

# Students elect spring cheerleaders

By Dan Turner  
Tribune Sports Editor

Last week the Taft High student body went to the polls in an attempt to select ten spring cheerleaders from a field of twenty-one candidates. In the process two pre-

cedents were set that begin to reveal a new attitude toward cheerleading.

The ten girls chosen by the elections held last Wednesday and Thursday are: Jordan Baker, Lynne Banick, Sue Hinkle, Pam Jacobel-

lis, Mary Kramer, Dru Krasner, Nina Locke, Sue Preston, Lisa Robinson and Patty Sheppardson.

Although the majority of the squad are juniors (nine of ten with Pam Jacobellis' being the only senior) tenth graders were allowed

to run. This was the first time this has been allowed in Taft history.

This innovation could be an attempt to erase grade wise segregation lines but it might also be to open up the field due to waning interest among junior and senior girls.

The second precedent set with this election had to do with yell leaders. There simply weren't any. The field of boys going out has diminished in the past elections but it reached an apex last week when not one single boy went for the one time coveted position of yell leader.

Last election, girls were allowed to run for the, until that time, exclusively male position. In fact one girl was even elected but

later quit for personal reasons. This lackluster turnout points up an issue that dominates our high school scene, that issue being apathy.

Maybe it is not apathy though, it could be a matter of economics. Fall songqueen Lori Crawley called cheerleading "a major expense." She and her Fall staff have spent on the average of \$130 a piece. Sponsors Saul Rowan and Anne Newman have limited the spending to \$90 for the Spring staff.

The new cheerleaders begin their cheerleading next spring as Crawley and Company's last sport is basketball. The new songqueen was not known at presstime but will be chosen by the girls themselves.



Spring semester cheerleaders for 1975 are (l to r) Mary Kramer, Nina Locke, Lisa Robinson, Jordan

Baker, Sue Hinkle, Patty Sheppardson, Dru Krasner, Lynne Banick, Pam Jacobellis and Sue Preston.

Photo by Glyman

"Women, Yes!" is a contemporary Social Studies elective offered for the Spring Semester, open to all interested students. Taught by Ms. Norma Derr, this course is designed to provide the deserved recognition for all women who have significantly contributed to our society, past and present. Because most texts, including "History of a Free People", the book used at Taft, neglects most of the female minds in America's past, it becomes necessary to form a separate class devoted to these women. Among the people to be introduced are Eliza L. Pinckney, Belle Boyd, Deborah Sampson, Margaret Sanger, and Edna St. Vincent Millay. Ms. Derr hopes to present speakers from different occupational fields, and to combine such outside activities as seminars, field trips, and plays with the topics of discussion; which include sex-role stereotyping, femininity/masculinity, and Men's and Women's Liberation. Anyone interested should see Ms. Derr in D121.

## The Taft Tribune

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### Annual holiday music program Classical, traditional selections

"Oratorio de Noel" by Saint-Saens and selections from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite" will highlight the annual Holiday Music Program to be presented by the Taft Music Department on Thursday, December 19th, at 8 p.m. in Taft Hall. In addition, the show will also include many traditional holiday carols.

The presentation of "Oratorio de Noel" will be a combined effort of both the vocal and instru-

mental groups. The trio of Melinda Raymond, Bob Mendenhall, and Mark Simon, will be featured as soloist with special accompaniment by Felice Pomerantz on the harp. Approximately thirty minutes long, "Oratorio", which portrays the Christmas story, was written by Camille Saint-Saens when he was only nineteen years of age.

In addition to accompanying the vocal groups on "Oratorio", the

Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ken Kemp, will also perform "Dance of the Reed Pipes" and "Waltz of the Flowers" from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite".

The vocal groups, under the direction of Mr. E. R. Kursinski, will also perform several selections on their own including; "Jass Gloria" by Natalie and "The Hallelujah Chorus" by Hadel. In addition, they will perform a part of the children's Christmas opera "Amahl and the Night Visitors". Featured soloists on this number will be Howard Richman, Tracy Ward, and Mike Glover, with Chris Lordahl singing the female solo. Also doing solos during the evening will be Sue Stoval and Peggy Hanson.



The 1975 Atinian sale has finished for this semester. Sales will begin again in February 1975. If you haven't bought your Atinian yet, do it in February!  
Photo by Holzberg

### CJS holds youth seminar

The California Junior State, an organizational youth group, held their annual "Fall Capitol Conference" November 22-24, in Sacramento with high school students from all over California attending. The conference is held every year to help form CJS policy and to create a greater awareness of the world for those who appear.

The opening session, which began Friday, consisted of a keynote address by John Harmer and then one by Leo McCarthy. Both Harmer, Lieutenant Governor, and McCarthy, Speaker of the Assembly spoke of a need for a responsive government and an active populous. They both also held a question and answer period in which they answered questions ranging from their feelings on the pardoning of Richard Nixon to the status of various bills concerning the youth of the state.

After the keynote speeches the students went across the street to various Assembly hearing rooms in the Capitol Building for a series

of short seminars. The seminars included discussions on the press, terrorism, political reform, the conflicts involving Cyprus, and the cost of justice in this country. In each seminar there was a panel of experts on the subject, who separately made short statements followed by a question and answer period.

After a banquet at the hotel the students disassembled to participate in student debates. These topics included abortion, the death penalty, and the formation of a Palestinian State on the west bank of the Jordan River.

Saturday afternoon the students congregated to form the CJS policy. Among the decisions made in the conference was a vote passing the educational platform set up to form a base for the CJS lobbying operations. Among the issues included were the freedom of student speech, uncensored high school newspapers, and the right to keep student lockers free from illegal search and seizure.

