numbers in the old Dixie spirit, in addition to the classical

tunes performed by the Orchestra.

Tickets for this event, which went on sale last Monday, sold for \$1.50 for Adults, and \$.75 for students. In addition, the Music Department gave a preview performance yesterday during lunch, with no admission being charged.

Of special note to those who attended was the director of the vocal groups, Mr. E. R. Kursinski, who has taken over the vocal portion of the Music Department following the retirement of Mr. George Turner last year. The members of the Music Department enjoyed putting on the performance, and they wish to thank all those who attended.

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One reporter's opinion

Who will be next?

by Jack Kerrigan

William Proxmire, Ted Kennedy, Houston Flournoy, Henry Jackson and Hubert Humphrey. What do all these men have in common? They're all politicians, sure, but because of the field they're all in they have put themselves in the range of a would-be publicity-hungry assassin.

It's been proven before that if somebody really wants to kill a public official, let alone the President, the chances of succeeding are heavily in the assassin's favor.

Four United States Presidents have fallen victim to political assassinations and many more have had unsuccessful attempts made on their lives. It took the deaths of three Presidents before this country realized that some sort of protection should be given to the Chief Executive. This protection became known as the Secret Service.

The Secret Service was established in 1865 to prevent the counterfeiting of money during the Civil War but it wasn't until 1901, after the assassination of William McKinley that the Secret Service was assigned the enormous task of protecting the lives of the Presidents.

For 62 years the Secret Services record went untarnished either by skill or training or by luck. Then in 1963 the Secret Service lost their first President by assassination when John F. Kennedy was shot to death while riding through the streets of Dallas, Texas.

The issue of political assassinations was brought to my attention at a recent Houston Flournoy Rally to which the Tribune received passes and I decided to attend since I had never been to one before. I arrived at the Sheraton Universal at eight p.m. only to find a crowd of people standing in the lobby waiting to go into the main ballroom and adjoining patio. When I asked a staff member what the delay was, she said "security is very tight tonight".

This so-called "tight security" consisted of writing down your name, address and telephone number on a list and receiving a name tag in return. Instead of putting my real name I signed that of Arthur Bremer (the man who shot George Wallace) and the officer behind the desk didn't even take notice as he printed the name on the tag. I could have easily snuck in a .38 special, not to mention the aircraft carrier Enterprise and the Guns of Navarone.

Finally, after an hour wait, Houston Flournoy stepped up to the podium, gave a four-minute speech and then decided to mingle with the crowd. As Flournoy inched his way toward me something seemed different, like a very grainy movie being shown at home in slow motion. I reached out so Flournoy could shake my hand and I suddenly realized just how easy it was for Jack Ruby, Sirhan Sirhan, and Arthur Bremer to squeeze the trigger and send the lethal projectile on its appointment with destiny.

Politicians put their lives on the line every minute of every day just to serve we the people. Many of them could be making more money as lawyers or businessmen. Why then do they choose a career in which their lives can be ended any time at the whim of some madman? Dedication - they have to be dedicated to risk what has now become a part of politics - assassination.

-LETTERS TO THE EDITOR-

Student Apathy

Dear Editor,

As the author and director of the one-man play, Henry David Thoreau, I'd like to take this time to thank two members of the Student Cabinet for their enthusiasm and hard work in promoting the production held in Taft Hall on October 16 and 17. They are your president, Alan Kassan, and John Markman. Both students wanted the show to be a success. And I thank them.

However, the cloud of apathy still hangs over Taft and outsmells the worst of stench. When I attended Taft in the last three years of the sixties, there was, of course, some measure of apathy. However, things did get done. There was massive student interest. In the last two weeks, while working with the Cabinet to promote Thoreau, I observed the worst apathy I think I will ever see. And it was particularly painful to see such apathy at Taft.

Close to 600 seats were placed in Taft Hall for each performance of "Henry David Thoreau." On the first night, approximately 25 seats were filled - on the second, close to 60. I'm trying to figure out exactly what the problem was. As for the play itself, well, even the tiny audiences applauded and cheered until their hands probably ached. It was that kind of response. On the second night, many students came back stage to discuss the show with myself and actor Ron Harvey, who portrayed Thoreau. There was that much interest. And, in spite of financial disaster at Taft, our run of Thoreau was one of satisfaction because those few who did show interest did enjoy the evening.

