

Creation Fair '75 showcases talent

The Oscar, the Emmy, the Tony, the Grammy, the Treador... The Treador? Well, not quite, but the officials of Taft's annual Creation Fair will have to find fitting awards for its winners.

The Creation Fair of '75 will be held April 14 through 18, playing host to just about every type of talent found at Taft. Consisting of two categories, the Creation Fair will be, in essence, an art show.

Some Unique Categories

Naturally included in the field of Exhibiting Arts are paintings and drawings. But, in addition to these more traditional aspects are photography, ceramics, small wood and metal works, poetry, student films, and creative stichery will be displayed. Competition in the field of creative cooking will also be held.

In addition to arts being exhibited, arts will also be performed. Such performances will include instrumental, vocal, dancing, and dramatic entries.

Yearly novelties such as the annual car show will be held Wednesday, the sixteenth, while in Oral Arts, films will be shown throughout the entire week.

A New Twist

Though it is held every year at

Taft, a new angle has been added to the Creation Fair of '75. For the first time, exhibitors will have the opportunity to sell their artwork. Attached to their entries will be

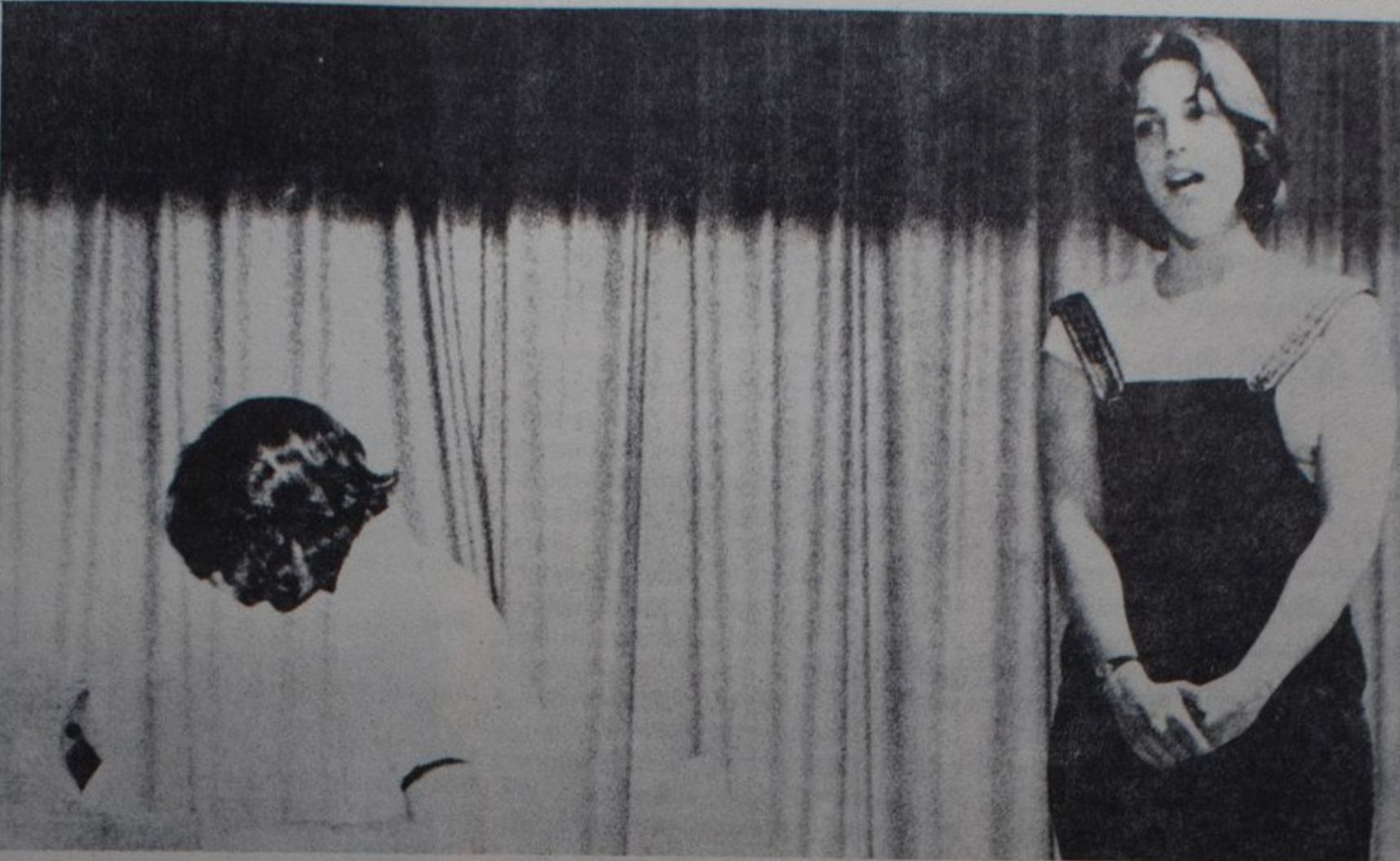
their phone numbers as well as their names, so that any viewer interested in purchasing the exhibit will have the opportunity to do so.

