1971

PUTNAM CITY

HI-LITES

The torch has been passed on to a new generation.

---John F. Kennedy

PUTNAM CITY HI-LITES

Volume 9, Number 1

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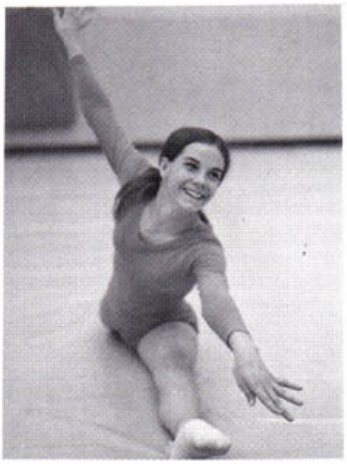

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Honored Educator Retires from Putnam City District

A career of distinctive accomplishments and community service will take on a new light with the retirement of Mr. J. Frank Malone.

A servant of American secondary education since 1945, Malone will begin to serve personal wishes and hobbies. Plans after retirement entail golfing, fishing and hunting quail in western Oklahoma. A large part of his "new" time will be spent at his summer cottage in Red River, New Mexico with his daughter.

Director of secondary education and personnel of Putnam City Schools, Mr. Malone earned his B. S. degree at Central State College and his M. A. at the University of Colorado, with graduate work done at OU. He began his teaching career as a teacher and principal in Tillman, Oklahoma in 1924.

He served as an administrator in the Oklahoma City Schools since 1945. At Central High School he held the position of Assistant Principal and later at Jackson Junior High and Northwest Classen High School he served as principal. He became director of secondary schools in the Putnam City School District in 1967.

Mr. Malone's career of over forty years has brought him recognition in many areas

Mr. Malone's career of over forty years has brought him recognition in many areas. Foremost in his outstanding career was his term as national president of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (N.A.S.S.P.). He has served as secretary of the Oklahoma Association of Secondary School Principals, as treasurer of the Oklahoma Curriculum Commission, the State Commission on Teacher Education and Certification, president of the Oklahoma City District of the Oklahoma Education Association and a member of the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

A member of the State North Central Committee, Mr. Malone could be seen frequently in classrooms evaluating courses and teaching. He was also a member of the Oklahoma TEPS Committee and the Curriculum Commission of the N.A.S.S.P.

Not only did Mr. Malone evaluate district schools, but he also traveled to American high schools in Germany and France for judging.

He was an executive of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, a member of the National Advisory Committee of ETS and an active member of the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

"I am looking forward to my upcoming retirement. I'll miss being affiliated with the Putnam City Schools but I will keep in touch with what is happening and pray that it (the district) will continue to progress."

The end of the 1971 school year will mark the beginning of the fulfillment of a man's dreams. J. Frank Malone's loyalty and dedication to the Putnam City School District has been repaid by inner satisfaction and community appreciation.

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New Counseling System Made A Difference

With their eyes on the students and their hopes on the future, the guidance counselors of Putnam City High School presented the school with one of the biggest changes this year.

The slogan "Does It Really Make a Difference?" pointed out the main goal of the pilot program—to see whether the reduced pupil-counselor ratio made a difference in the effectiveness of the counselors.

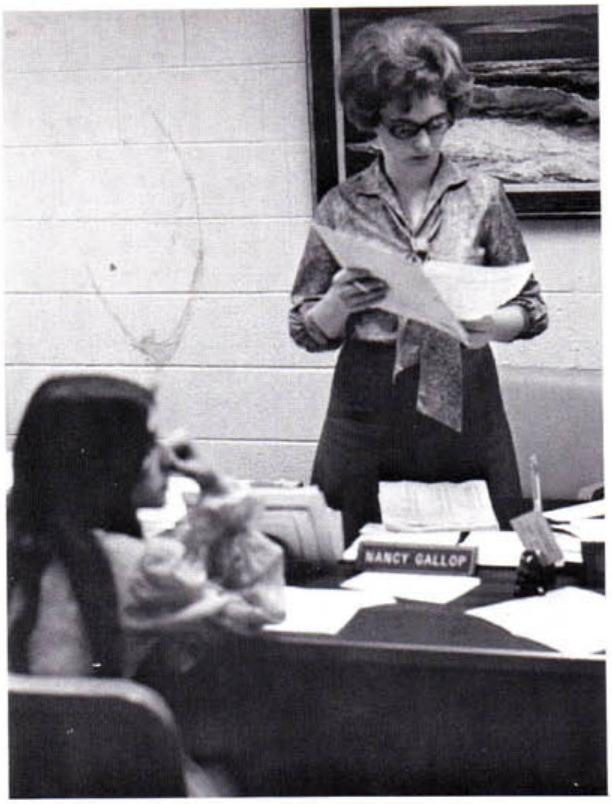
The former staff of five counselors and two secretaries was enlarged to ten counselors and four secretaries with each counselor having a student load of 270. In past years a counselor had up to 700 students, divided by grade. This year the alphabet was equally divided and each counselor received a proportionate amount of sophomores, juniors and seniors. The reason for the change was that students and counselors could get to know each other when the students are sophomores and continue a three year acquaintance.