### Cabinet initiates school fund raiser Taft's Nestle's Crunch candy drive

Student Government is sponsoring a fund-raising drive to balance an anticipated deficit at the end of this semester. The drive will begin today and end January 6th, the day Winter vacation is over. It centers round the selling of sixty-cent Nestle's Crunch bars.

To kick off the drive, a 3a-3b assembly was held this morning to explain to the students how the candy and prizes will be dispersed. Treasurer Glenn D. Pomerantz, the chairman of the drive, explained that there are 3 different ways to win prizes. Every person who sells one bag (12 bars) receives one ticket. This ticket is good for a prize

worth one ticket, a chance at the daily raffle and towards winning the grand prize. Better prizes are offered with the more bags sold and to the top prize, one must sell more than anyone else in the school. Many of the prizes that are going to be given away were exhibited at the assembly.

Yesterday, every fourth period class sent a representative to a general information meeting. These people learned about the procedures for obtaining the candy to distribute to their classes. The drive is being run out of the Candy Room, which is a converted boys bathroom next to C-3. During

the vacation, candy will be available in the Main Office during regular business hours.

Although the purpose of the drive is not to raise money for a specific goal, it is expected that a deficit will occur at the end of the semester. This deficit is due to over expenditures by some departments. Pomerantz stated that "The last time the drive for funds was held we raised \$6,00, this year our inflationary goal is \$10,000."

In addition, the reason the candy crusade is being held over Christmas is to allow a greater length of selling time.

# The Taft Tribune

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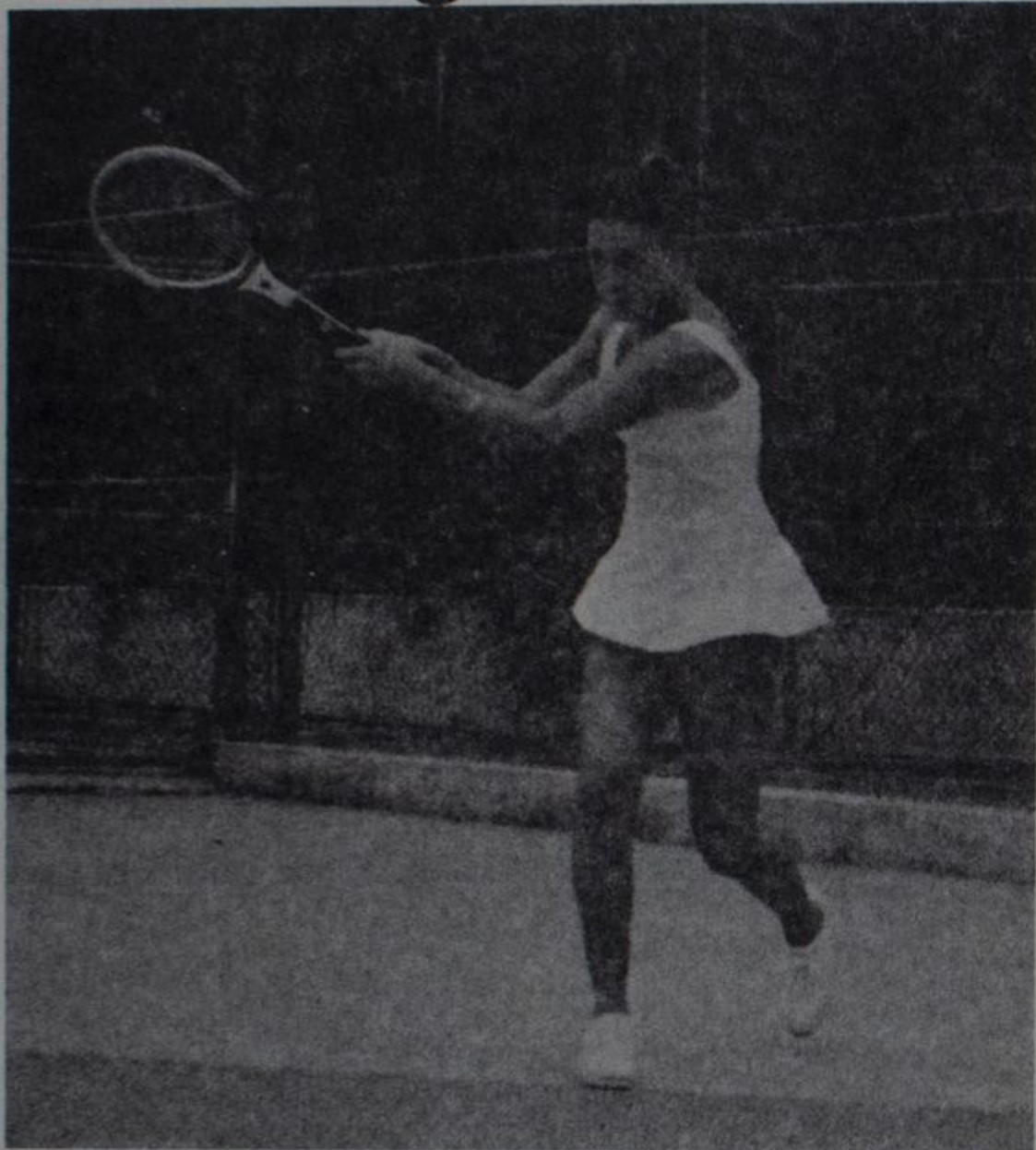
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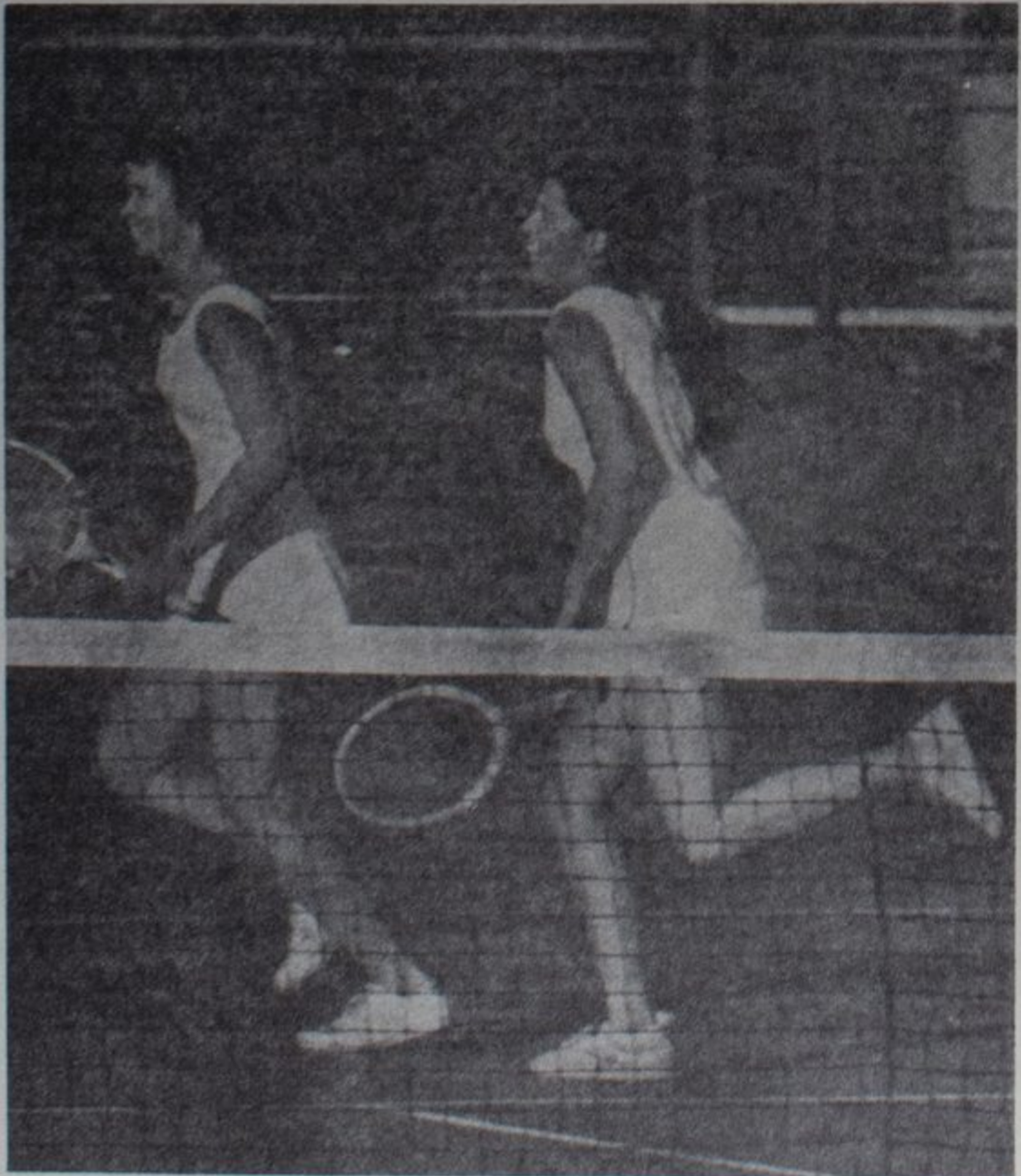
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## The Single Sting...