Judging the Creation Fair will

be professional judges and artists, as well as representatives from various museums.

Directing the fair is senior, Laura Mjorud. Her committee mem-

bers include: Lorrin Berenbeim, Bobbette Cloninger, Jennifer Francis, Martin Goldfarb, Craig Johnson, Sue Krivin, John Masters, Julie Newman, Jane Sobo, Tanya Steward, Sue Stovall, Hugh Sutherland, Dale Weber, Jill Weiner, and Bruce Winker. Other participants in the technical side of the fair are: Roberta Kramer, Maribeth Hanrahan, Jim Greenberg, Sharon Finn, Wendie Fischer, and Laura Satter.



Talent Abounds: Vocalist, Susie Snyder, and pianist, Alan Ghaleb, perform a medley entitled "Smile" at

this year's Creation Fair.

Photo by Wellerstein

Funding question Raises Problems for Taft's Cabinet

By Glenn Adler

Chairman of Communications

Last week, Student Cabinet ratified the 1975-76 budget. It was not an easy job; last year's budget required nearly as much time to plan.

As far as cutbacks, the work has already been done. The Finance Committee, consisting of the Principal, Assistant Principal, Financial Manager, Leadership Advisor, Student Body President, and the Student Body Treasurer, has already made the necessary cuts.

The Finance Committee has also set up a guideline governing fund-raising events, realizing that any group needing money can now hold their own fund-raising activity.

To begin with, all fund-raisers must be approved by the Finance Committee. The first step toward approval comes 4½ weeks before the actual activity when a basic plan is submitted to the Committee. The plan includes such particulars as facilities and equipment to be used, an explanation of what the newly raised money will be used for, as well as projected income and expenses involved. Also, all groups must be aware of procedures and regulations concerning the student store such as authorization, ticket sales, and the use of purchase orders.

Beside submitting a plan, every group should know of two basic rules. First of all, 100% of all profits must go directly to the Student Body Fund, 80% of which will be earmarked for the particular group in next year's budget. Also, any loss incurred in the drive will be deducted from that group's budget for the following year.

The official guidelines have been presented to the sponsors; and groups can now proceed with their fund-raisers. New rules may be added should the need arise.

Regardless, the Finance Committee has taken the necessary steps, and any group can now hold their own activity to raise money—the perfect solution to our budget problem.

The Taft Tribune

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT HIGH SCHOOL

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News Briefs

Birmingham Teachers Die in six-week period

Birmingham High School has had more than its share of tragedies this year.

Three full-time teachers have passed away in the last six weeks, alarming most of the teachers and leaving the student body in a state of shock.

Mr. Nester Wyatt died the latter part of February from cancer of the stomach. Wyatt was in his late 50's and was one of the most respected science teachers on campus. The Birmingham faculty recently began a scholarship fund in his honor.

Then, almost two weeks later, another death. This time it was Stan Friedman, the 40-year old varsity football coach, who died of a sudden heart attack. Doctors said Friedman had been in good health most of his life.

The final tragedy was the death of Mr. Harold Dick, a history teacher, who suffered a severe coronary attack on March 21.