The most disappointing factor in all this again relates to the term "apathy." But not on the part of the students. I constantly hear how irresponsible and thoughtless the high school kids are today - and indeed many are. However, I believe the faculty and staff at Taft High School, as far as school spirit are concerned, are shades below the students. Out of the many teachers employed at Taft, only two attended Thoreau. Only Two! One of the teachers, who will go unnamed here, came backstage after the performance to congratulate us, and quietly said, and I quote: "I am ashamed as hell of Taft. This place should have been full." I especially condemn the English and History Departments for their neglect. Henry David Thoreau has always been a vital part of many courses; I would think that these instructional would not only encourage their students to attend, but make it a point to attend themselves. It is shameful.

I think enough has been said about student-teacher apathy. As for solutions, I have none. I can only hope that this incident will promote a touch of enthusiasm for Taft. That school needs it desperately. I graduated Taft in 1969. I think I will leave it at that. I can ignore the change, but your present and future can not.

Bruce Reasman
Author - Director of
Henry David Thoreau

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Mr. Ford

Dear Editor,

The article, by Jack Kerrigan, denouncing President Ford's pardon of Nixon was unfair and biased. The author failed to consider the President's standpoint in view of the interest of the country, as have many other Americans.

The President came into office with serious problems, such as; inflation, outrageous oil price increases, and approaching depression. In order to heal the wounds of the nation, Mr. Ford needs the full attention and cooperation of all Americans. Therefore, in the interest of the country, he pardoned Mr. Nixon.

A pardon, in it's legal sense is a forgiveness of a crime(s) committed. When Nixon accepted the pardon, he thus tacitly admitted his guilt. From there we should have moved on to more critical problems concerning the welfare of the country, but true to the nature of the human being we were not satisfied. This was not enough. The bullfighter must not only fight the bull, he must also kill it. The human desire for revenge was aroused and now we must probe into every corner and examine every detail when we are already convinced he is guilty.

Jack Kerrigan states in his article, "The pardon meant that Americans would never know the full extent of Richard Nixon's actions in the Watergate break-in and subsequent coverup." My point is why should we waste time learning the "full extent" when we already feel he is guilty? But, Watergate trials will proceed. I wonder if the outcome will be worth all the time, effort, and money spent, that could have been applied to solving the more urgent problems facing the nation.

Shelli Booth

Dear Editor,

I'm appalled. After complaining last year and now finding that this year is only going to be worse as to girls sports coverage, I can only hope that soon there will be an underground Taft newspaper dedicated to responding to and serving all the student's needs and not just Elton John's and boys sports. If there is such a paper in the future, I will be glad to read something that is not afraid to catch up to society and overcome such outdated chauvinistic ideas that the Tribune retains.

Vicki Horwits

Student

Government

Dear Editor,

Perhaps the most important tool available to the Student Cabinet is the school P.A. system. Past cabinets have utilized the P.A. and have presented informative and understandable announcements. But the present group, contradicting all past precedent has offered inaudible, inept, and at best, uninteresting messages.

Many factors contribute to one major result - a breakdown in communication. To begin with, the P.A. is now coming at the end of the period, which places a time limit on the announcements, forcing the speaker to read faster in order to relay the pertinent information. The result of increased speed is inaudibility mixed with frequent mistakes. With a decreased reading rate, the speakers would not cover as much area, but the material read would be clear and understandable. What does Cabinet want, quantity or quality?

A second factor is the entire method of electing a director of communication. In the election, I voted for the present director with the belief that he was the most qualified. As a voter, I was forced into the position of trying to decide on a Director of Communication without ever having heard his or her voice over the P.A. system. In a way, it's like buying a car without taking a test drive-you just don't know what you're getting into.

To insure that this game will never be played again, I propose a possible pre-election tryout where the prospective candidate would read the morning bulletin, giving the voters a chance to hear them first hand. This tryout would take only one day and would be beneficial in "weeding out" the non-communicating candidates.

This same tryout system could also be applied to the office of athletic director. The voice in the box is only identification the students have with the officer. Therefore, that voice must be the best available with regards to relaying information and stimulating an audience.