Although each counselor worked at all levels, there was a division of duties outside the student level. For instance, Miss Nona Cowan was in charge of sophomore testing and Mr. Charles Epperly worked on plans for College Night.

The approach the counseling system took this year was one leaning in the vocation-career direction. The counselors took time to discuss with students post-high school plans, scholarships and employment after high school.

During the fifth week of each quarter, unsatisfactory notices were sent out and every student with an "F" or a "D" was called to his counselor's office for a discussion of his grade problem. This resulted mostly in parent-teacher conferences, but many students dropped a class or work permit to allow for more studying hours.

The "new" counselors this year, Mr. Paul Suttles, Mr. Dwain Jindra, Mrs. Sharon Gamble, Mrs. Hope Guffey and Mr. Royce Pennington were a welcome addition to the five "old" counselors, Mrs. Nancy Gallop, Miss Nona Cowan, Mr. Hugh Coonfield, Mr. Charles Epperly and Mrs. Midge Teter. Although several people wondered what ten counselors would find to do, the coun-



selors at Putnam City seemed to be busier than ever. They spent less time with record keeping and more time with the students. Under the new program, counselors tried to do away with the "schedule changer-test giver" image and project a friendly, personal attitude.

"I thought it was a lot easier to get to see my counselor this year," said a student who had been at Putnam City last year when there were only five counselors. "I didn't have to wait all day. My counselor seemed to know me better and show more of an interest in me."

Another aspect of the guidance system was the parent-counselor conferences. The first Thursday evening of each month the counselors were on duty at the school from 7:00 until 9:00 to discuss individual students with their parents. Through these night discussions, an even more personal relationship with the student was developed. Counselors were able to find out more background material and learn possible reasons for trouble.

The hours were long, the pay was modest, but the satisfaction and good feeling these counselors derived from helping even one student was compensation for the daily trials and problems they faced.

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Sandlin, Bates Promote New Ideas, Programs

Upon the retirement of Mrs. Thelma Baker before the 1969-1970 school year, Mr. Leonard Bates filled the position of Director of Elementary Education for Putnam City Schools. As only his qualifications can demonstrate, Mr. Bates was well suited for the job.

A graduate of East Central State College, Mr. Bates received his Masters in Elementary Administration from Oklahoma University and had completed 32 hours of post graduate work. Before his position here, Mr. Bates was an elementary school teacher in both Ardmore, Oklahoma and Artesia, New Mexico. Seven years ago he served as elementary teacher and principal in Moore, Oklahoma.

Aside from teaching experience, Mr. Bates served two years as Director of a Youth Recreational Program in Artesia, New Mexico. Other positions included past Vice-President of Moore Education Association, past Secretary of Cleveland County School Masters and Chairman of Curriculum Committee that developed the social studies curriculum for the Moore Elementary Schools. In addition, Mr. Bates served on the State Holding Power Committee for two years representing the Department of Elementary School Principals.

Quite naturally, this record of qualifications was matched with numerous achievements. For instance, this was the first year kindergarten became integrated into the school system. Because no fee was charged, enrollment increased considerably. Moreover, many teachers went back to school to take courses in early childhood education in order to better teach these young children. While regular classrooms were used, larger facilities were projected.

