

# THE TOWER

John Adams High School 808 S. Twyckenham Drive  
South Bend, IN 46615

## Mumps epidemic strikes South Bend high schools

by Scott Scheel

Adams high school seems to be the center of a continuing mumps epidemic in South Bend. Student after student goes home complaining of an earache or pain when he chews and then does not return for two weeks. Epidemic Parotitis, otherwise known as the mumps, has struck again.

Nobody is safe from the mumps. All of those reasons people use why they will not get the mumps usually turn out to be famous last words. "I won't get the mumps. I never get sick," or "I won't get them. I take vitamin C everyday," or "I won't get them. I had the vaccination," or finally, "I won't get them I already had them once."

If you think these sound like legitimate excuses, you are definitely not alone. In fact, my last words before hitting the couch for two weeks were "I won't get them." I had the vaccination, and Jennifer Crosson drinks all of the orange juice she can, but that would not keep her from getting the disease. Most people will only get the mumps once, but my mother just came down with them for the third time. Rest assured though, I asked County Health Officer Dr. George Plain, if there was any way to definitely avoid getting the mumps.

"Absolutely," he replied. "Lock yourself in a closet on the South Pole."

So why waste precious time and money on the mumps vaccination if you can still get the mumps? The answer is simple. If you don't have a vaccination and you are exposed then you have over a 90% chance of getting them. If you have the vaccination there is only a five

percent chance.

"The worst part about it was trying to eat," says senior Gary Giger, "When I tried to chew, my glands would hurt tremendously." This pain is one of the early symptoms which can be detected easily (too easily).

"If you think you have the mumps try eating a dill pickle," says science department head John Shanley. "If you finish it you don't have the mumps." This is because the crunchiness and sourness of a dill pickle would cause intense pain.

Other early symptoms to look for include earaches. This may be the earliest symptom, sometimes coming two days before any other symptoms. The problem with this, however, is that not every earache is the mumps and not every case of the mumps causes an earache.

The only sure way of finding out if you have the mumps is to feel a certain spot behind the ear. If you do not know where it is, ask a doctor or someone who had the mumps. "Ever since I was exposed, I have started checking the spot each morning when I wake up," says senior Liz Panzica.

If you do get the mumps, early detection is important. When you get them, grab a good book and T.V. guide and head for the nearest comfortable couch and stay there for at least ten days. Waiting too long to get there or getting up too soon may cause complications such as orchitis.

Also remember you are contagious 2 days before you get them and 9 days after, so don't give them to someone else.

## Vocational tech may lengthen school day

by Ida Primus

In the future, South Bend highschool students may be able to take advanced fine arts, language, and vocational courses at a central magnet school. The school day could be changed to seven hours to prevent scheduling problems which would be caused by the centralized courses.

According to Mr. Lennon, a member of the School Board, students who attended classes at the centralized high school would spend most of their day at their regular high school and then attend the magnet school for 2 or 3 hours. They would graduate from their local high school, not the centralized school.

The plan was submitted by Jonetta Hudson, assistant superintendent for secondary education, and Vincent Feck, vocational education director. Board members will accept or reject the plan this month.

According to the *South Bend Tribune*, Hudson also suggested that the school day be lengthened to seven hours. Going back and forth between schools, she explained, would create certain scheduling problems and a seventh hour would give students a chance to take the electives they want.

Facility studies are being done to decide where the centralized school should be located. The program may be located in Brown school which was closed during redistricting. Other options include renovating Central high school or building a school especially for the program.

One of the problems with using an already-existing school which has been closed is that they were built for other purposes and may not be suitable for vocational courses. Also many of the closed schools may again be needed for elementary or middle schools.

"There is a terrific need for a vocational highschool," said Carol Lefler, secretary of the school board. Mrs. Lefler pointed out that about 50% of South Bend public highschool students do not continue onto college. The vocational classes would offer training in cosmetology, computer programming, mechanics, and other fields.

Mrs. Lefler stressed that the schools already have vocational courses. "There are some wonderful things in the highschools at present," she said, "but this will be a more concentrated effort." Mrs. Lefler would prefer to see the centralized school offer only vocational courses at first, and perhaps more courses later.

Don't get caught

behind the times, Turn to

page 3 for the latest

sports fads.

## What's News

### Employee of the year

Marilyn J. Housemeyer, secretary of Mr. Przybysz, has been selected as the South Bend Association of Educational Office Personnel's candidate for the 1987 "Office Employee of the Year Award." This award is sponsored by the Indiana Association of Educational Secretaries. The state selection of this award will be February 15th.