I sincerely hope that the Student Cabinet will take some action on the topic of P.A. announcements. The listening audience of Taft will simply not stand for fifteen weeks of poorly read, inaudible announcements.

Glen Adler

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"Phantom of the Paradise" exposes Williams as talent

Film cults began in the era of James Dean. Since that time, we hear nothing new from the motion picture industry and we see too much of the usual. Except for the Paramount release **Harold and Maude** in the summer of 1971, everything has been the same until 20th Century Fox decided to change things.

The Phantom of the Paradise is a cult film. It is everything the public needs to unwind, and more. On the screen, Brian DePalma's story explodes into a fascinating awakening of color, action and in a round-about way, drama. "Phantom" is a brilliant satire of "The Phantom of the Opera" and takes it's seasoning from "Faust". The film focuses on a recording giant who has sold his soul to the Devil in exchange for eternal youth. Swan (played by singer-composer Paul Williams) is the recording baron; his intentions being that he open a bigger-than-big palace of musical talent and to have the corner on the recording market.

The Phantom, himself is a songwriter who is discovered by Swan in a bar full of nifty Hollywood teeny boppers. Impressed by his music, Swan decides to open the Paradise with the songs of Winslow Leech (William Finley) and take all the credit for himself. Swan's tough-guy side-kicks persuades Leech to release his songs and from then on it is a constant fight for survival and recognition for Winslow Leech.

After trying to break into one of the auditions, Winslow falls in love with one of the girls trying out for the chorus at the Paradise. Phoenix (Jessica Harper) is a stand-out at first, she isn't the typical recording groupie, but she has a unique style that has power and command. At the point in the film when Winslow hears her sing, he is determined to have Phoenix sing

his songs.

Swan's dedication to his cause results in Winslow being sent to jail on a phony heroin possession charge, having all his teeth pulled out and after his escape, being burned beyond all possible recognition by a record molder. After being washed up on a river bank, Winslow makes his way to the Swan Studios and dons the costume of the Phantom.

As the Phantom, he sets out to destroy Swan and everything around him. He bombs stages, blows up recording areas and keeps planning for the destruction of the Paradise. His plans seem to do well until Swan catches up and threatens him with destruction unless he signs a contract giving all the songs to Swan. The contract is at first sight a shot at the legal end of the recording industry. It is about six thousand pages long and has a clause for everything, including the time to die. It is signed in blood by The Phantom and stamped in blood by Swan.

After that it's a constant battle between Swan and the Phantom as they try to outdo each other. Swan gives into the Phantom's whims and promises the Phoenix will open the show, but instead chooses a homosexual rock star to fill the part. The rock star is electrified by the Phantom and then it is Phoenix's turn to take the stage. She is an instant success and Swan puts her too, under "contract". As the Phantom continues to fight for recognition, he meets Phoenix once again; she screams as she sees the horrid mask over his face and the electrified voice speaks words of warped love to her. She disregards everything he says and makes plans to marry Swan. The marriage is to take place in the Paradise on an overdone stage with the tough guy as the priest and Swan as the groom in a

golden mask. Everyone is ready including the assassin behind the stage with his rifle aimed and ready.

The Phantom, to the public, will seem outrageous at first. It takes time to fathom and time to realize. The acting ability of Paul Williams is amazing; he stands in five feet four inches of outstanding glory and is marvelous. Jessica Harper as Phoenix is amazing, her acting and looks steal the show on several occasions as she glances in a come hither look or belts out a song. Beef, the rock star with the heart on his cheek is more than a performer. His grace on the screen and his ability to drop a humorous line in at the right moment is far beyond what anyone might expect coming from a film like "Phantom of the Paradise."

The Phantom of the Paradise opened last Thursday night at the National Theatre in Hollywood on Halloween, how appropriate. The film will be released locally around Christmas. "The Phantom of the Paradise", it's a one-of-a-kind, wonderful winner.



Swan (Paul Williams) and The Phantom (William Finley) confront each other prior to the opening of the Paradise, the ultimate rock palace. The Phantom of the Paradise begins first-run showing in Westwood.

Photo Courtesy 20th Century-Fox

Americas' inflation solution: will WIN gardens work?