Replacements for these teachers will be sent to Birmingham shortly.

What are your plans following high school graduation? Do you plan to go to college, find a job, or get married and "settle down"? On Tuesday, April 22 at 2:00 p.m., there will be a vocational aptitude test called the A.S.V.A.B. given in the library. This test gives you a prediction of probable success in five major vocational areas: electronics, clerical administrative, mechanical maintenance, general technical, and motor maintenance. It also gives an accurate prediction of probable success in college.

This is a free service of the U.S. Government, administered by members of the Armed Forces. However, there is absolutely no obligation of any kind attached to the test.



Sonny and Cher portrayed here by Michael Grant and Lauren Knipping singing "I've Got You Babe."

Photo by Wellerstein

Nine seniors honored

Out of a class of 1,100 students, nine Taft Seniors, Eldridge Adams, Ferric Fang, Stephen Grinnell, Steven D. King, Julie Newman, Gary Ostroff, Carol Spies, Mark Reda and Gale Weiss, have become finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test competition. These students are a small part of the fourteen thousand finalists who represent one-half of 1% of all the students who took the examination.

On April 30, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) will award one-thousand students one-time National Merit Scholarships of \$1,000 and 2,400 four-year merit scholarships.

Above the 90th Percentile

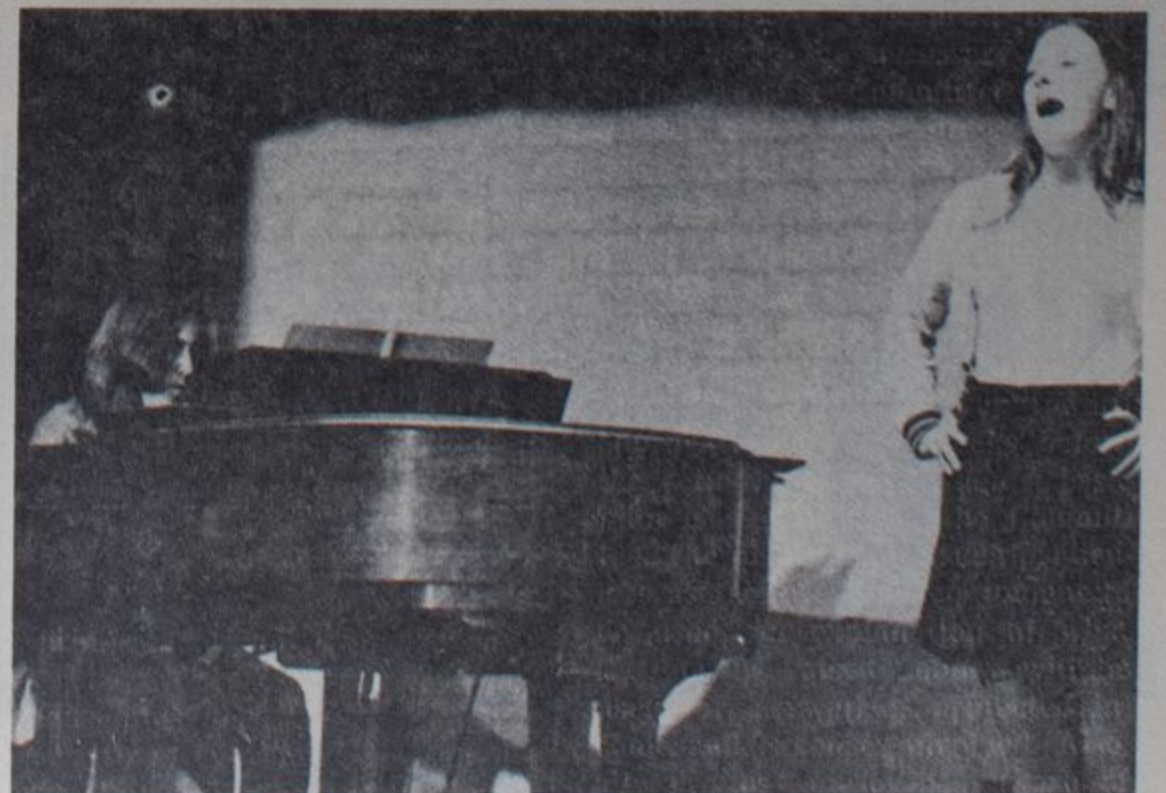
The finalists scored in the 98th and 99th percentile, which means they scored higher than 99% of all seniors who also took the test.