She's number one. Paige Throckmorton clinched the first place position in the City Tennis Finals last Friday. Photo by Warshawsky

## the Doubles Punch



"The Dynamic Duo," Debbie Hungerford and Jodi Bauer ranked number in the City Tennis Finals last Friday. Photo by Rosenberg



Lenny Bruce (Dustin Hoffman), having been busted on obscenity charges in San Francisco, goes through the procedure of being frisked, booked and finger-

printed at a local police station, in Lenny, a United Artists Release.

## The film 'Lenny': Real vs. reel

Ten years ago, Lenny Bruce was incriminated for what he said on stage. His acts involved obscenities and crude gestures which were ruled unacceptable at the time. In 1974, Bob Fosse has directed a film documentary of Lenny's life which is only rated 'R', only a mild restriction in our times.

Watching the film, we realize that this tremendous shift of moral values was inspired by comedian Bruce himself. He opened up a new freedom on stage, and even though he was clobbered for his foresight, he has been heralded recently as the founder of the four letter word and more importantly, as the innovator of a new form of creativity which has only

begun to blossom in the past few years.

Fosse applies a flashback technique in the production of the film, where his wife, played with guts and believable zest by Valerie



Perrine, is seen speaking to an unseen reporter after Lenny has died. Bruce's mother and his agent also participate in the flashbacks which throughout the film are used as introductions to scenes. It is a very effective technique.

Dustin Hoffman plays a very realistic Bruce, so realistic that Lenny's real-life mother was forced to leave the theater during several scenes at the New York premiere last month. A film called **The Lenny Bruce Performance Film** was made during Bruce's lifetime and is now showing first-run in New York. It will be released shortly in Los Angeles and shows the real life Bruce in his real role as a very funny entertainer.