### Cartoonists needed

The Next Generation Page is in need of student-drawn cartoons. The cartoons do not need to accompany articles, but they must be original compositions.

Students should sign their work and submit it to Mrs. Maza in room 217.

### No school

No classes will be held next Friday, February 20. School will resume normally the following Monday, February 23.

### SAT course

An SAT preparation course will meet at Adams on Mondays from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. from March 2 to May 11. The cost is \$45. Interested students should sign up at the bookstore.

### Presidents' Day

Schools will be closed on Monday, Feb. 16 for President's Day.

### Project T.E.A.C.H.

The *Tower* regrets an error in last issue's article on Project Teach. The Indiana School Teacher's Association was named as the sponsor of Project Teach. The actual sponsor is the Community Education Round Table.

### Semi-formal

The semi-formal dance will be held Saturday, February 28, at Erskine Country Club. Tickets are on sale for \$10 per couple or \$5 for single tickets. Tickets can be purchased from Mr. Szucs, Mr. Panos, or student government members.



Mr. Aronson assumes his post, guarding the entrance to room 126. He will celebrate his 71st birthday on Feb. 14. In commemoration of this event, no classes will be held on the 14th. Happy Birthday, Mr. Aronson.

Tricia Davis/Tower



# Will Weeble Wobbles wilt in the attic?

by Lisa Primus

There I was, fifteen years old, a sophomore, sitting on the floor building a tower with Tinker Toys.

My sister and I had been cleaning out our attic which had functioned as a playroom when we were younger. We had hoped to divide everything into three groups: a large throw-out group, a larger give-away group, and a small keep group. One look at the mess in our attic told me it would not be easy.

Our first target was a stack of stuffed animals, dogs, rabbits, snakes, and even an owl. My sister casually picked up a dog and tossed it into the garbage. I screamed.

"You can't throw that away!" I protested. I had almost forgotten it existed, but I knew that I had loved it once.

"Why not?" she asked. "You don't even remember its name. Besides, it's missing an ear. We can't give it away."

I gave up, feeling like I had just lost a friend. I managed to save my snake (I even remembered its name.), and convinced my severely annoyed sister that we should wait to sort out the animals.

Next came the educational games. Sorting out the letters I used to learn to spell, I decided that they were much more fun, and much less expensive, than the computers advertised to teach

kids today. I could spell "milk" just as well as any child of the eighties, but I never had a flashing light and a beep on a \$1500 Apple 2 plus (plus what I'll never know) to tell me that. I just put my magnets into cardboard sheets with holes. If they fit, I was right.

Then we prepared ourselves to tackle the "imagination toys," that every kid our age grew up with; the toys with no slot A for flap B and no "batteries not included."

First the building blocks - not the cheap plastic things. These were real wood blocks. Some were decorated with letters, others just one color, others not painted at all. What mattered was that we could do anything we wanted with them. We used to build towers with them, and houses, and zoos, and things that to this day I cannot identify.

I have several little cousins now, and I have seen them play with all sorts of toys, but I have never seen them use building blocks. They must have them. How can anyone have "Hungry Hippos" and no building blocks? They just don't appreciate the blocks the way we did.

Then the Weeble Wobbles. Who can forget the little egg-shaped figures that wobble? We have the boat and some playground equipment for them, and I can remember spending hours making them climb up and slide down the slide, hoping they would fall over. Do kids today know what they are?

And the Tinker Toys! It was impossible for me to put them down. I just kept pushing the flags into the sticks and the sticks into the wheels like I did when I was six.

Fisher-Price pieces showed up everywhere. We have the airport, the city, and even some Sesame Street characters. The people didn't talk or walk, but we didn't care. We would make them climb stairs, and drive cars, and mail letters, and we would use building blocks to give them new, exciting places to go.

Last, but not least, were the Leggos. I was never good with Leggos. I always made my cars lopsided, and my roofs always fell, but I loved the little things anyway. Leggos were part of America, and I am glad to see that they have survived. I guess today's six-year-olds have some taste.

My sister and I looked around the attic. I sighed, knowing that many of these memories had to go. Somewhere, some kid would love to have them. I hope whoever gets my brother's Fisher Price airplane wasn't waiting for a Gobot action figure or a doll that burps.

I wonder what my parents think of my toys, and what the kids of the eighties will think of the toys of the nineties. Will my kids know what Tinker Toys are? Things always change. That's what makes life interesting, but somehow I feel better knowing that my Weeble Wobbles still don't fall down.