Last year a new reading series was introduced into grades one through six, accompanied by workbooks entitled Discovery Books. One of the attractive features to the new series was the inclusion of a phonics program. It also employed the inquiry method, one designed to make children think. According to Mr. Bates, the advantage of this series was "encouraging children to read for enjoyment."

Another important innovation was the inclusion of typing at Central Intermediate to help develop the language art skills. Since this was such a successful addition, the class has been attached to the regular summer curriculum. It was not until two years ago that summer school sessions were held at the elementary level. To date, those schools include Western Oaks, Tulakes, D.D. Kirkland, Central Elementary and Windsor Hills.

Perhaps the most important achievement in Mr. Bates position as Director of Elementary Education was the construction of the new Apollo Elementary School. This project introduced the concept of education in a one room school building on a larger scale. The children were in their respective classes but allowed to rotate to a higher or lower level dependent on each student's specific needs. Although classes were only separated by book shelves, noise was kept down to a surprisingly low level.

One of the ideas Mr. Bates supported was team teaching. He felt that it "gives both the teachers and students variety and it brings out the teachers' strong abilities. Already it has been instituted at Lake Park and Tulakes Elementary.

Most definitely, Mr. Leonard Bates made some remarkable improvements in elementary education. Because the very beginning of a child's education is so important, Mr. Bates must surely be congratulated on his progressive programs.

Combining her abilities as a history teacher, club sponsor and social studies department head, Mrs. Kathryne Sandlin became the co-ordinator of the Developmental Economic Education Program (DEEP).

The new program, that began with the elementary schools, was created to help teachers better understand basic economics.

Mrs. Sandlin, who has taught in the Putnam City District since 1959, divided her day by teaching three classes at PCHS in the morning and working at the Administration Building in the afternoon. She was working toward teaching a workshop in the spring, concerning in-service basic economics, to elementary school teachers as well as training thirty-five elementary and ten secondary school teachers during a summer program. The six week program lasting from May 31—July 9, has been designed to help teachers get acquainted with DEEP materials so they will be able to put them to use in the 1971-72 school year.

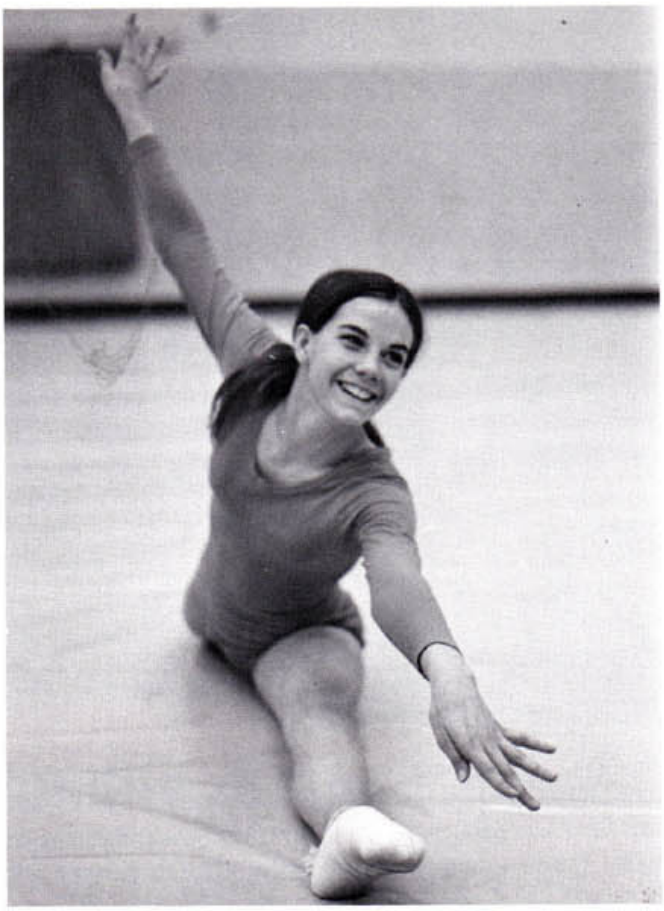
Backing Mrs. Sandlin will be several OSU economic specialists. This team will teach at the workshop and provide Mrs. Sandlin with whatever background help she needs. Working with her will be Dr. Clayton B. Millington, Professor of Economic Education, Executive Director, Oklahoma Council on Economic Education, and Director of the University Center for Economic Education; Professor Pauline Kopecky, Assistant Professor of Economics and Assistant Director of the University Center for Economic Education; Dr. Idella Lohmann, Professor of Education; Professor Lorraine H. Scheer, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Tulsa; Dr. Lawrence Senesh, Professor of Economics, University of Colorado; Dr. Rudolph W. Trenton, Professor of Economics.