Six Taft students missed becoming

finalists by one percentile. Lisa Bedford, Eric Bligard, Douglas Friedman, Peter Kaufman, Linda Raven and Mark Simon all placed in the 97% range.

Between 93% and 96% on the PSAT/NMSQT percentile scale, Taft placed twenty-five students: Laura Beresford, Jonathan Bravin, Karin Carter, George Celniker, Lori Chudacoff, James Crandall, Pandora Farr, Jill Fouch, Deborah Gilman, Deborah Gottfred, Ellen Halfon, Margaret Hansen, Timna Horowitz, Richard Linton, Adam Leipzig, Blair Margot, Brad Parkinson, Bonnie Ross, Anne Rosso, Steven Roti, Erik Siering, Tanya Stewart, Jon Strait, Donald Walach, and Steve Warshawsky.

Mrs. Sloan, college and scholarship counselor, congratulates all the above students and the many other Taft students who scored high on the test.



Creation Fair Tryouts were held in oral arts during the weeks of March 31-April 4. Above are Sue Stoval and Mary Kramer. Photo by Wellerstein

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Editorially Speaking

School Integration?

Will equal education ever be achieved in the Los Angeles Unified School District? With the Gittelson ruling that would have desegregated the district overturned, equal education has become almost impossible to achieve.

The school district has two major roads it can take to provide equal education. The district can have equal funding, equal teachers and equal advantages for students of all schools, or they can bus to achieve racial integration and equal education. The "everything equal" approach is now the policy of the school board. The years have proven that that method will not work. Also, many teachers don't want to teach in Watts or East Los Angeles, they want to teach in Encino or Tarzana because there is not as great a responsibility and there are not as many problems with students.

The school district says that the segregation is not their fault but that of the housing patterns throughout the city. Maybe they are right, maybe not. The argument is really academic because the district still has the responsibility to provide equal education for all.

The Board of Education speaks of busing as an expensive, impractical solution to the problem. We haven't heard the Board come up with an alternative idea. Under the Board's reasoning the housing patterns of the entire city would have to be changed. With that in mind does busing really seem so impractical and expensive?

Finally and maybe most importantly is the fact that until schools are integrated they will not be accomplishing their primary goal—that of preparing the student for the outside world. The world isn't all black or all white, although individual schools would lead us to believe that. Under the present system, the minorities and the whites may as well live in separate countries. Maybe one day the district will be a single entity and not two parts.

—By Steve Goldman



Athletic Furor

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor.

This is a rebuttal to the **Letter to the Editor** that appeared in the March 14 issue of **The Taft Tribune**. Our letter was prompted by the thought that many students at Taft High who have no experience or knowledge of Senior Class proceedings or of the personalities of the individual football players might be led to believe that the contents of the letter were factual.

We believe that the letter was written out of emotion and prejudice, rather than a thoughtful and objective view of gathered evidence. The manner in which the authoress expressed herself was even more insulting to us than what she had to say. She resorted to mudslinging and irrational conclusions in order to express her opinions which could have been well accomplished through alternate means. One should use a mature attitude in developing one's thoughts so that name-calling is not necessary to achieve one's purpose.

We will now offer an educated and more knowledgeable account of the issues at hand which were so maliciously misunderstood. First, the Senior Assembly referred to was staged for the sole purpose of spreading information about our plans for the future as seniors in an enjoyable way. After many years of experience we have found that merely a listing of the facts and activities would not stimulate the interest of the audience. Therefore, we looked for innovative and interesting diversions from that monotony, and found them in a 50's style skit and the notorious football choir. The senior leadership class had made a plea with the seniors at Taft to come to them with imaginative ideas concerning this assembly and other activity either past or future. Since no one did take advantage of this opportunity, what right do they have to criticize the actions of those few who were interested enough to put forth the time and effort necessary to present such an assembly?