In the interests of America, and her economy, millions of people have begun to tighten their belts. With the advent of President Ford's recent plea for the American people to save their dollars and conserve all their resources, the country is in a state of recession-depression limbo.

America is in a bind. War is the best answer for unemployment, supply and demand, and unfortunately, the economy. But if war is the only answer then let us find

some other existence. Whip Inflation Now (WIN) is the biggest play we as a country have made in a long time to try to do something about our upset economy. It seems a bit strange for us, the strongest nation in the world, to have to demand of our people that they cut down, that they go without many of the things that they have been used to all their lives. It's somewhat ironic.

The people seem to be making their claim on the winter WIN gar-

dens, they have been tilling the soil for their entire lives thus far, and it is now time to plant. Many Americans seem to believe that WIN isn't the answer and perhaps they're right, but it seems to be the best answer now. It isn't that those people aren't willing to go along with the idea of "whipping" inflation, they've either been spoiled all their lives with the prosperity or America, or they know something that they aren't telling the American people.

President Ford spoke to the country and all her people about what he thought was the best idea possible for the country and all of her money. It sounded good at the time, but has it begun to work? So far people have started to cut back their spending by buying a WIN button at their neighborhood dime store, or they have sent in to the various political departments for them, spending a little extra each time for postage, handling and shipping. WIN has come at a time when the people can't really cut down. In the advent of a "tightened" Christmas or Hanukkah, America's children who have not yet learned of WIN will be let down and their parents will have a hard time explaining what the WIN button on Santa's coat is.

Now we all flock to the stores (who by the way are all having their WIN sales) to spend less money because the President asked us to end up spending twice as much as we would have in the first place. Meanwhile as the businessmen roll in the money and the common man gets short-changed, the government asks why. Perhaps they wish that their would be a sure excuse as to why they can't buy their wives new furs and their teenage sons Ferraris.

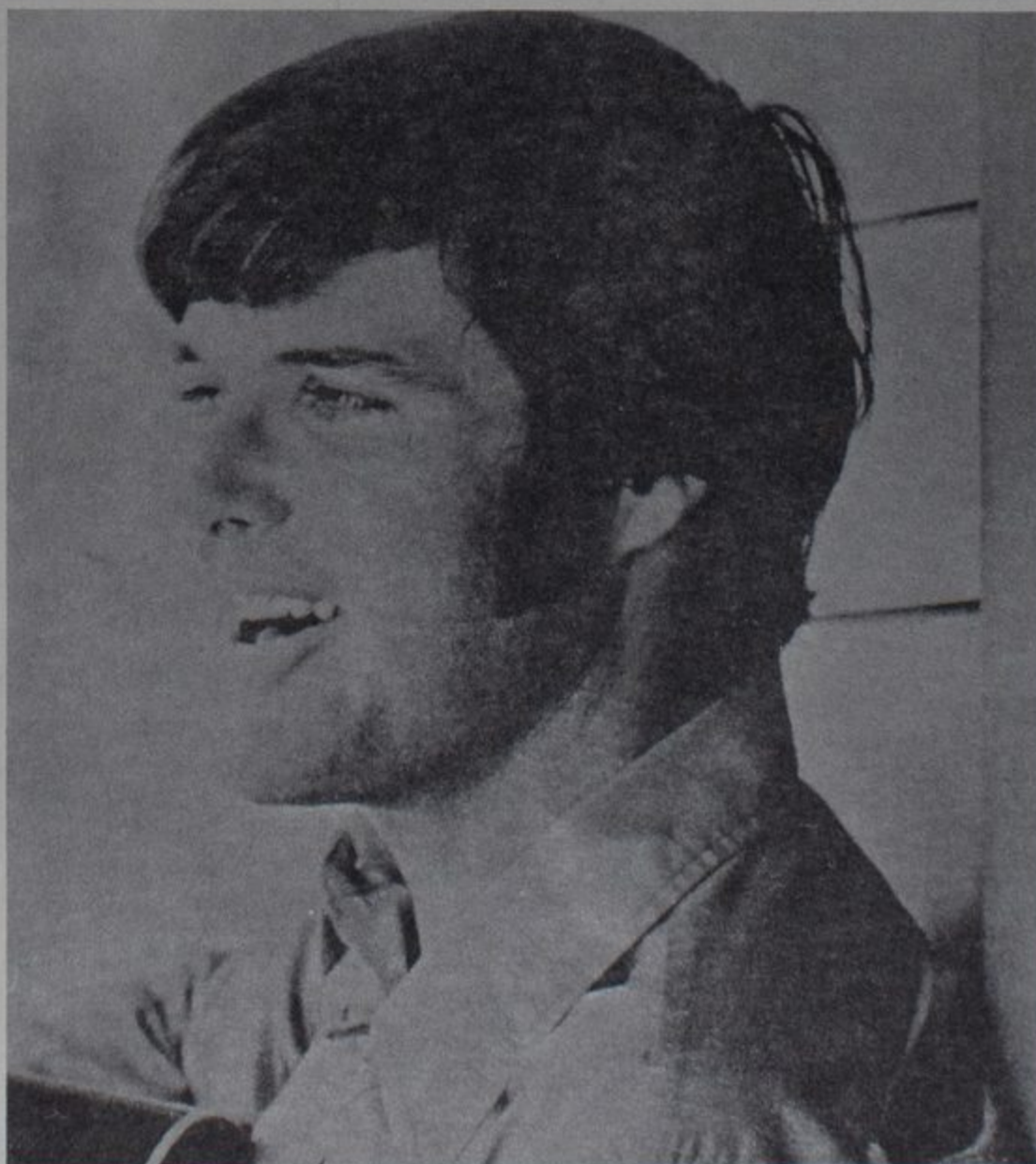
The President went about it all the wrong way. Instead of WIN and Whip Inflation Now he should have suggested SIN or Stop Inflation Now. There doesn't seem to be any particular difference in the two.