## -LETTERS TO THE EDITOR-

Dear Editor:

I consider the **Taft Tribune** to be one of the best high school papers in the city. The editorials are informative and current and the feature stories are usually interesting. Unlike most high school publications it does not talk down to the students as if they were in the first grade. I think that most students appreciate this because Taft has a student body made up of intelligent teenagers who are interested in what is going on both in student government and national politics.

This is why I feel that the **Tribune** needs some type of weekly column in the editorial section. The students would look forward to reading it each week and it would give some student who wants to state his views a place to do it. Most high school newspapers could not produce an intelligent column, but I believe that the **Tribune** can.

Karen Kramer

Dear Editor:

In the November 22 issue of the **Taft Tribune**, two excellent articles explained some mysteries of President Kennedy's assassination and showed the incompetence of the Warren Commission and the inaccuracies and contradictions of the Warren Report. Now I'd like to present some of my views on the Kennedy assassination.

In my opinion, President Kennedy's assassination was a conspiracy and the Warren Commission was a part of the cover-up. The conspirators bribed, black-

mailed, or in some other way persuaded the members of the Commission to ignore all evidence indicating a conspiracy.

President Kennedy's assassination could have been a Communist conspiracy. Lee Harvey Oswald lived in the Soviet Union from late 1959 to mid-1962, was a Marxist who supported Fidel Castro, and married a Russian woman. He also wanted to renounce his American citizenship when he tried to become a Russian citizen.

Russia suffered a humiliating defeat because of Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962.

Kennedy ordered a blockade of Cuba until Russia gave in and agreed not to send anymore missiles to Cuba and to remove the ones already there. The humiliating defeat and show of American superiority could have angered the Russian government enough to want to have Kennedy killed.

As a final remark, I'd like to remind you of the fact that President Ford was a member of the Warren Commission. Could President Ford have been involved in a cover-up more defaming to our government than that of Watergate?

Joe Kaufman

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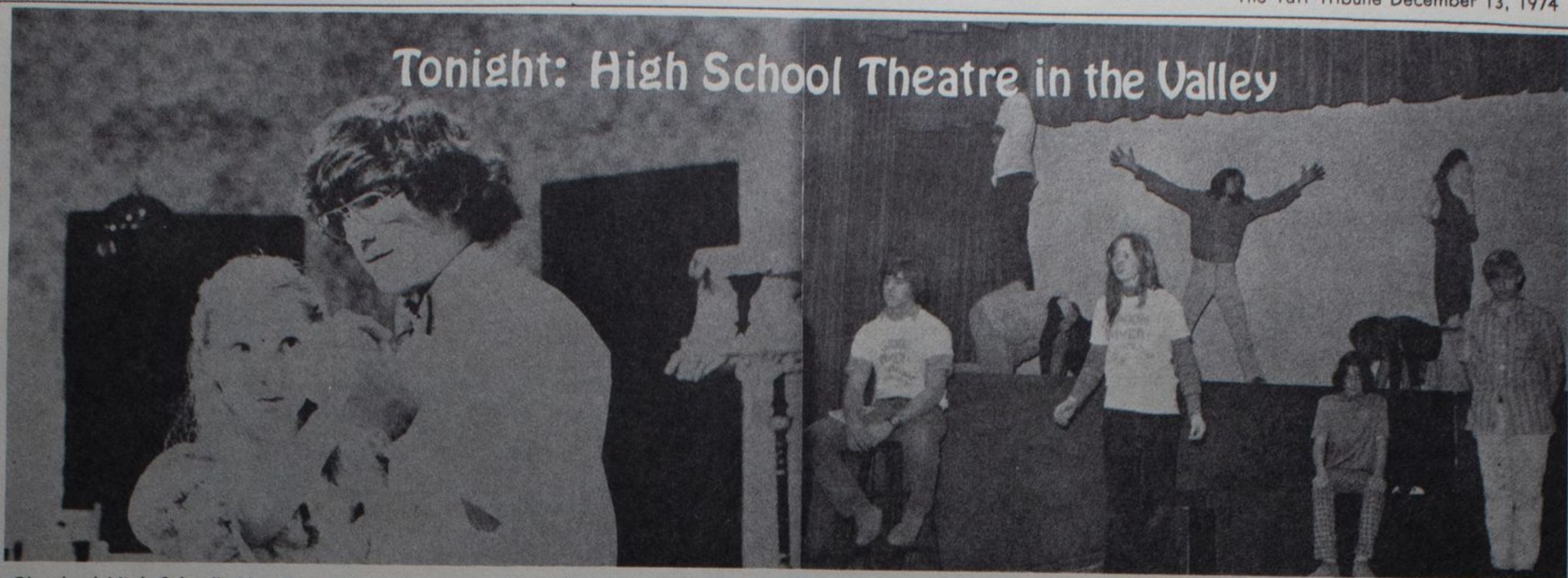
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Cleveland High School's Play Production class is seen here rehearsing for their production of Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology. Final performances will be held tonight and tomorrow night beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Multi-purpose room at Cleveland. Photo by Primes

Tennessee Williams' The Glass Menagerie will be presented tonight and tomorrow night beginning at 8:00 in the Birmingham High School Auditorium. Diana Sherrard, Mike Lederman (above), Vince Vance, Lauri Mickelson, Lori Kaschenoff, and Carolyn Jenkins are featured in this excellent production of the play.