Another area we feel most strongly about is the gross generalizations which put a damper on all football players at Taft. Each ball-player should be judged on his own personal merits and accomplishments.

How can one possibly make such a slanderous statement as football players "culturally and intellectually stand at 3 on a scale of one to ten?" This was not based on fact or knowledge of personal background but merely a misconception.

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tion of the authoress. In fact, when I approached the writer after reading her letter she told me that she had rarely spoken to a football player and had never attended a single Taft football game because: "I'm afraid I might like it." The truth of the matter is that there are many players on our team who are earning grades worthy of admittance to any college or university in the country. As to her other accusations, we find them so absurd that they don't even merit an answer. In closing, we would just like to suggest that people in the future open their minds before they open their mouths.

Darrel Krasnoff
Marv Allor

Dear Editor:

It is extremely difficult for me to understand why someone who, to my knowledge, knows nothing about athletics, could so freely criticize those who are involved. In response to Jane Sobo's letter (3/14) I would like to clear the air, and hopefully, dull her ignorance.

First of all, Taft athletes are not all muscle and no brain. They must all retain a certain grade-point average to remain on their respective teams. They are urged by their teachers and parents to succeed in both sports and academics. They are pressured more than any other student, as they must practice for hours and then go home to stacks of awaiting books.

Secondly, football players at Taft (I use football players because Miss Sobo was concerned with them) hold a high position in the valley. They have been league champions and are respected by every other team in the area. I've worked with the football teams here for 2 years now and I've come to know all the athletes as intelligent and rational people who are fighting for something they believe in. They may carry on at times as though they were only in the second grade, but they deserve the right to act any way

they please because they are the best. There is an image to keep up by being a football player, but drunken half-wits doesn't fit the image.

Scholarships have found a place in this country—athletic, or academic, they give a student a chance to attend a college they never dreamed of. Athletic scholarships are not only for those who can flex the biggest muscles, but for those who can prove themselves scholastically as well. John McKay of U.S.C. had the honor this year of being coach to a Rhode's scholar....perhaps that will prove something to Miss Sobo.

High school athletes are exceptional, especially here. They are recognized as outstanding, on the field or in the classroom. They want to succeed in everything. It's a sense of competition I'm sure Miss Sobo will never know. So for myself, and I'm sure for many other students at Taft...the players here are winners wherever they are, and in whatever they do.

Tracy MacDonald

Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on the lunacy that occurred at the school over the past weekend. This work is obviously that of several deranged, unhappy Taft students. Even though money was taken by breaking machines and stealing from teachers' desks, this does not appear to be the ulterior motive. The boys bathroom in B building was vandalized, walls were kicked in and windows were broken. These students, before they commit another thoughtless act, should ask themselves: "Is it really going to get back at the system?"

