

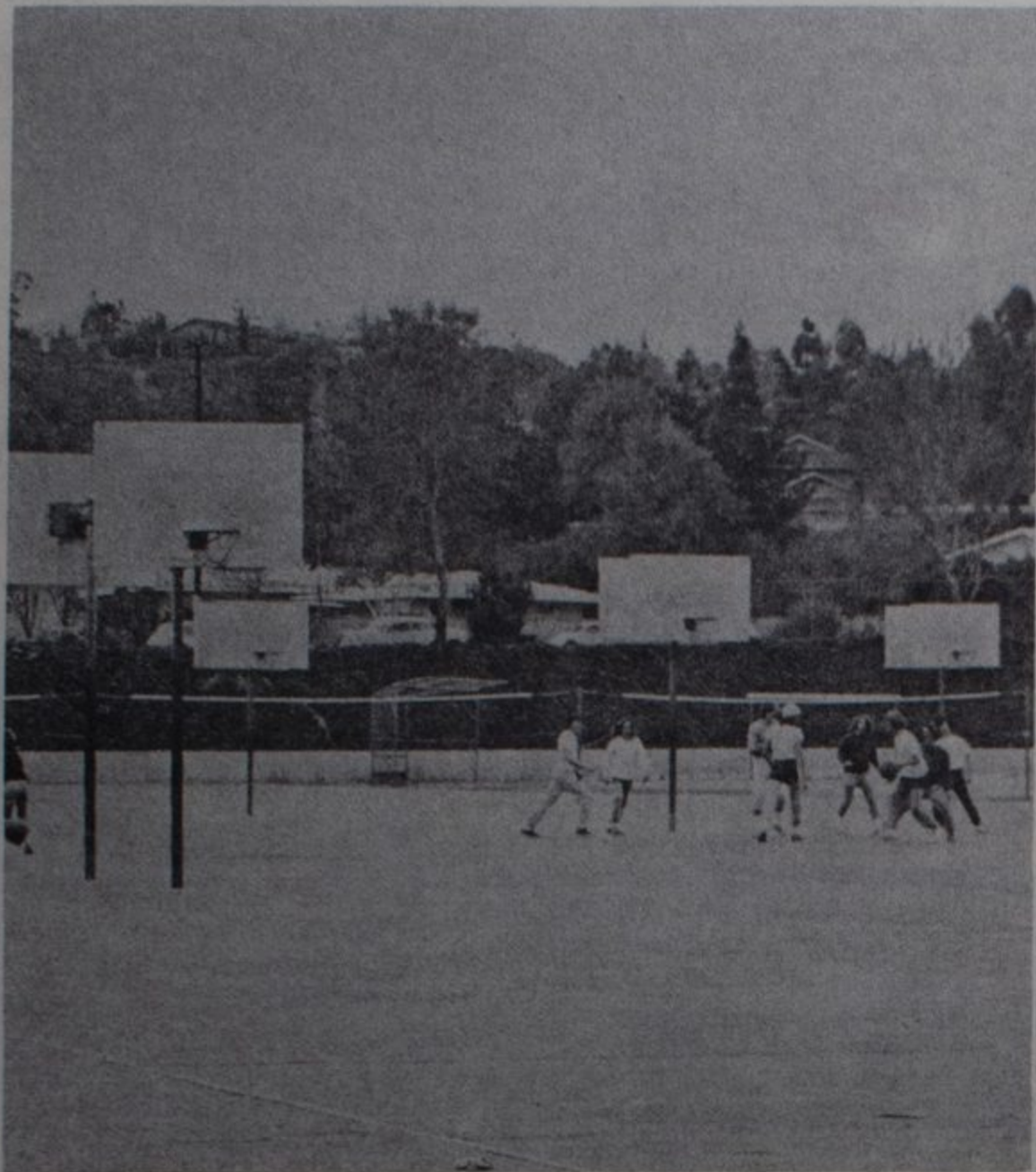
The Taft Tribune

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT HIGH SCHOOL

VOLUME 15

FRIDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 7, 1975

NUMBER 12



Smaller Classes: Due to the recent State Law granting seniors the option to take Physical Education if they need 15 credits or less to graduate, many of the P.E. Classes have decreased in size. Tracy MacDonald comments on the ruling on page 3.