## PART II: THE GREAT BULL RIPOFF

# Successful caper--The Bull is stolen!

Editors note: This is the second of a three part story which describes the events surrounding one of the most Herculean rip-offs of all time. Last week we learned of the set-up for the theft now we will resume action of the Great Bull Rip-off.

By Dan Turner

On the night of September 28 at 7:00, a late model Chevrolet pulled up to the residence of the character we will call Z, X and Y stepped from the car, they were there to brief their cohort of their plan for the Great Bull Ripoff.

At this time a name was devised by X for their organization. It was to be called CCFACWHTHS to mean Concerned Citizens For Action Concerning William Howard Taft High School.

With all necessary tools, stocking masks and ransom note in hand, the three left for a party in the neighborhood to set up their alibis. At the party they announced their intention to see a movie. No one questioned them, all was running smoothly.

At 9:36, X, Y and Z headed for their appointment with destiny at the residence of one Robt Grant. Their plan was complete.

### The Rip-off

The plan, as conceived by the trio, had X and Z opening the back gate to Rob Grant's yard, grabbing the bull, leaving the note and throwing the bull into the back of

the getaway car to be driven by Y. The bull would then be transported to Y's house to hide. It seemed all so simple on paper but the actual process was a bit more complicated.

Y parked the car one house up from Grant's and was told by X that it would take five minutes at the most. Forty-five minutes later the car steamed away. As it turned out, some unexpected problems had arisen.

First, virtually every light in the Grant home was on. Second the gate was locked. Third the bull wasn't where it had been earlier. And fourth, stuck on the Grant's window was a Rifle Association sign. The Grants' were armed and dangerous and might not take too well to someone crawling around in their back yard.

### They Push On

X and Z decided they had come too far to turn back now. They hopped the back fence. Much to their approval, there was a party with a live band down the street and the band would cover some of their noises. The next obstacle that appeared was a dog house, one that would easily house a Doberman Pincer. At this point Z was ready to leave since he didn't want to be made mince meat by some ornery dog. X persisted and finally convinced Z to go on. After all, if the dog took off their

legs, it would be in the good name of crime.

To their relief, the doghouse was vacant. They then spotted Porker. He stood around back but in plain view of a well lit sliding glass door. The two darted from bush to shrub to bush, hoping to avoid the attention of the Grants who might be inside.

### Grab the Bull and Run

It was decided that a flash "grab the bull and run" tactic would be the only one suitable for this situation. Unfortunately, neither X nor Z had carried this animal before. Out of inexperience, the bull was dropped and a great thud resulted. The two froze. No sound. Safe to continue they thought. This too: them to their final problem, the locked gate. The fence stood well over six feet high but looked like fourteen to the wily crooks. X produced some equipment and began to work on the hinges. Nothing doing. Z tried the garage door but it was locked and besides, Porker was too fat to squeeze through. The only alternative was liberation via the air or "the old throw him over the fence routine". X scaled a nearby wood pile and steadied the bull from atop, while Z pushed it up onto the fence. With the monster dangling on the edge of the chain link, Z hopped over the fence to catch Porker on the other side. Easier said than done. He actually served only to break the

bull's fall on the other side. Neither could hold it in any longer and burst into laughter. Still no noise from inside the house.

### The Getaway

X and Z then picked him up and made a break for the street that stood well lit by numerous street lamps. They played on the apathy of the neighbors not to be appre-

hended. They knew the neighbors would act as if seeing a humorous bull being carried by two stocking capped teenagers down the street was a commonplace occurrence. Again the bull slipped but again no sound from anyone. Z placed the ransom note on the Grant doorstep and made for the car where X, Y and porker waited.

Glenn Adler

## Elections... Hard to Swallow

*The man on the stand he wants my vote,  
He's runnin' for office on a ballot note,  
He's out there preachin' in front of the steeple,  
Tellin' me he loves all kinds of people.  
He's eatin' bagels.  
He's eatin' pizza.  
He's eatin' chitlins.*