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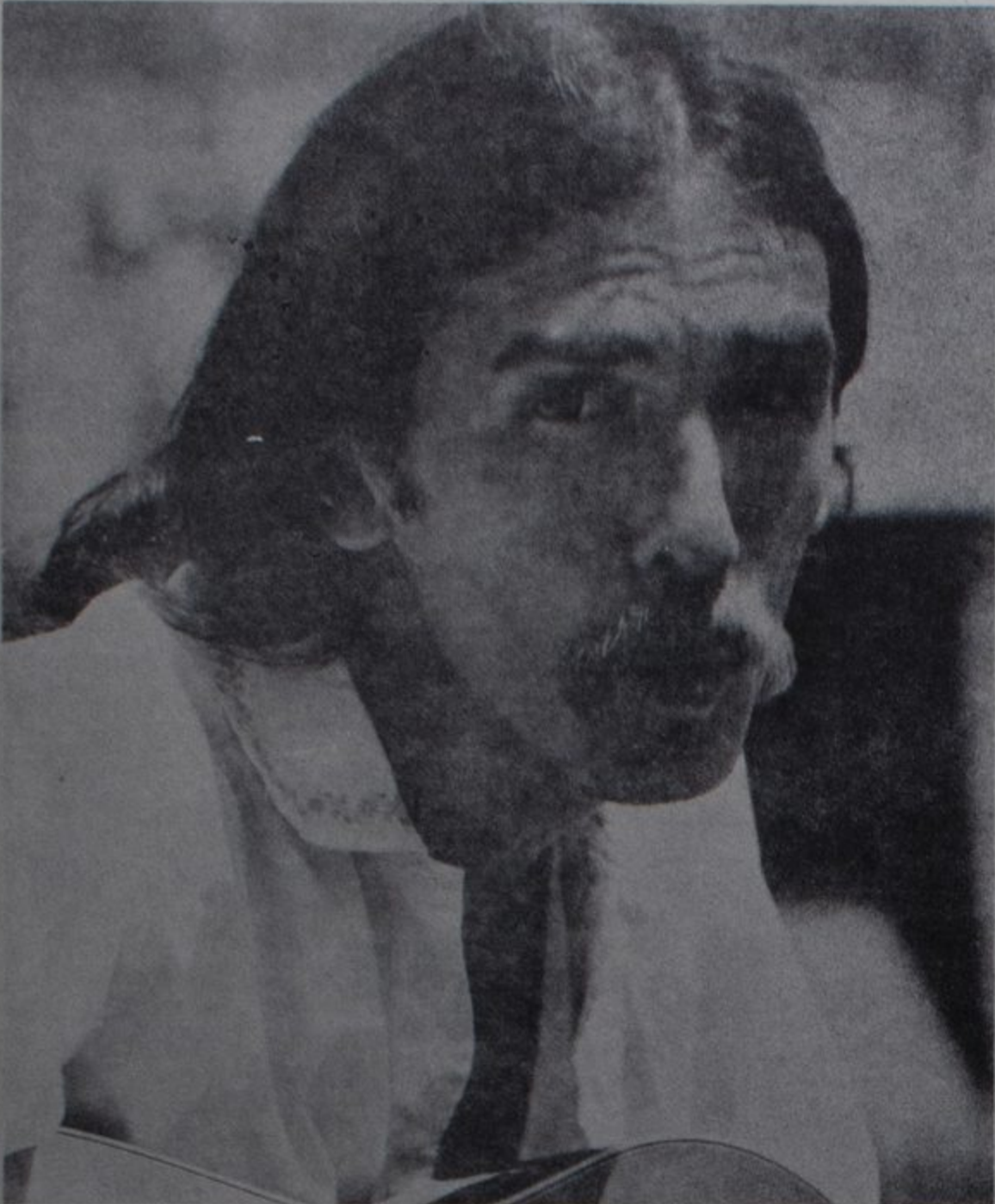
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A New Talent: Folk singer Peter Alsop displayed an incredible grasp of the "lyrical pun" last month at Pasadena's Ice House, where he appeared along with Eric Cohen, former editor-in-chief of *The Taft Tribune*. Alsop sang selections from his "Barnyard Suite" and showed tremendous poise for a young singer.

Integration program Provides Racial Blend

An integration program on a five-year basis recently was set up to provide a better racial and ethnic balance among the district teaching staff.

This program is mandatory, and was approved by the School Board. It was developed by the Staff Integration Task Force, following three months of discussions with the district staff organization and community people.

According to the report written by Dr. Paul Possemato, the head of the task force, and Mrs. Alva Barfield, a teachers' advisor, 50 percent of all district schools will need to move a minimum of one to three teachers in order to have a satisfactory ethnic and racial balance by November, 1975.

If 25 percent of all schools move a minimum of four teachers, then the schools will have a satisfactory ethnic and racial balance by the end of 1975.

By the 1979-80 school year, the proposal suggests that the ratio of racial and ethnic minority certified staff members to the overall members of the staff at all district schools be approximately equal to the number of minority staff members in all the district schools.

Also according to the report, an individual school staff will be defined as integrated when the percentage of minorities is equal in all school districts for that school year.

In January of 1974-75 school year, a step was taken to help to start equalizing the racial balances, and voluntary minority movements to different schools.

Here at Taft, Mrs. Yvonne Clopton, who is Taft's first black teacher, comes from San Fernando High School. Mrs. Clopton said she knew she was going to be Taft's first black teacher, but that she felt it would be a good experience for her, as well as for the students.