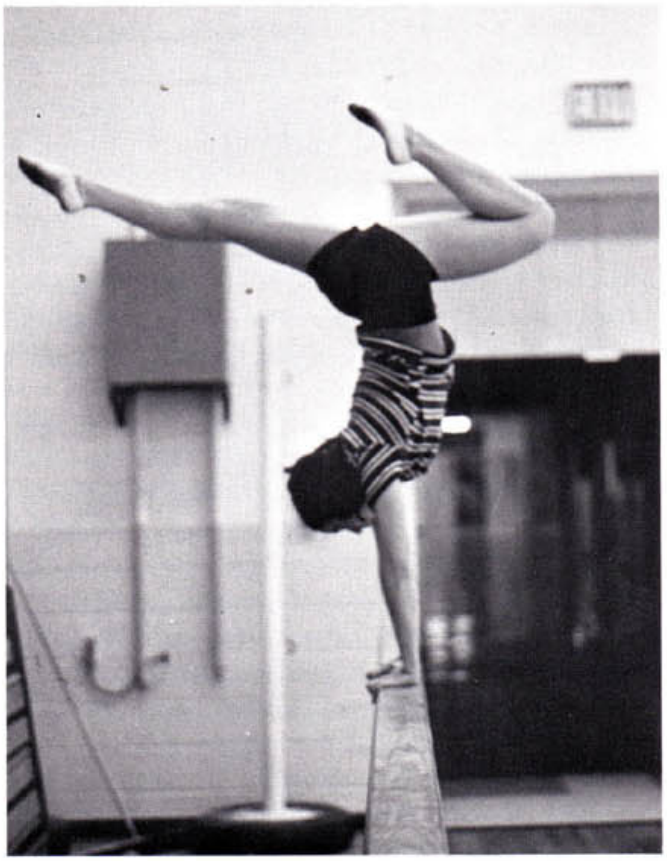
From the elementary level, the program will ultimately expand to include all Putnam City Schools.

"It is our hope to smoothly integrate economics into social studies classes at the junior and senior high level," stated Mrs. Sandlin. "There are too many young people who do not understand economic differences and DEEP was designed to do away with this economic illiteracy."

Other schools who have started this program have found it to be successful. The university staff will conduct classes for a few Putnam City students, and certain student teachers majoring in education from Oklahoma State University will include economics as part of their study plan.

"First graders will begin to learn the difference between the producer and the consumer and by the time they reach junior high level, they will be able to distinguish the basic economic differences between governments," proudly announced Mrs. Sandlin who optimistically looks forward to future developments.





Self-determination Long Hours, Lots of Tears Major Qualities of Gymnast

With a leap and a tumble, the Hi-Los, an Oklahoma City chapter of the Junior Olympics program, promoted physical fitness throughout Oklahoma City, with their center of gymnastic instruction being Putnam City Tulakes Elementary School.

The Hi-Lo Twisters began their fourth year at Tulakes under the supervision and guidance of Mrs. May Welin, Mr. Leon Nance and Mrs. Jess Ann McDowell. Although most of the practices were held at Tulakes, girls from all over the city were eligible to participate. In fact, the Southwest tumbling champion for five consecutive years was a student from Kerr Junior High School.

The Hi-Los, third in the Mid-America Conference which was composed of seven states, competed for national tumbling titles. Out of forty girls who won at the National Conference, all of the Hi-Lo "A" team girls placed in the top fifteen.

There were four events which all the girls must have mastered before they became a part of the team. These were the side horse vault, uneven parallel bars, balance beam and free exercise.