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Ian Whitcomb

Ian Whitcomb who has just returned from England is appearing at the *Ice House* in Pasadena. After many appearances on the *Tonight Show* and the *Merv Griffin Show*, Whitcomb is rapidly becoming one of the hottest shows in America. His music is laced with a rare talent for a rag-time beat and his wit and charm single him out as an outstanding performer. His session at the *Ice House* begins November 12 through the 17th.



Tim Morgan

A superb talent in the area of vocal and guitar is Tim Morgan. He is currently appearing at the *Ice House* (until Sunday) and has an extraordinary show. His numbers reek of many down-home ideals and his style will make an audience come back for more. Tim Morgan's good looks, great style and incomparable material make him an eye-catching spectacular, now through Sunday at the *Ice House*, and just a step away from the spotlight.



Heads Up: John Yaldazian, surrounded by a host of Banning players, tries to pass ball to a teammate in action two weeks ago against Banning. The Toreadors won the game, 2-1. Guillermo Sosa, left, watches the action.

Photo by Larson

Balanced scoring attack Key to 36-14 Taft triumph

**By Tom Bolton
Tribune Sports Writer**

"It was a game we all knew we had to win," said Taft coach Hal Lambert following his team's 36-14 victory over a previously undefeated Canoga Park team last Friday at Goetten Field.

And win they did! Coming back from a comedy-of-errors loss to Cleveland the previous week, the Toreador Varsity football squad soundly trounced the Canoga team with a near perfect combination of running, passing, and strong defense.

Behind the tank-like running of fullback Brad Dexter, who often carried his defenders with him to gain the necessary yardage, the Taft ground game shredded the Hunters' defense, tallying 262 yards gained for the evening.

The offensive line repeatedly opened up holes for Dexter who

finished the game with 151 yards and one TD, as well as forming a protective wall for Young's passing efforts.

Young Sweeps

Charlie Young, heralded as one of the best passers in the valley, made timely use of the run scoring twice in the first quarter, once on a sweep of 28 yards capping an 87 yard drive, and once on a six-yard run ending an 82 yard drive. Young scored once more in the fourth quarter on a one-yard sneak, giving him three TDs for the game. This wide use of the run also opened up the Taft passing game, allowing Young to pass for 276 yards.

Bill Spooner repeatedly got into the clear, and Young completed eight passes to Spooner for 179 yards receiving.