Film Review

One Sequel with Class

By Faye Greenberg
Tribune Staff Writer

Funny Lady is a sensational film. Barbara Streisand recreates the role of Fanny Brice with an ease and assurance that helps make this original musical superior to its predecessor, **Funny Girl**.

Producer Ray Stark has assembled an incredible cast and crew, and together, they have put together one of the few successful original musical films in a good many years, one that should not be missed.

The story begins where **Funny Girl** left off, but is entirely self-explanatory for those who have not seen **Funny Girl**. It spans the career and personal life of Fanny Brice after her divorce from Nicky Arnstein and through her marriage to Billy Rose.

James Caan gives an enchanting performance as Billy Rose and his singing is surprisingly good. Caan, unlike many of Barbara Streisand's co-stars, holds his own and is an important part of the film's ultimate success. However,

Eric Cohen, now a top writer on **The Tonight Show**, was Editor-in-Chief of **The Taft Tribune** nine years ago when he was a senior in high school. He used to write a column called "La Guillotine"; he'd be the first to admit that the stuff was not the best comedy he's ever written.

But that doesn't really matter anymore, because the material he's writing now is a smash. Cohen appeared last month as part of a triple bill at Pasadena's Ice House, along with an off beat rock band who call themselves Chunkie, Novie, and Ernie, and a clever and talented folk singer named Peter Alsop.

Cohen rarely does stand-up routines, but there is no reason why he shouldn't. In fact Gabriel Kaplan, a personal friend of his, has made it quite big on the talk show circuit using many routines that Cohen wrote himself. Anyone who has ever seen Kaplan perform can easily visualize Cohen. He looks young and Jewish, he sports a well-cropped moustache and has a mod hairstyle. Furthermore, he likes to talk about his background, and lately, about his fame.

("I got my first big break today; I was interviewed by the entertainment editor of Watchtower magazine.")

It was by mere chance that Cohen landed the job as a writer on Carson's show. After high school, he went on to major in journalism at USC, and decided to submit some material to the late night host. (Hopefully, he did not use old "La Guillotine" columns.) Carson apparently liked his material and hired him as one of the youngest writers on the show.

Chunkie, Novie, and Ernie are a group the music world could live

without. Although the individual members of the group are very talented in their own right (Novie did the violin solo in the Doobie Bros.' "Black Water"), together

they're too loud, too repetitive, and just plain overpowering to be considered an important group.

Watch out for Peter Alsop though; he is outstanding.

An Interesting Question

Only for the Moment

Too many of us live our lives with the burden of trivialities and the false impression that what we are doing is important.

Just how important is it that **The Taft Tribune** appears once a week; how important is it that Cabinet bothers to plant a "Liberty Tree" in the senior quad; what does it matter whether the baseball team defeats arch-rival Chatsworth for the league title; what is the significance of having a dance production, a play production, or a music production?

The only relevancy to this odd assemblage of school activities is that they provide outlets for students to develop their special talents. Too often, however, the student fails to grasp this concept; he feels that what he is doing is important to everyone.

We both used to feel that working at a television station for high school credit was one of the most functional things a student could do in school. Not only were we getting excellent training, but we were considered very elite members of the Los Angeles School District.

We became so involved and absorbed with our work that we seldom gave any thought to just how significant producing a television show was. Now, we've concluded, that producing the show was only a small aspect of our lives and in the future should be treated as such.

Last Month, the director of Student News, Mr. Jerry Quinn, a healthy, vibrant and responsible man, died suddenly and unexpectedly the morning Student News was being taped.

This event made us pause long enough to evaluate the things we've done and the attitudes we've shared for the past few

years. Very rarely have we given any thought to the total human experience—birth, death, and everything in between. We've been too caught up in handling our relationships and getting through the day. Maybe that is why death — a natural occurrence—shocks the hell out of most of us. It sneaks up and catches us by surprise.

We lived for the moment at Channel 58. When Mr. Quinn died, we realized just how irrelevant most of these moments were.

Lenny Lieberman
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