"The requirements include guts," explained Mrs. Welin. "There is a definite fear factor involved." (An example of this fear factor was two broken elbows sustained by members of the team while practicing on the parallel bars.) "It takes self-determination, long hours, some innate talent and lots of tears."

Mrs. Welin has been with Tulakes since it opened in 1967. Serving as the physical education teacher, she had a demanding schedule to fulfill, spending school hours instructing P.E. classes and after-school hours with the Hi-Los.

According to Mrs. Welin, it takes four years to "make" a gymnast. The beginner was taught the basic moves—a forward roll, a cartwheel and a walkover—and then progressed to aerials and hand-

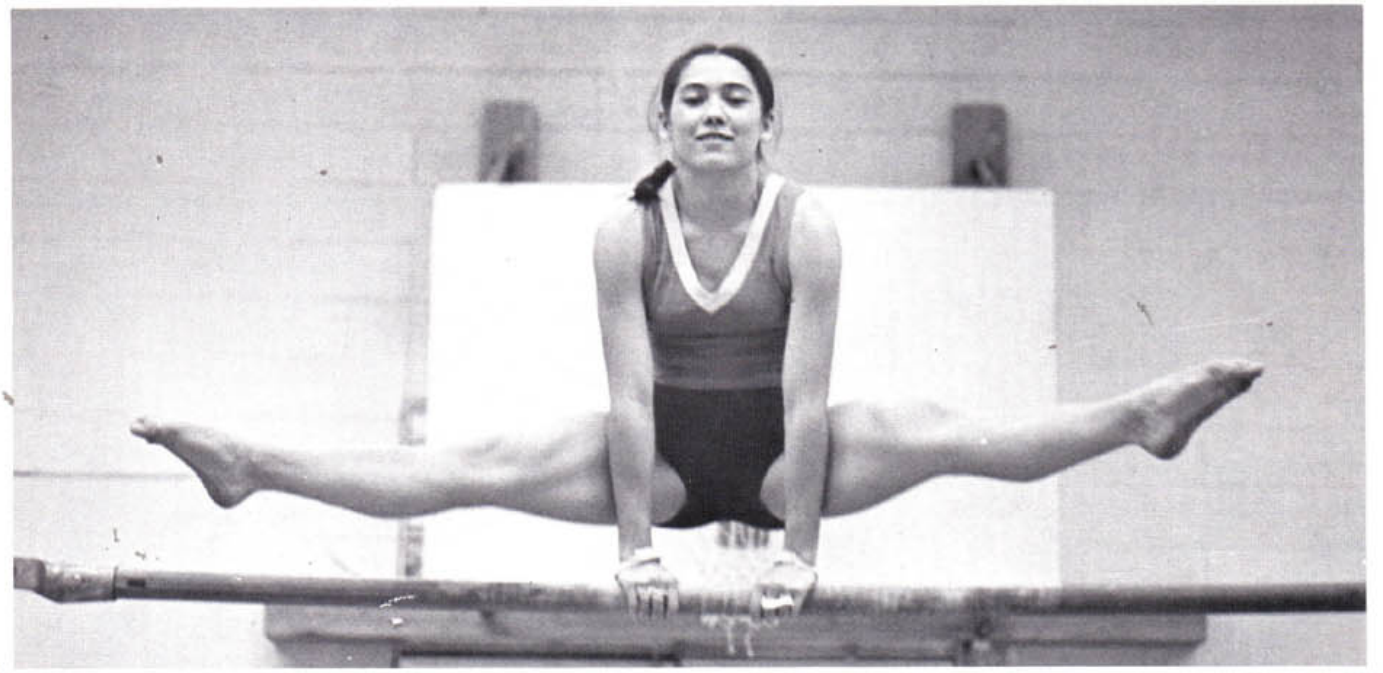
springs. In four years, the gymnast will be performing such feats as round-off fronts, full twisting back somersaults and alternates. The trampoline was used only as an aid.

There were sixteen members of the Hi-Los, eight on "A" team, and eight on the "B" team. Members of the "A" team were: Connie Leach, Del City; Colleen Sturiale, Kerr; Regina Bowers, Hefner; Ardyth Williams, Hefner; Jamie Sandlin, Hefner; Beverly Dees, Tulakes; and Carla Robinson, Tulakes Elementary.