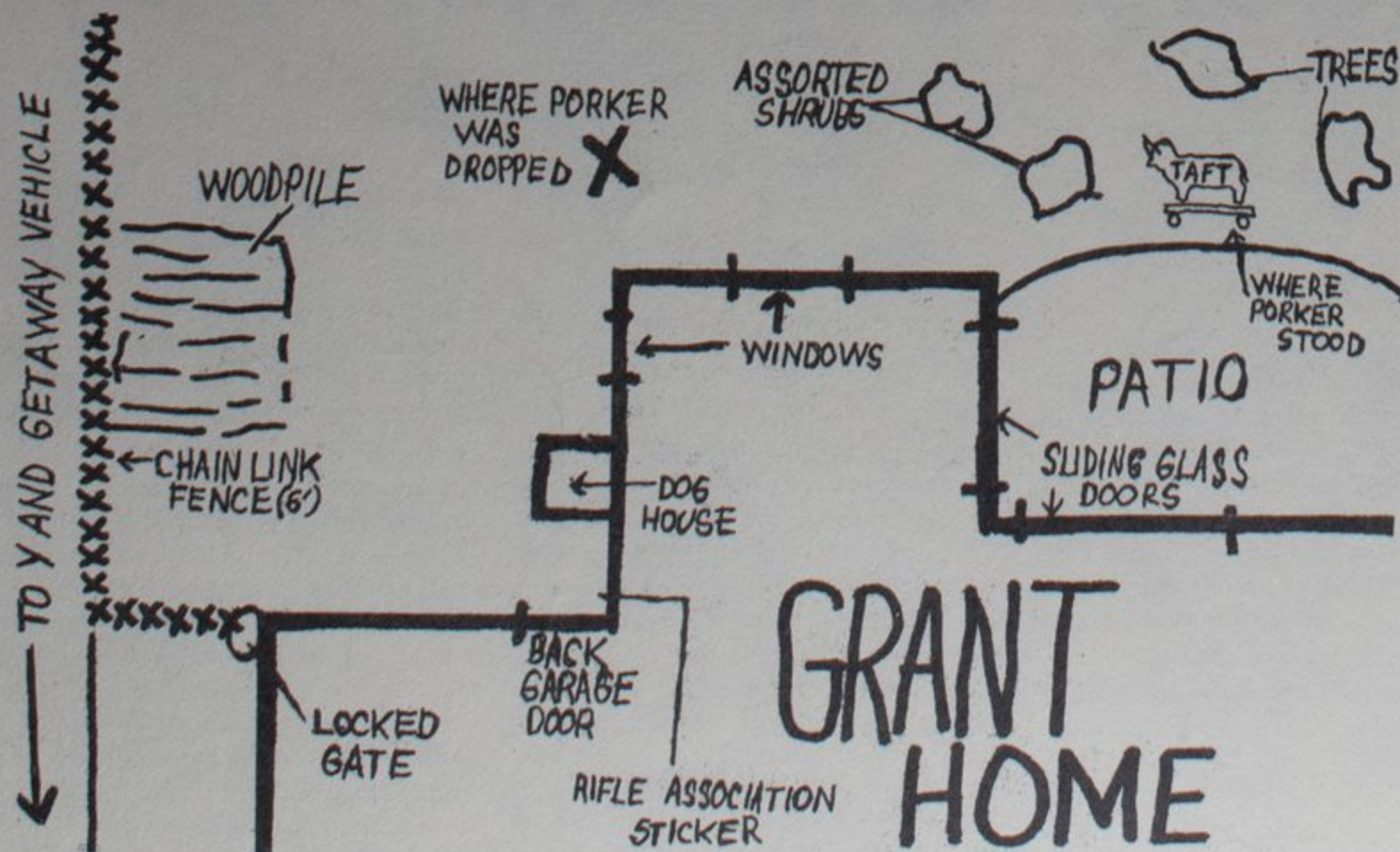
-Bob Dylan

Homecoming and last week's Cheerleader elections were but another chapter in those real life political exercises known as student body elections. Banners, campaign rallies, computerized elections. The only things we're missing are slush funds, dirty tricks, and political espionage.

However, in their true-life exercises, our candidates are playing the part a bit too well, acquiring many characteristics of their professional counterparts.

During election week, we are assaulted by smiling, friendly candidates who are desperately trying to win a popularity contest known as an election. Their motives for running range from ego fulfillment to a genuine interest in the school. While motives may differ though, campaign techniques are very similar. The gregarious, placard carrying candidate, backed by his legion of friends, in a sense carry on a massive advertising campaign, trying to "sell" the candidate in one week. Unfortunately this campaign lasts only until election day; then the successful candidate, firmly entrenched in Cabinet, spends the remainder of his term seeking his original goal (be it ego fulfillment or actual school interest). He rarely surfaces (in occasional P.A. announcements or open cabinet meetings) and generally loses touch with the student body. Proof of this lies in the student body's inability to name their Cabinet officers. This syndrome is similar to what happens with our United States Senators. After their elections, the lawmakers fall into relative anonymity. Then, a year before re-election time, they suddenly leap into the public spotlight. Their constituents, with an acutely short memory for the four years of non-communication, remember merely his latest statements, and if those statements are good, he will usually get re-elected.

In the Cheerleader elections, I was cast as the voter with the extremely short memory. The obsequious female candidates (many of whom I have not talked with all semester) approached me, extolling their "attributes" and urging me to vote for them.



The plan: This is a floor map of the Grant Home where the Toreador bull, Porker, was stolen two months ago. The criminals pushed the bull over the

chain link fence near the woodpile before escaping and leaving the ransom note.

# NET QUEENS ONCE AGAIN

Steve Lane  
Sports Writer

The sun rose today; people are still paying taxes; Standard Oil is still a multi-million dollar company; and, oh yes, the Taft Girl's Tennis Team won another City Championship. Ho Hum.

It seems so natural that many people were unimpressed. I was at the tennis match, the first one I had ever been to as a matter of fact, and believe me I was impressed. These girls are so talented and poised it's unbelievable. They took on the Birmingham Braves at Valley Junior College. The Braves being the only team to beat our girls all year.

Top ranked Paige Throckmorton

started the ball rolling, and it did not stop until the girls won an unprecedented third straight city crown. She took care of her opponent handily, 6-2, 6-1.

Number two ranked Debbie Ellena took on Birmingham's number one ranked girl. This tactic, called stacking, is how they upset the team the first time. Debbie played tremendously but was defeated in the third set, 7-5. Although Debbie lost the battle, she knew she had won the war. Debbie was the girl voted most determined, and win or lose, Debbie is a fine competitor.

Spirited Julie Horvath won the match that clinched it. Taft, leading 3 games to none, needed but one match. Julie came through,

coming back to win 6-7, 6-4, 6-2. Voted most spirited at their annual banquet, Julie showed why on the court, never giving up and finally showing her superiority.

In doubles, the fine play of Jodi Fauer and Debbie Hungerford was enough for a victory, as was that of Georgia Sasvary, Wendy Strin, Bruceann Meigs, and GERALYN Garcia. The doubles set of Debbie Rocker and Karen Ellena were upset in their match, but don't worry, both of these girls will be there again next year. These girls are all winners.