## Drama club is on the move

by Sharna Chapman

Drama club is on the move! For years, people have regarded Drama Club as nothing more than a group of people who got together, played games during activity periods, and put on two productions a year - a fall play and a spring musical. No more. This year Drama Club has taken off, despite the smaller membership and the after-school activity periods.

In November, they put on the highly successful production of *Meet Me in St. Louis* performing for a full house both nights. As performing for a full house both nights, it was the best attendance in recent years for the fall play.

They recently finished a series of one-acts, one of which was chosen to go to the Thespian Mini-Conference on January 31 at

the Century Center. The plays, "Personal Effects," "Jurvie," "Mirrors," and "Present Tense" were then performed for the public on February 5 and 6. And that's not all!

During the third week of February they will be inducting new Thespians. The old point system was thrown out, and a new one was brought in, allowing for a complete Drama Club renovation.

In March the Drama Club will be attending a Peacemaker's Conference at St. Marys. They will perform another one-act play called "Us and Them."

On May 8, 9, and 10, the Drama Club will attend the State Conference in Columbus, Indiana. Hopefully, they will be taking a one-act play down state, if they win a place at the Mini-Conference. Whether they do or not,

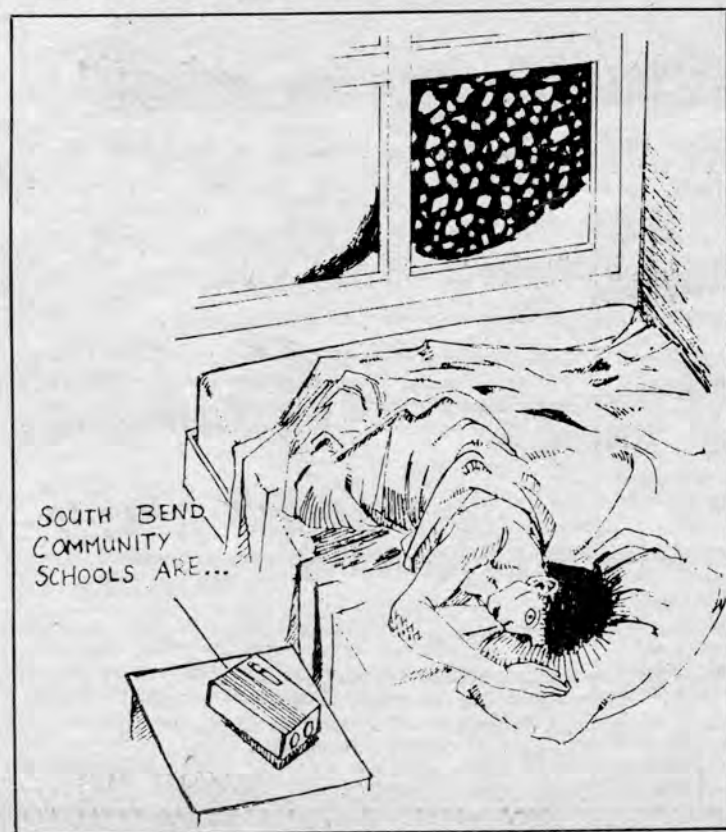
the State Conference should be an unforgettable experience, one that will provide the club with excellent ideas and valuable training.

Another new idea that will be enstated this year is the spring musical. The vocal, orchestra, and drama departments are joining forces and producing their own musical - a combined show. A date has not been set yet.

And finally, after years of eager anticipation and countless promises from former vice-president Tim Ehlers, the Drama Club is taking a "field trip." The week after school lets out, the John Adams Drama Club is taking a trip to New York City. They will be there for a week, sight-seeing and watching Broadway musicals and plays. They still need people to fill the trip, and just as an afterword, there is no curfew!



The drama club puts on a serious face as they get down to serious business. Gabrielle Mickels/Tower



## South Bend schools are...

by Marc Conklin

The snow day. An interesting behavioral phenomenon. It always begins with a rumor from Dick Addis the day before. Eight to thirty inches of snow will hopefully visit during the night and lend a white blanket of comfort to weary students everywhere.

During the day, a low murmur of excitement rises between classes. Cynics attempt to spoil the moment by spouting their distrust in the weatherman, but the optimists overrule by daydreaming of the many beneficial opportunities brought forth by the snow. Plans are made, homework is lessened in the mind, everybody departs with hope in his mind and a smile on his face.

Happiness is tested at the home. Parents warn against having faith in the spontaneous holiday. Nevertheless, homework is done half-heartedly, and the

usual pressure of a school night eases.