Photo by Kaniger

Drill Team holds dinner, Elects New Captains

Special to the Tribune

The annual drill team - flag team awards banquet was held January 17, 1975 in Olmstead Hall.

Highlighting the evening was the announcement of the 1975 drill team steering committee. The new captain is Nancy Burns. Squad leaders are: Lisa Ngou, Joni Garcia, Camille Mugredechian, Lisa Kennard, Liberty Mashigian, Teena Laufer, Susan Ekstedt and Bonnie Schellinger.

Special Awards were given to certain parents and faculty members for their help throughout the year. Those receiving awards were: Ms. Stobin, Lyons, Honor, Wilson, Pugh, Rich, and Whiteside. Individual flag team awards went to Chris Mahoney, best smile; Denise Larson, best marcher; and Anne Price, most helpful and enthusiastic. The member chosen most outstanding was Suzie Honor.

A special trophy was presented to flag captain, Anne Price for her help in organizing and leading the team. Competition trophies were given to all members of the team for their third place victory at the So. Gate Pep Units Festival in December.

Drill Team individual awards were received by Karen Ngou, best smile; Bobbie Wilson, best marcher; Janice Neff, Taft Swish; Shirley Lew, hardest worker; Corrie Turner, most helpful; Cathleen Corey, most friendly; and Laurie Marshall, most enthusiastic.

Bobbie Wilson, drill team captain, was presented a special trophy for her excellent job as captain.

Corrie Turner was chosen the most outstanding member of drill team by the 1974 steering committee.

Special award trophies were presented by drill team sponsor, Mrs.

Haas, to the following drill team and flag team members: Amy Gandel, Sandy Carey, Linda Mintz, Joni Garcia, Elaine Groce, Kristi Nelson, Nancy Burns, Sandy Schroder, Liberty Mashigian, Deena Pyestner, Janice Yuwiler, Sherri Lewellen, Bonnie Schellinger, and Pam Roome.

'UCLA Student For A Day' Tour acquaints college-bound pupils

Special to the Tribune

Participation in actual classroom meetings and "rap sessions" with faculty and students will be the focal points for college-bound high school students attending the annual "UCLA STUDENT FOR A DAY" orientation, tour, and get-acquainted program at UCLA, Wednesday, February 12.

Visiting high school students may sign up for as many as three classes during the day-long event which begins at 8:30 a.m. with registration in the Grand Ballroom of the Student Union. Rap sessions will be staged at various times and will cover such fields as Medicine, Law, Theater Arts and UCLA life styles from a student perspective. UCLA campus newspaper editors will host a tour of their offices and meet with high school editors. UCLA student government leaders will also meet with high school counterparts.

University officials, UCLA students and alumni will take part in the program to be held on Lincoln's birthday, a high school holiday. UCLA will be in regular session that day, allowing visitors to experience the campus academic atmosphere. Tours of the campus will be scheduled throughout the

Symposium on gun control Brings civic leaders together

Community leaders from all over Los Angeles gathered Wednesday night, January 15th at John Burroughs Jr. High School to lead a community action conference for handgun control. The symposium was sponsored by the Coalition For Handgun Control to create support for Action Week for handgun control, February 18-23.

The symposium started on a rather wild note which proved to be the tone for the entire evening. Councilman David Cunningham was the keynote speaker for the evening and throughout his speech he was interrupted by hecklers from a very large opposition party in the audience. Between interruptions Councilman Cunningham pointed out a few famous cases of gun abuse, those of Martin Luther King and the Kennedy brothers. He spoke of a need to keep incidents such as those from happening again.

After Councilman Cunningham, Jess Marlow, anchorman of the KNBC news Service and moderator for the evening, introduced Dr. George Regas who, in his speech, questioned the morality of citizens of this country in light of statistics such as: crime, in the past decade has risen 16% faster than the population and murder has increased 200%. Tokyo, he pointed out, with a population of 11 million had handgun control and 1 handgun homicide last year whereas L.A., population 7 million, had no gun control and 308 handgun homicides last year.