Ranging from ages 7 through 11, the members of the "B" team were: Carol Schnorenberg, Tulakes; Leslie Whittington, Central Intermediate; Janet Harrington, Central Junior High; Deborah Hope, Tulakes; Mary Schumacher, Coronado; Michelle Sexton, Tulakes; Kim Reininger, Tulakes; Julie Scholz, Townsend Elementary; and Marell Latham, Prairie Queen Elementary.

"Everything you put into gymnastics, you get out of it," stated a member of the team. The rigorous practices which were required of the girls included back bends, front and back walkovers, vaulting, uneven parallel bars, floor exercises and basic ballet.

". . . Guts, self-determination, long hours, lots of tears. . ." These requirements have been more than met by the Hi-Los as they continue to further their gymnastic success which quite possibly could lead them into Olympic competition.



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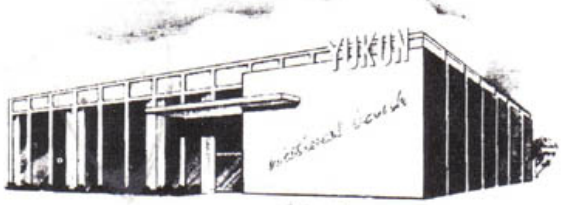

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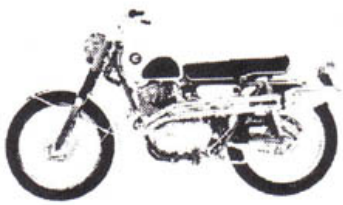

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West Continued To Upgrade Image Through Involvement

Computer was the word in the Putnam City School district this year. Putnam City West High School purchased an IBM 1130 computer from Bethany Nazarene College for use in recording grades, attendance and scheduling. Several of Putnam City West's students, as well as Putnam City's, were instructed in the uses of the machine and its programming.

Report cards, as they were known in previous years, were abandoned in favor of a quicker, easier and possibly more effective method of issuing semester and quarterly grades. Originally, a student received a grade card from each of his teachers. Under the new system, the grades were collected and recorded on a single IBM card given to the students in their homerooms. In addition to the usual citizenship grade, the new cards offered a further opportunity to indicate individual behavior in the form of a conduct code, ranging from a zero ("student is a pleasant individual who displays good attitudes") to a nine ("please contact teacher").

The computer proved itself quite flexible, being able to perform a variety of jobs. It was also used to help with attendance records. Teachers used it to average grades, and it shortened the process of scheduling. In the future, it may be used by the bookkeeping department.

Mrs. Ann Rorem's math seminar class at Putnam West studied computers under the direction of Mr. Dave McReynolds, director of data processing at Bethany Nazarene College. The students, Carolyn Crouse, Dan McCullar, Densel Meyers, Deborah Presher and Debbie Burrow were given a look at computers in a practical light; at its use in the world of today and tomorrow. The understanding and appreciation of these machines were major goals. Mr. McReynolds believed computers to be a very important part of life today and was greatly in favor of classes such as the one he instructed at Putnam City West.

The computer, new last year to Putnam City High School, was also engaged in various activities. Besides helping with attendance and grade recording, a math seminar class also had access to "Wendy", as the computer was affectionately called by the staff of secretaries at Putnam City.

Whether or not the new computer at Putnam City West was fondly remembered by a nickname, it was undeniable that the purchase of the computer was a much appreciated luxury from which many were able to benefit.

Drawing pads, easels, pencils, and paint were the artist's tools

Drawing pads, easels, pencils and paint were the tools of the Putnam City West art department, but the talents of the students carried them far beyond ordinary use.

Under the direction of Mrs. Carol Marshall, the PCW art department became involved in a variety of projects. Art students were primarily responsible for West's Christmas decorations. Armed with paint brushes and sponges, artists created elves, reindeer, angels and Santa Clauses on the spacious patio windows. Halloween festivities were brightened by the sale of hand painted masks at the Halloween Masquerade Festival.

The West commercial art class operated under conditions similar to working as a freelance commercial artist. The teachers acted as clients and submitted their requirements and came up with some unique designs. Posters created and produced by the department added color to the halls. They arranged chorus program covers that were printed by students using the silk screen method.