Of course, all of the girls have not been mentioned. Those who have not deserve just as much credit. They, too, are champions. Al-

so, Taft High School, the Girl's Tennis Team, and the **Tribune** would like to give a special thanks to coach Phyllis Pugh who, in my opinion, has done a truly tremendous job.

The only thing left to say is what a performance! Three Years in a row! Rumor has it that at the banquet they played the Beach Boys' song "Do It Again", and no doubt they will. See ya next year, but for right now we can savor the fact that the Queens of the Court have been crowned again.

The determination that makes a City champion. Julie Horvath returns the volley and her teammates returned the City crown to Taft for the third consecutive year.



## Weak varsity, surprise JV's advance, Sophomores bow out on dismal effort

By Dan Turner  
Tribune Sports Editor

Last Saturday was truly a day of surprises at Los Angeles Pierce College. But not all the surprises in store for the Taft High cross-country teams were of the pleasant nature. Two of our three teams advanced past the City semi-finals of last week and will culminate it all tomorrow morning in the city finals.

All three teams were surprising in one way or another. The varsity team was surprisingly weak on the whole as it placed third in a weak division III. The JV's were surprisingly tough and their tenacity paid off as they grabbed first place in their division when they were not even supposed to qualify.

But tenth grade team was the biggest surprise of all as it did not qualify. It missed out by one point, scoring 91 points to Wilson High's 90. This was surprising because the

team had all the horses. They were heavily laden with talent but lacked in drive as Coach Dale Lythgoe said of one top runner "He simply quit on me." Lythgoe also termed the lackluster performance "the worst he's seen in Taft history."

The varsity began on a good note as Roger Watkin made his contribution to the team by drawing lane two (one of the better lanes). Watkin later placed fourteenth in the race when it was expected of him to do better.

The real story of the varsity race lied in Hollywood's Ajim Baksh, who completely ran away from the field of 35 runners on his way to what many feel will be a city championship.

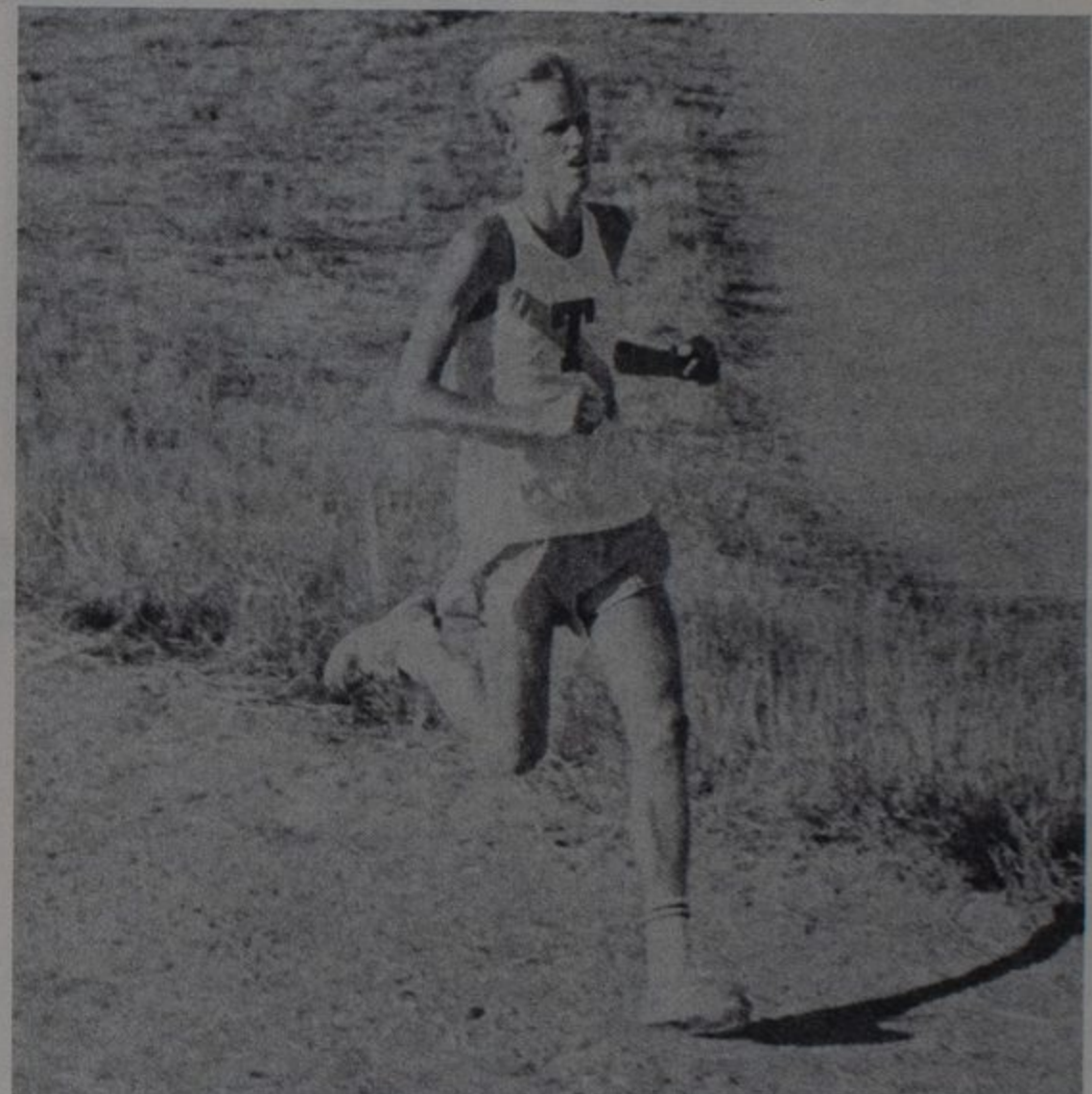
The race had quite an auspicious start for the Red White and Gold as up the first hill the Taft team was buried well back in the pack. But around the olive trees Kurt Swanson and Watkin pulled to the second and third spots behind Baksh who was in a race by himself. Up Hernia Hill the team lost position with Swanson falling to seventh and Watkin to tenth. Andy York, John Siminez and Bob Matlock followed, back in the bowels of the pack.