The next four speakers talked mainly about the problem of handguns and the juvenile. The speakers ranged from a student to a civic leader. The first of these was Dr. Robert Docter of the Los An-

geles Board of Education.

He proved that guns were readily available by the fact that over 250 guns are confiscated from Los Angeles City Schools each year.

The last two speakers, Perde Williams, a student at Manual Arts High and Rosalio Munoz a previous resident of the barrio.

Mr. Williams talked about the prices that guns go for on the street and showed that a stolen gun can

be bought for \$20. Mr. Munoz spoke on the gun and the gang and how they have to be educated to the fact that they cannot change things through guns and revolution.

A question and answer period followed the speakers. To keep things at a relative calm the audience was asked to submit questions on paper. This still did not prevent several yelling matches developing among members of the audience and the panel.

Career Expo '75 helps Students choose future

The Career Expo '75, being held until February 9 at the Great Western Exhibit Center, is a giant career information exposition which will assist students in deciding their future careers. During school hours, 200,000 ninth and tenth grade students of the Los Angeles City Schools will be provided transportation to the exhibit.

The intent of the "Expo" is to offer a broad spectrum of current and future career opportunities and of career activities. Exhibitors are furnishing realistic and meaningful career accounts to students and adults. Semi-skilled, skilled, technical and professional careers are exhibited. Representatives from business, industry, government, education and labor providing exhibits and personnel to offer first-person knowledge to students, will be located in various clusters such as entertainment, trade and finance, communications, and construction just to name a few available.

During school hours, ninth and tenth grade students are the preferred audience, but post secondary and adult students are encouraged to partake in the activities of the "Expo" in off school hours. Passes for the "Expo" will be available for students in other grades and adults in the community who wish to attend during evening hours or weekends. Robert A. Sampieri, Coordinator of the Comprehensive Career Education Unit, has several career education programs planned for the school year.

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Five Taft students placed as finalists in the Regional City Bowling Finals. Pictured left to right, top: Mike Yuwiler, Lance Nifong, and Kurt English. Bottom: Sharon Krawczyk, Pam Phillip, and the sponsor of

the Bowling Club, Mr. Clark. Not pictured are Beth DeLalla and Guy Gleason. Taft placed more finalists in the competition than any other school in the Valley.

Photo by Glyman

The Taft Tribune

Published Every Friday Morning During The Academic Year

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Time for a change

The new Student Cabinet was sworn in last month in one of its mock ceremonies in Taft Hall, marking perhaps a change in the way the school is represented. Last semester's 24-member Cabinet voted to eliminate some of the insignificant government offices, reducing Cabinet membership to fifteen officers who must share a greater burden of responsibility. This may turn out to be good news or bad news.

At this point, it is unfair to criticize Cabinet since it has been meeting for such a short time, but before we evaluate it at all, it is necessary to set the record straight on what we feel Cabinet should be doing.

To begin with, it should be representative of the students' needs, desires, and ideas. Very rarely do students feel represented by their officers because very rarely do they ever see them. The open Cabinet meetings during lunch on Friday are nonsense; at the most, perhaps twenty or thirty students drift by C2 on their lunch break, and the majority of these could care less about how well Cabinet members have learned their Parliamentary Procedure manuals and can conduct a meeting.

What should be happening is a simple example of role reversal... Cabinet members reaching out to the students instead of them begging for students to get involved with them. Of course, it is difficult for fifteen students to approach 3600 on equal terms, but this does not have to be the case. We must remember that a tremendous majority of these students are not and will never be affected by government, simply because they are not involved in the workings of Taft High School. But it is feasible, and it is practical for the Cabinet members to talk to the individual departments. Very easily could they visit the drama department, the music department, the science department—find out what they think as well as what they need. If the departments are content, then Student Cabinet is doing its job. What it's doing now, however, is sitting peacefully in its room off the senior quad wondering how to get the inactive students involved. That is *not* Cabinet's job. Instead, what it should be doing is keeping the students that are involved happy with what they're involved in.