Seven-Eleven stores had their Christmas store banners designed by a Patriot. Each student drew up a sample banner and the results were submitted to the head office. One sample was selected, reproduced and distributed for use throughout Oklahoma City. The winner, Susan Meyers, received a $25 award.

In addition to the commercial art class, the advanced PCW student was offered classes in painting, sculpture and interior decorating. Visits to model homes and furniture stores helped students to create vivid and new decorating ideas. Their main project of the year was to create a model floor plan of a house complete with furnishings. These "houses" were created from carpet scraps and model furniture.

Awards won by West's art students have given a new light of recognition to the Patriots. During the 1969-70 school year, nine Patriots were accepted in the Red Ridge Drawing Festival and three received awards of honorable mention.

In the Central State Art Exhibition, Patriot "Van Goghs" received four first place awards, three second places and one third. With the winning of these awards, PC West won first place in high school art. Each year West has been represented in the "Young Talent of Oklahoma" show at the Oklahoma City Art Center.

PCW's art department didn't exclude the beginning artist. With teachers Mrs. Louise Carter and Mrs. Linda Rogers, the beginning artist received instruction on the basic elements of art.

The addition last year of an Arts and Crafts class provided the starting block for many a student's instruction in art. They were allowed to express themselves in almost all media, including clay modeling and using a potter's wheel.

Drawing pads, easels, pencils and paint: the materials that worked together with PC West art students and helped them create pieces of vivid, alive works of art.

More and more students cry for relevance in their studies every day. The Earth Club and Student Forum at West were trying to fill the need for relevance.

The Student Forum, formerly the World Affairs Club, provided students and teachers with a chance to get together and openly discuss the problems facing society. The group was sponsored by Mrs. Mary Olinger, PCW history and government teacher. "Hopefully," says Mrs. Olinger, "the Student Forum will enhance a greater communication among students of varying viewpoints and create an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding."

The Student Forum often combined food and politics in "pot-luck suppers" held at members' houses. Mrs. Olinger believed that such a relaxed atmosphere "gave students the opportunity to see teachers as they really were."

Last April 22, millions of Americans brought the problems of pollution to the national spotlight. Students felt one day of awareness was not enough. . .and thus the PCW Earth Club was born.

The club, with about fifty members, was sponsored by Mr. Robert Anderson and Mrs. Linda Gipson. Their first project was a trash cleanup at Lake Overholser. Since then, the club has provided bird feeders in the PCW area, written an ecology handbook for housewives which described the pollutant content of various detergents and sponsored a booth at Shepherd Mall from which they handed out information on "Clean Air".

Nationwide fame was brought to the Patriots by Alan Axworthy and Ken Pigg's participation in the "Clean Air Car Race" sponsored by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The race, which ran from Cambridge, Massachusetts to Pasadena, California, was driven in a 1970 Opel GT provided by Corken Pump Company, which they converted to run on natural gas. The boys were motivated by Alan's father, an ecology enthusiast and an employee of Corken Pump Company. Although the boy's took 26th place out of the 66 cars in the race, they felt that their purpose of bringing attention to the importance of ecology was attained, if only for the few weeks the race lasted.

The "E-Club" used donated funds and the money they earned to plant flowers and trees around the school.

"Anyone can make a contribution to the Earth Club," stated Mr. Anderson. "I would like to see it make the Putnam City West patrons aware of what they can do as individuals to preserve our environment."

"We hope to deal with problems which are probably more relevant to our times and have received more national attention than many of the other current problems facing us."

Relevance in today's world took on a new meaning at Putnam City West. Through student, teacher and patron involvement, a movement was started with the hope that relevance would spread throughout the nation.

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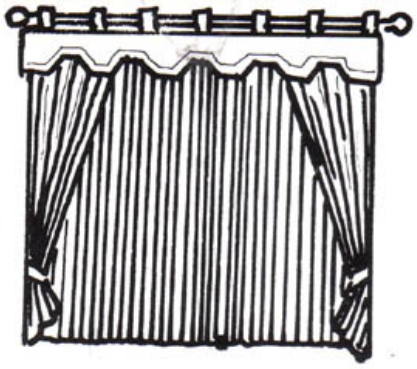

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Boundaries of District Extended to State by Pirate Aviation Crew

The sky was the limit for the Putnam City High School Pirates who extended their boundaries from the 47 square miles of the school district to the 69,909 square miles of the state.