When bedtime comes, the waiting begins. The clock radio is set, and time takes over. The mind flashes back to the blizzard of '78; winds 52 miles per hour... Temperature eight degrees Fahrenheit... Total snow accumulation forty-one inches...

When morning arrives, reality creeps back. It is remembered that the ultimate decision comes from someone who is hired to ignore the educational benefits of the snow day. And the actual words, "South Bend Community Schools are..." will come from a ruthless disc jockey who will play many bad songs before announcing the verdict from downtown.

Stubbornness sets in. A vow is made to stay under the covers until school is definitely announced to be open. Why should one begin to prepare for school, if there is the chance of it being cancelled?

Suddenly, the music stops, the scroll is unravelled, and the list

begins. There is hope - Bingo at churches all over the city is being cancelled. The wait seems forever. The disc jockey seems to have started with schools in Tennessee and worked his way up. Finally it comes, "South Bend Community Schools are..." The DJ pauses to produce emotional strain...what a jerk.

Of course, the answer is many times "open" and many times "closed." If "open" is the answer, a great burden seems to suddenly fall back into the body. And there is jealousy. Just why do the schools out in the boonies get all the luck? The day at school is exceptionally depressing. The lost opportunity has lessened the desire to be at school to almost zero, and even the teachers look as if they would rather be somewhere else.

Contrasted to this is the inspiration caused by the word "closed." It puts a temporary end to a regular life ritual. It seems that this is the formula for instant happiness: just add snow.



# Unexpected turn-around for Swimmers

by Mike Komarsinski

This year's boy's swim team finished this year with a 7-6 record. This is the first winning season in over eight years for the Eagles. After posting a 2-11 slate last year, and with not much talent back, a winning season was most unexpected. Co-captain P.H. Mullen said, "I never expected anything like this in my wildest dreams, it's just been incredible."

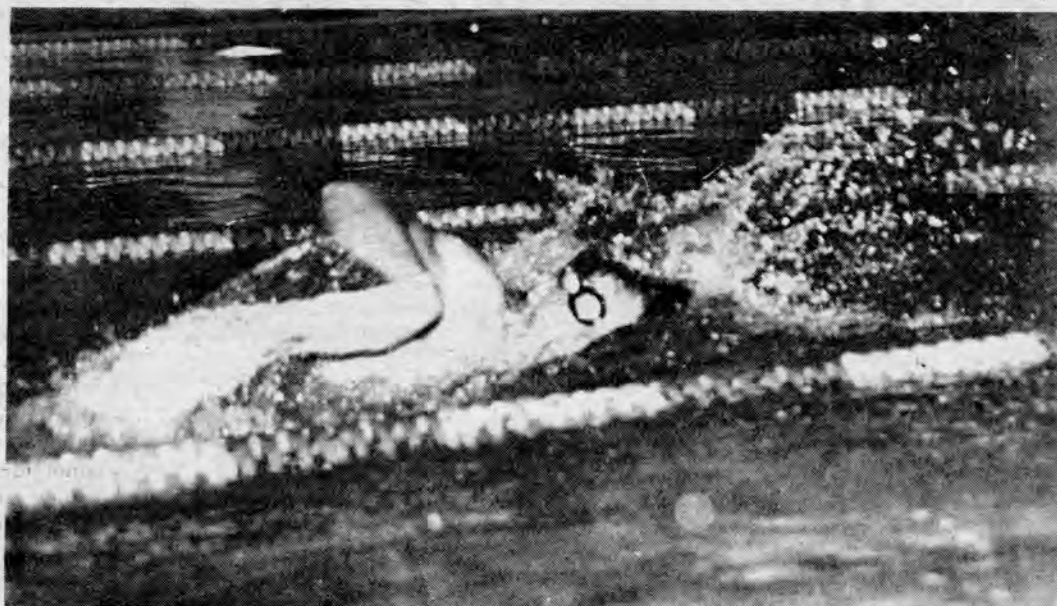
This unexpected turn-around has been largely due to the efforts of first year coach Mike Dobrovic. According to team members, he is the soul for the success of the team this year. Co-captain Jeff Terlep said, "If he doesn't get 'Coach of the year' in this area, it'll be some kind of crime." His success has come mostly from the atmosphere he has managed to create around the team. According to the third and final Co-captain, Larry Piser, "He has created a real family atmosphere around the team; we all concentrate on winning as a team now, not as individuals." A good indication of the initiative Dobrovic has installed shows in the morning practices. For first year swimmers, morning practices at 5:00 are optional; however, under Dobrovic almost all the first-year swimmers show

up. "They just want to get better," said Jeff Gramza.