One of the major illusions that Student Cabinet creates and the student body should be aware of, is that unlike many of the problems that student governments face in the inner city schools, Taft's is governing a rather peaceful campus. Therefore, it will never be functional in developing hard core school policies, simply because a need for them does not exist. A more concise and definitive term for Cabinet would be something to the like of Student Planners, Student Regulators, or Student Coordinators.

A large percentage of the students at Taft could care less about how well the new fifteen man format will work out in Cabinet. But the members of student government should be concerned about the possibility of their reaching out to the students—finding out what's on their minds and offering suggestions and solutions to some of the problems which just may exist.

-LETTERS TO THE EDITOR-

The drug bust

Dear Editor,

I protest! The L.A.P.D. and the Board of Education have once again shafted the students of the L.A. City School System. In 1973 they took a "confidential" survey on how many students in the system's junior and senior high schools smoked pot and/or used drugs.

This year the L.A.P.D. decided that the artificially low figures from that survey were too high so they decided to crack down. To do this they sent narcs into twenty-four of the system's fifty-two high schools "to find out how easily drugs can be obtained in our schools." Big Brother is watching. Ten years early, well, well.

Our privacy is being violated. School is supposed to be a learning place, not a place to get sifted through a bunch of narcs. How can we communicate freely and thus get a better education when we're paranoid that the next time we open our mouths it will be a narc? There are many at Taft now so this just might be the case.

As if this isn't enough, the L.A.P.D., the Board of Education, and the District Attorney's office want to take away the juvenile's right to an early release to protect their narcs! This is designed to keep (protect) juveniles from Juvenile Hall unless their parents cannot be reached if they happen to get in the way of the damned cops, that's tough.

The American Civil Liberties Union has criticized the crackdown and the proposal to detain suspects for longer than 24 hours. They have also been asked to enter suit against the police and the Board of education by a student rights group.

Thank you for printing this letter.

C. Schroeder

Dear Editor,

Due to a shortage of space, my article concerning Superintendent Johnston (The Taft Tribune, January 17, 1975) was not printed in its entirety. I fear that in cutting the story of the interview, a crucial point in my interview with Dr. Johnston was omitted.

After Watergate the public has become very hostile toward any secretive acts on the part of law enforcing agencies to collect evidence. And many people, including some members of the Board of Education, have questioned the use of undercover agents in the schools to obtain evidence for the mass drug arrests.

Dr. Johnston grew indignant at the suggestion that the use of undercover agents could be considered an undemocratic tactic to be applied only by a "police state." "I hope people understand that there is no free society without law," he commented.

Johnston agreed that the use of undercover agents in the schools

is not an ideal mode of operation but he explained the dilemma law-enforcement agencies are faced with when the only evidence that will stand up in court is proof of actual transactions. He felt that the only alternative to the use of undercover agents would be to condone drug abuse on the campus by simply turning our backs on the whole problem.

The Superintendent sympathized with the students who were indignant at the thought of having undercover agents in their own classes. However, under the circumstances, the only other choice he could see was that "students who are upset about these undercover techniques should initiate a program wherein anyone selling narcotics will be turned in by the students themselves."

Personally, I don't see how such a program of self-policing could ever be effective. But I do agree with Dr. Johnston in one respect. If undercover agents are the only means by which the school drug problem can be solved, I feel it is our obligation as concerned students to accept what seems to be a minor infringement upon our own rights in order to insure the protection of the innocent victims of the school drug pushers.

Michele Lipow

A bit of disgust

Dear Editor,

After reading your latest issue of the Taft Tribune, I am sorry to conclude that the subject matter which was in that issue was no different than any of the others. They have all been very boring. The writing isn't bad, in fact, in most cases, the writing was excellent. In my opinion, however, the subject matter isn't of the nature which really interests students. It is of the nature which *should* interest students, such as student pilots, etc., etc.

I realize it's hard to come up with interesting subject matter but in order to improve the quality of the school's newspaper, something must be done. I suggest upgrading the appeal of the stories.

Sue Hinkle

Driver Training

Dear Editor,

I would like to make a small complaint on the condition of the cars in Driver Training. They've got to be the worst pieces of machinery there are. Undoubtedly, they are the hardest things in the world for a beginner to drive. They're all manual and handle like you're driving a 5-ton truck. Please see if you can possibly make a suggestion about fixing up the cars to the Drivers Training people.