At the top of the switchbacks, Taft fell into the places they were to finish with, Swanson in seventh and Watkin in fourteenth.

Swanson's time was a fine 10:27.

The miracle JV's were led by the fine clutch running of Ben Hunnicutt. He placed second with a

10:58. Liew Phelan and Todd Farris followed him as they placed sixth and eighth with times of 11:06 and 11:08 respectively.



Roger stretching it out. Watkin will be one of the keys to Taft's performance in the City Finals tomorrow at Pierce. Last week Roger placed fourteenth in the semi-finals but it will take a better run than that if the City laurels are to be found at Taft.



A bit of disgust by varsity's Andy York. York and his fellow Toreadors must improve if they are to hold serious thoughts of a City title.

## Balanced Granada Spoils cage debut

The Toreador Varsity Basketball team opened their 1974-75 season last Friday afternoon with a disappointing 74-68 loss to the Granada Hills Highlanders at Granada Hills High School. The game was not as close as the score suggests however.

Taft played good basketball for two quarters, the first and the fourth. The rest of the game they would probably rather forget.

In the first quarter, Taft came out looking like a team that really meant business: Hustling on defense, hitting the boards hard for rebounds, and taking advantage of their scoring opportunities. Roger Wilson collected eight of his game-high twenty-two points in pacing Taft to an 18-17 lead at the quarter.

Taft played a slow and sloppy game through most of the second and third quarters, being outscored 18-11 in the second quarter and 26-17 in the third. Granada Hills guards Dave Schmidt and Dennis Guerra took advantage of numerous Toreador turnovers to lead their team's scoring with twenty and nineteen points respectively.

The fourth quarter saw Taft come alive again, as they outscored the Highlanders 22-13. The execution which was absent from the two previous quarters suddenly showed itself in the final eight minutes. The Toreadors started making the-

ir shooting attempts count. The Taft rebounders, led by Paul Righetti, Brian Lane, and Scott Hergott, gave the Toreadors several crucial rebounds.

### Hardwood Preview

## '74 Toreadors: execution key

By Tom Bolton  
Tribune Sports Writer

The Taft High School Athletic Department takes pride in its reputation of having one of the most successful programs in the valley. Its teams may not always win but they're sure to be exciting.

This year's Varsity Basketball squad has all the makings of both an exciting team and a winning team. It is a team that has quite a bit of talent and depth.

Taft this year looks to be as good offensively as any other team in the league. Sharp shooting and good ball handling should provide the Toreadors with plenty of fire power. Defense and size, however, may prove to be problems.

The starting squad this season is an experienced group including three returning lettermen. Roger Wilson, who was second team All-league last year, will be called upon to provide much of the scoring for the Toreadors. Last year's Var-

sity Co-MVP, Wilson will also fill the roll of floor leader, playing the starting guard position.

The two post positions will be filled by Paul Righetti and Steve Furlong. Righetti, the biggest man on the team at 6'4" will have to carry much of the burden on the boards for Taft. A senior who averaged 12.2 points per game last season, Paul will also be expected to carry part of the scoring load. Steve Furlong, only a junior, is a good shooter and his height should be quite valuable for rebounding purposes.

Playing the forward positions for the Toreadors will be two seniors, Paul Mitchell and Larry Zelman. Mitchell, who was captain of the JV team last year, was described by coach John Furlong as an excellent ball handler who, although he is a wild passer at times, still provides the Toreadors with the needed penetration. Zelman, probably the best defensive player on

the squad, is also a fine shooter.

The rest of the squad will probably see equal playing time, at least until coach Furlong can determine a sixth, seventh, and eighth man. Scott Hergott figures to add quickness and rebounding to the team. Kelly Paris should prove to be a sparkplug, adding hustle and excitement to the Toreador effort. Brian Lane, MVP of last year's JV team, will be depended on to provide much needed rebounding. Mike Smith will most likely take advantage of his shooting touch and quickness to inflict damage on the Toreador's opponents. Smooth dribbling and ball control is what the team can expect from Bill Leonard, who played for coach Norm Lerman the last two years.

Overall, Taft looks to be very sharp offensively. However, being a small team they may have trouble rebounding and on defense. Both rebounding and defense

will have to be total team efforts.

On defense, the Toreador guards will have to hit the boards for rebounds instead of releasing early as they would on a team with more height. This could hurt the team's fast-break, which has always been a strong part of their game. To counter this, good timing and execution of passes becomes mandatory.

The post position looks to be the weakest part of Taft's defense, if only because of the tremendous height disadvantage. To counter this disadvantage and prevent their defense from being shredded by a big man inside, the Toreadors will have to play a help-out defense. In addition, the two centers, Righetti and Furlong, will also have to front their men more often than is normal.

All other factors considered, the success or failure of this team will undoubtedly be traceable, at the end of the season, to just one factor...execution.