For the first time in PC history, students who expressed a wish to learn about the aviation world were given a chance. Sixty-two people were enrolled in two classes taught by Mr. Robert Carter. The only prerequisites were that the student be a senior and have had geometry. The applicants were chosen on the basis of their ability to do the work required.

The fearless sixty-two flew four times and gained approximately three hours flight time. The first three flights were orientation rides, lasting twenty minutes a piece. They helped the future pilots to gain air experience, study the complex instruments and to learn the principals of radio navigation. The fourth flight was a two hour navigation ride consisting of three parts. The flight which began at Wiley Post Airport went from Oklahoma City to Stillwater and Seminole and then back to the airport. Tulakes Aviation provided the aircraft (a Cessna 172) and Mr. Blackie Whittington, a flight instructor for Tulakes, who piloted the plane.

Early in the year, Mr. Bill Grant, from the Federal Aviation Administration visited the class. Mr. Grant was a "white hat" safety inspector. He acquired the nickname by helping to stop aircraft accidents before they happened. Mr. Grant made two visits to the classes: the first was a talk on safety in aviation and the second brought the "vertigo chair". The "vertigo chair" was a swivel chair used to simulate disorientation, a phenomenon which occurs when a pilot can not see any terrain features to show him whether or not he is on course. The chair had a hood that fit over the eyes so that the occupant could not see any outside light. When the "pilot" was seated in the chair, he was slowly spun around and then stopped without knowing it. When asked to indicate which direction he was moving, he insisted his direction had not changed; the "vertigo chair" really threw the class for a loop.

The future pilots viewed films provided by the F.A.A., which dealt with instrument flying, navigation, weather and radio use. Students visited the F.A.A., Tinker Air Force Base, the Flight Service Station at Wiley Post Airport, the Wiley Post Tower and North American Rockwell Company to

investigate other aspects of flying.

Many of the students were considering continuation of their education in the aviation field, while others seemed to feel that the course aided them in understanding the economic condition of the country and aviation's effect on it.

Several students took the course to help them obtain the coveted private pilot's rating, but most of the sixty-two members took aviation just to learn something about flying. Trena Harrington and Ted Winneberger had already received their private pilot's license. Brent Oldland and Kent Blessing took private lessons along with their class training.

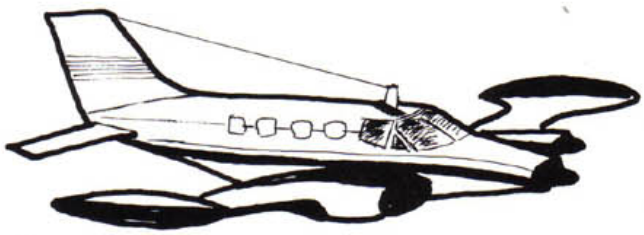
Class discussions helped the students to better understand the importance of airplane safety. One such discussion concerned the plane crash involving the Wichita State football team which occurred this past year. First, the students studied information they could obtain concerning the crash. After discussing the possibilities for the accident, the class decided that the Martin 404 was either overloaded or had stalled while attempting to fly through a pass. Later, F.A.A. reports reflected that the students were "on the beam" in their discussions.

The study of instruments and flight theory took up much of the class time during the first nine-week period. The Pirate pilots learned radio procedures and the frequencies needed to gain entry into most airports in the country.

The second nine weeks were spent studying navigation and meteorology. The class learned to handle equipment necessary to navigate and find landmarks from the air. They spent most of their class time working out navigational problems.

Second semester brought new ideas about aviation. Students learned the history of the airplane and touched up their newly acquired navigational skills.

Aviation proved to be an enjoyable course for the sixty-two students enrolled. Instead of a dreaded fear for some, flying became a challenge and students looked forward to each class hour. Pride became an obvious feature in the faces of the Pirate pilots and dedication was quick to show as one student enthusiastically exclaimed, "Today the school district—tomorrow, the world!"



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