Beth Mandel

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Your Men on the P.A. - Chairman of Communication Glenn Adler and Chairman of Athletics Dan Turner reading through the morning announcements.

Alcoholism Bigger Threat Than Drugs Among Teens

By Karen Kraemer
Tribune Staff Writer

Teenage alcoholism presents a much greater problem than teenage drug abuse in our society today, according to Dr. Tokichi Takamine, and alcohol abuse, with its damaging effects is "miles ahead of all the rest put together."

Dr. Takamine is chairman of the California Medical Association Committee on Alcoholism and former president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association. He lectures at high schools and universities and is on the board of physicians who review all medical television programs.

"In L.A. County, the overall death rate in the last ten years dropped eleven per cent, except deaths occurring from cirrhosis of the liver, which went up to forty-five per cent," the doctor stated.

For years, the public has been bombarded by statistics on the horrors of drug abuse, and the damaging effect on the increasing amount of teenage users. But until recently, very little attention has been paid to the problem of

teenage alcoholism which is far more widespread and damaging.

According to Dr. Takamine, there are twelve-year old children in Alcoholics Anonymous, and one main reason for that is that alcohol is very acceptable in our society. "It's part of the woodwork," the doctor explained, "it's on the billboards, it's everywhere." And because of its acceptability, parents don't feel it poses that much of a threat to them or their children.

The doctor noted that there are presently ten million alcoholics today, many of whom are teenage drinkers because they are under pressure from their friends, they are bored, or they're curious.

"Also, back a few years ago, it was to beat the law, but now they can beat the law and therefore the law doesn't even want to be bothered. It (alcohol) is in. Go home and take this week's Newsweek and count the number of alcohol ads...thirty in last week's."

Dr. Takamine pinpointed the philosophy of today's society. "You don't have to have pain. You flunk a test, take a drink, then your old care?" Dr. Takamine seemed optimistic to the fact of teenage realization when he stated, "What I'd like to see kids do, is not take what we say, but going on the fact that it is now a drug, ask themselves...why? Why am I doing it and what are my alternatives?"

Worried over a Tradition

By Michael Grant
Tribune Staff Writer

This is, without a doubt, part one of a two-part story.

I needed a job. Very badly. I was desperate beyond belief for money. I had a habit to support (collecting comic books) and a car to maintain. In addition, it seemed to be getting more and more expensive for a teenager to engage in typical, fun-loving teenager activities.

So, like I said, I needed a job. It started in the rear of the establishment where, two weeks before, I had left an application for...no, it began at home. The telephone rang. I answered it in my inimitable suave, debonair manner.

"Mike's embalming parlor: you kill 'em, we fill 'em."

"Is this Michael Grant?" asked the voice, unperturbed by my swift and witty humor.

"Yes, it is."

"This is (name garbled) at Mc—

—s. Are you still interested in a job?"

Not a little embarrassedly, I replied, "Uh, uh...yeah."

"Can you be here Tuesday at 3:30?"

"I guess so, yeah, sure."

"OK. See you then." It was over, and I had my first job interview. Maybe my last.

The golden arches spanned the building, and were reminiscent of the proverbial pot-of-gold rainbows so prevalent in Irish folk history. I passed through the portals and found my way to the back of the building. There I met with a Mc---'s assistant manager. He was a decent, well-groomed, clean-cut young man.

"Are you decent, well-groomed, and willing to cut your hair?" he asked me.

I responded quickly and cleverly. "I guess so, yeah, sure." This satisfied him momentarily. Then, without warning, he thrust a pencil and paper before me and commanded me to add a column of figures. I preformed admirably.

When I had finished, he said, "We'll call you and let you know."