Defense Holds

But defense proved to be the difference, as the Toreador defensive team shut-out the Hunters in the second half. Taking a 15-14 lead with them into the locker room at halftime, the Toreador defensive team, which was responsible for only one of the two Canoga Park scores in the first half, came out even stronger in the second half.

Larry Weinhouse and Steve Lane led the Toreador defensive effort, which stifled the Hunters' ground game. The Taft secondary mean-

while held Hunter quarterback Carl Garvin, to only eight completed passes, topped off by an interception by Jeff Fisher in the fourth quarter.

This gives Taft a 2-1 record in league play, tied for second place behind Cleveland, who is 3-0.

Bees destroy CP 26-0, for second straight shutout

The Taft Bee football team throttled the Canoga Park Hunters last Friday night at Goetten Field, by a score of 26-0, to remain unbeaten in West Valley League play with a 3-0 record.

The "Too Tough" Taft defense made Hunter quarterback Mike De Souza wish that he had never come to play, as his offensive unit was stymied by the Toreador defenders. The Hunters used a shotgun type of offense in which the quarterback lined up about five yards behind the center. It really didn't help the lifeless Hunters, as the front four of Taft applied pressure all evening long.

Taft got on the scoreboard quickly, when Scott Milne launched a beautiful 31-yard TD toss to Drew Fitzgerald in the first quarter. David Beiber got Taft's second score on a four yard burst into the end-zone.

In the fourth period, Craig Black of Taft fielded a Canoga Park punt on his own 35-yard line, and out-raced the Hunter punting unit 65 yards for Taft's third touchdown of the night.

Taft's final touchdown was no less exciting than the previous punt return. This time it was John Allen's turn to haunt the Hunters by going over right tackle and sprinting 60 yards to paydirt.

Watkin, Swanson pace Taft sweep over hapless Hunters

**By Lenny Lieberman
Tribune Sports Editor**

Before the league season began last month, Coach Dale Lythgoe admitted that it would be a few weeks until his three cross country teams matured well enough to be considered city contenders.

Judging by last week's results against the Canoga Park Hunters, that maturation point has come. The Varsity team won their race, 25-30, the JV's shut out their opponents, while the tenth graders continued their impressive winning streak by defeating the Hunters, 19-51.

The Varsity race was the closest league meet for the Taft seven. Four Canoga Park men jumped out in the lead after the first 800 yards, while the Toreadors remained in the middle of the pack. But coming up "Hernia Hill" and at the mile mark, Roger Watkin had pulled alongside of the Hunters' number one man, Mark Weinstein, with a split for both at 5:16. Watkin and Weinstein were followed by another Hunter, and then

three Taft runners.

At the bottom of Puke's Peak, the picture did not look overly bright for Taft. Canoga boasted the one, three, and five positions, while a Toreador held the two, four, six, and seven spots.

But things changed dramatically around the final curve. After Weinstein finished first in 10:16, followed by Watkin in 10:24, Kurt Swanson came from nowhere to place third, bad leg and all, with a time of 10:26. John Simenz placed fifth in the race, while Andy York and Bob Matlock finished seventh and eighth, respectively, to clinch the victory.

The only interesting thing to be decided in the JV meet was the winner. Taft's Todd Farris had been setting the pace the past few weeks, but hampered with an ankle injury, he did not figure to place very high.

Ben Hunnicutt, who placed fourth last week against Cleveland, was the surprise winner with an excellent time of 11:07, an improvement of over thirty seconds

on his Cleveland time. Steve Wackenedt and Craig Youngblood were the next to cross the finish, followed by Farris, Paul Sears, and Craig Holmes. After a Canoga Park man finished seventh, the rapidly improving Rick Wolpin came across the line at 11:36.

The tenth graders are looking better every week. On a day when the times went down about as fast as the temperature, Richard Morris became the first sophomore to win a meet twice this year, with a time of 11:15. Six runners, led by Chuck Schmitt and Tom Linton, place three through eight for Taft, as they retained their lead in the West Valley League.

Taft takes on a hapless Reseda team this week, at Reseda.

The Regents who are 0-3 have looked bad in all their outings. This, however, does not mean that Taft has a Bye. They have to kick themselves that much harder to keep emotionally up.

Taft needs to win their next two games to get into the playoffs. After Reseda, they must play an always tough Chatsworth team. So, come on out and watch.

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