I walked away feeling unfulfilled, having had so little chance to prove myself. Little did I know of the



Do you need money to complete an expensive four month to two-year education program? State grants are available, not to exceed 2,500 per calendar year to students who have the aptitude and desire to train for specific occupations, vocations, or technical careers but lack the necessary funds. Grants are made for either public or private institutions. Occupations selected should be those defined as manpower short such as draftsman, educational aide, fashion merchandising, food service, inhalation therapy assistant, lab technician, nurse, office machine mechanic, police, recreation worker, secretary, social service aide, surgical technician, water treatment technician and many others. Make an appointment to see Mrs. Goodenough for further information. Deadline for filing is February 28 and it takes time to complete the forms in a worthwhile manner, so don't procrastinate.

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Toreadors slain 90-63

By Tom Bolton
Tribune Co-Sports Editor

It was something right out of "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid." The scoreboard last Wednesday afternoon showed the final score to be Reseda-73 and Taft-65, and the Toreadors had only one question; who are those guys?

It was tough to believe. The Toreadors had been beaten by a Regent team which played for two quarters without the services of scoring ace, Tom Cassidy, who got into early foul trouble. Meanwhile, Taft sharpshooter, Roger Wilson had collected twenty-six points.

There had to be something wrong. Reseda teams just don't beat Taft. They're supposed to

Book him! Taft's scoring marvel Roger Wilson is caught here breaking two of the most widely accepted laws around. 1) the law of gravity and 2) the law that says one must be 6' to play basketball. Photos Courtesy of Tom Dasbach

just lie down and take their beating. Who do these upstart Regents think they are anyway? It's obvious that these renegades just don't understand the system.

For the first four minutes of the game, the Regents were playing their part perfectly. Midway through the quarter, Taft held what looked to be a commanding 13-4 lead over Reseda. This however proved to be the only sunny moment in a cloudy day for the Toreadors. The Regents outscored them 15-5 in the remainder of the quarter, to take a 19-18 advantage, which they stretched into a seven point lead, 34-27, by the half. The rest of the game was simply the proverbial story of "Too little, too late," as the Toreadors failed to capitalize on the absence of Cassidy from the Reseda line-up. Tom Cassidy returned to the game in the fourth quarter, and it was his thirteen point performance in that final stanza which kept the game out of reach for the struggling Toreadors.

Chatsworth Victorious

The mid-week loss to Reseda was only the beginning of a bad week for Taft. Friday night proved to be even more devastating, as

the number three ranked Chancellors of Chatsworth embarrassed the Toreadors, 90-63, and in doing so dropped the Toreadors record to two wins and three losses.

At the end of the first quarter, with Taft right on the Chancellors heels, 20-19, it looked as though the Toreadors might give Chatsworth a run for its money. That's when Cliff Humphrey and Company went to work.

When the smoke had finally cleared after the game, the Chancellors had placed all five starters in double figures, including playmaker, Cliff Humphrey, who supplemented his sixteen points with sixteen assists.

The difference in the game was simply, that the Chancellors had too much depth for the Toreadors. Taft went into the game depending basically on two players, Roger Wilson and Paul Righetti, to provide the bulk of the scoring. With neither able to score consistently, the Toreadors were left without any real fire-power. The Chancellors, however, spread the points around, as every member of the Chatsworth squad scored, including six who had ten points or more.

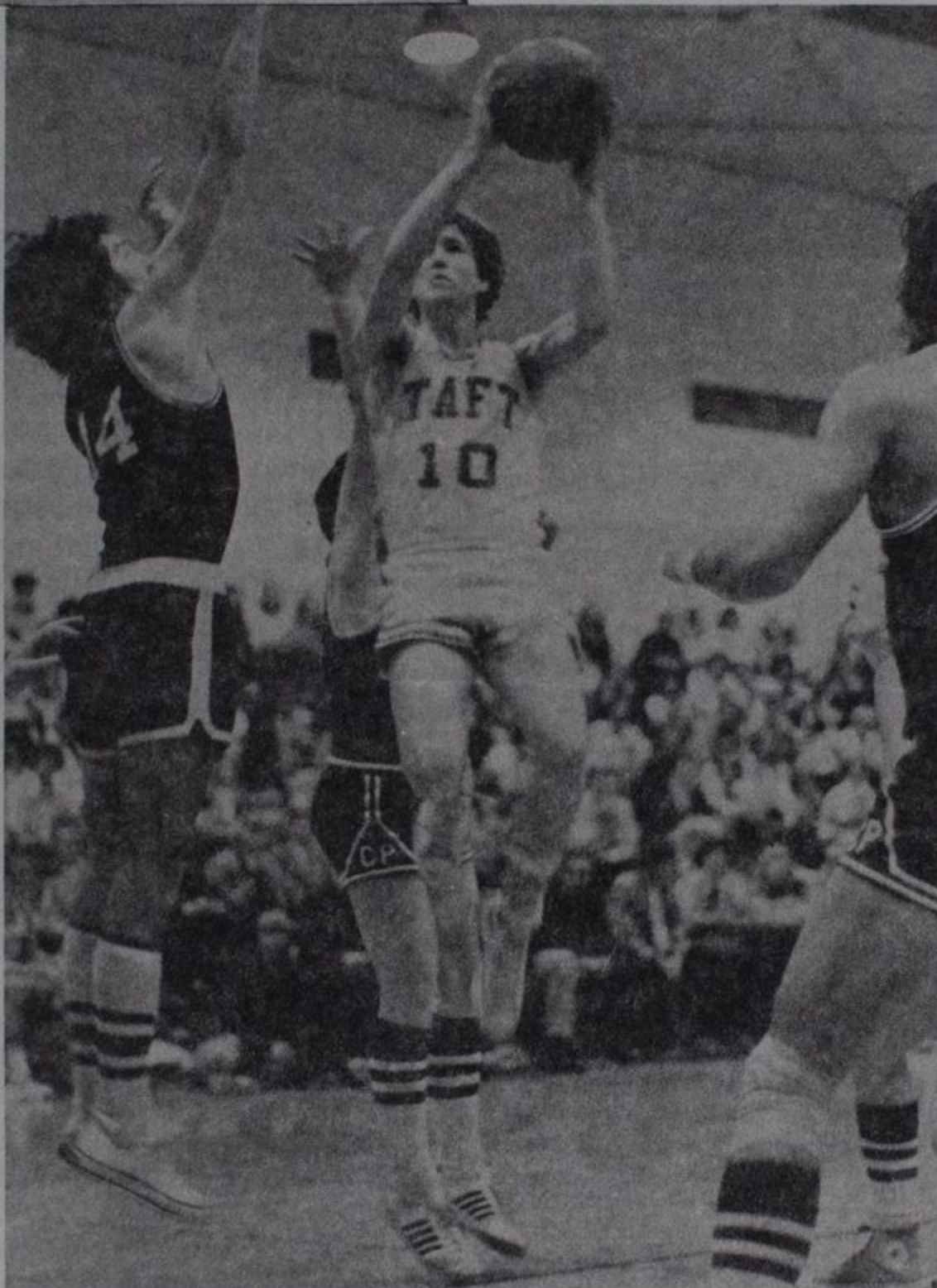
Varsity to tangle with Cav's tonight

When Taft gun Roger Wilson and Cleveland's Chris Lippert met on January 17 the outcome was 66 points between them. Lippert had 34, Roger had 32 and the game had enough excitement to satisfy most anyone. Tonight at Cleveland High School, the two meet again in their second and probably last time ever when the Taft Toreadors make battle with the Cleveland Cavaliers at 8:00.

Although Roger did lose the battle in the last meeting, Taft won the war. Kelly "the hammer" Paris and Paul Righetti had the responsibility of covering Mr. Lippert before, as Coach John Furlong is a strong advocate of the man-on-man defense.

In addition to Wilson and Lippert, the West Valley League's number one and two scorers at presstime, Righetti is also in the top ten in scoring with his average resting somewhere near 16 points a game.

The Junior Varsity team plays the preliminary game which tips-off at 6:30 while the Cees and Bees play here and start at 2:30 and 4:00 respectively.



Pros don Taft flannels once again; Return for Varsity-Alumni game

Something is labled a factory when it is able to mass-produce a product. Taft High School is a baseball factory and Coach Ray O'Connor is the foreman. Over it's relatively short fourteen year history, not less than seven Toreadors have cast their red, white, and gold flannels aside to join the professional ranks.

The list begins with Larry Dierker, Houston Astro mound mainstay. It continues with Rick Auerbach, who after starting with the Milwaukee Brewers for a year was traded to the Dodgers. Pete LaCock, son of game show host Peter Marshall, was an All-City football player at Taft and is now one of the most promising players on the Chicago Cub roster. Robin Yount was the third player chosen in the amateur baseball draft two years ago and last season stepped right into a starting spot with the Milwaukee Brewers. He was in strong contention for Rookie-of-the-Year honors until a late August in-

jury sidelined him. Rick Howerton, last year Taft's starting catcher, was drafted by the Cleveland Indians and is currently working his way up through their farm system. Larry Yount and Rick Dierker, brothers of forementioned players are also working their way up through the minors.

Next Tuesday these players, with the exception of Larry Dierker, will don the red, white, and gold once again when they return to Taft for the first ever Alumni versus Varsity game. The game is to be a fund raiser for the school so admission prices of \$.50 for students and \$1.00 for adults will be charged to see the game which is presently slated to begin at 11:30.

One might think this game to be a runaway but the varsity team is one of the city's best and, many think, will be the most heavily scouted team in the City this spring. Returning from last year's City runner-up team will be David Aronow, Tom Simpson, Kelly

Paris, Charlie Young, Ron Helwig, Tim Ferrin, and Paul Janssen.

C's fall in third overtime

Taft's Cee Basketball team was looking to get back on the winning track as they entered their games with Reseda and Chatsworth. This goal did not materialize however, as Taft dropped both games by scores of 55-52 and 63-60 to the Regents and Chancellors respectively.

Against Reseda, the Toreadors started poorly and quickly trailed 10-2. Sloppy ball-handling and poor shooting were Taft's biggest problems. However, Taft stayed close and entered the fourth quarter trailing by 10 points. In the fourth quarter Taft surged back, but it was too little too late and they were defeated 55-52.

Reseda's win can be described in just two words; John Morris. Morris hit an amazing 35 points as

well as pulling off a game high 15 rebounds.

Taft was led by Russell and Denis who had 12 and 10 points respectively, as well as Matt Biers who grabbed 13 rebounds.

Conversely in the Chatsworth game, it was the Toreadors who enjoyed the early lead. The Toreador's pressing defense caused Chatsworth to make numerous mistakes and Taft took advantage.

Taft extended its slim lead to as much as seven, thanks to a good press as well as excellent shooting from Jack Schactel and Larry Gurstine who combined for 36 points.

However the determined Chancellors caught Taft at 57-50, and the game was sent into overtime.

the game against Reseda, with one exception. They lost. It was a game that made one wonder whether he was watching a basketball game, or a football game. Taft had a one-point lead at half-time, but with the aid of some ticky-tack calls by the officials, and the resulting free-throws, Taft bowed for the first time this season, 52-55.

Junior Varsity

plays suit, loses!

Chatsworth by 19

Roger Markel scored fifteen points and the Taft Junior Varsity basketball team coasted to a 55-51 victory over a pesty Reseda Regent squad last Wednesday. Markel's scoring outburst was supported by Bob Mertens who came off the bench to add nine points.

The first half was sloppily played by both teams especially the Toreadors who missed numerous layups and short jump shots. The game was knotted at ten after the first quarter and Taft managed a one point halftime advantage 24-23.

The third quarter was a replica of the previous two and Taft wound up ahead 38-37 going into the final eight minutes of the game.

The Toreadors then exploded mostly behind Mertens and Mark Reda to take a 54-43 lead with only about three minutes left in the game.

The win over Reseda put Taft into a three-way tie with El Camino and Chatsworth, each team owning a 3-1 W.V.L. record.

The big confrontation was set for Friday as the powerful Chatsworth Chancellors invaded Taft for possession of first place.

The Chancellors however spoiled any first place thoughts for Taft as they crushed the red, white, and gold going away, 65-46.

John Ries led a lackluster Toreador offense with eleven points followed by Chuck Schmitt with ten and Don Smith who chipped in nine.

Taft trailed only 25-24 at half-time and led 26-25 early in the third quarter but then the Chancellors outscored the Toreadors 21-8 and took a commanding 46-34 margin after three quarters.