Part of the reason for this year's city runner-up showing has been that the team hasn't lost any of the "close ones" get away. Goshen and LaSalle which were supposed to be close meets ended up blowouts for the Eagles. The swimmers who have driven to this mark are: P.H. Mullen in the 200 and 500; Jeff Terlep in the 100 free and 100 back; Steve Jones in the 500 and IM; Andy Lammers in the IM and 500; Paul Ford in the 100 and 200 free; Jeff Gramza in the 50 and 100 free; Tom Olson in 200 and 500 free; and Rusty Cobb and Larry Piser in diving.

With the season over, the swimmers turn their attention to the state finals. P.H. Mullen and Larry Piser, who are state veterans, will most likely return, while Rusty Cobb and the 400 relay team consisting of Mullen, Terlep, Ford and Gramza have an outside chance at going to the finals this year.

In order to reach the state finals in swimming, a first must be achieved in the sectional. These swimmers are then sent to the state finals. After that, the IHSAA (Indiana High School Athletic Association) posts a cut-off time and the next swimmers who posted times better than the cutoff berths go to



Senior, Jeff Terlep, diligently puts in his early morning practice time at the Adams' pool. With the arrival of coach Mike Dobrovic the Eagles have finished their season with a 7-6 record, a great improvement over last year's record.

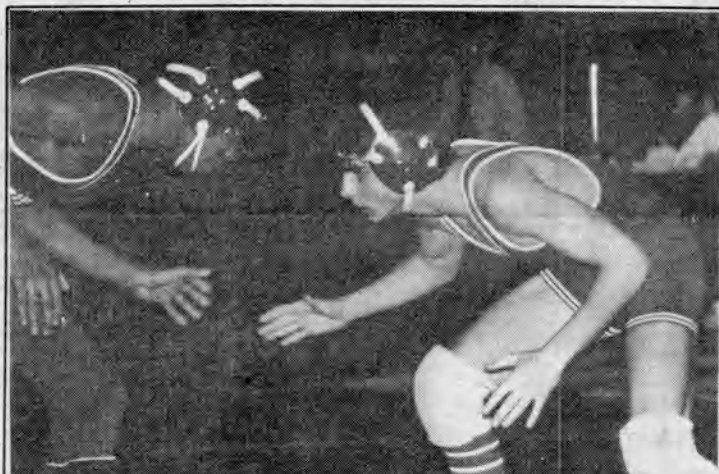
Steve Hartman/Tower

the state finals. If 32 swimmers do not have times better than the cut-off, the next fastest swimmers will be taken until 32 swimmers are assembled. In diving the selection is less complicated. The top 3 divers in each sectional go to

state.

Stroke for stroke this year's swim team will be one to remember. On a team where not much was expected they, with the help of a great coach, rose above their questions and doubts to post

the first winning season in a long time. Hopefully, this will lay a solid foundation for the years to come, and younger team members can enjoy the spirit of winning they have tasted this year.



Steve Hartman/Tower

Co-captain Martin McNarney warily eyes his Penn opponent during Sectional competition. Martin was one of the few bright spots of the Adams team this season. After losing to the Penn wrestler, he concluded his 15-10-1 record by pinning his Riley opponent.

## Sports Fashion changes

by Gabrielle Mickels

Starting out as the basic safety apparel, and progressing on to a \$20 headband, or name brand shoelaces, sports fashions have slowly increased in popularity.

It used to take a pair of shorts and a t-shirt to complete the sports advocate's uniform. As long as it was safe, comfortable, had sufficient mobility, and could keep the athlete cool, it was the perfect uniform. Little did he know, he would soon fall prey to the country's growing obsession with sport's fashion; the right name on his tennis shoe, or the new brand on his shorts.

A visit to a local sports store, like "Browns," or "Action Sports," can exhibit the varying sports apparel available to the sports player and his pocketbook. A glance to the left, reveals

"Nike" shorts and tees, "rugby" shirts, "Adidas" sweatshirts, "New Balance" running singlets, and many other styles and brand names. As the buyer might progress through the store, he is tempted with hundreds of shoes; soccer shoes, baseball shoes, golf, bowling, running, football and many other types and names of shoes. But which to choose? Maybe it was easier back when there was only one kind?

Sport's fashion has even brought out those who never would have considered themselves sports-minded. For instance, when the movie, "Flashdance" came out, everyone was running out to the stores to buy body suits cut up to the thigh headbands, ripped up tee-shirts, and leg warmers, imitating their aerobic idols, like Jane Fonda,

and even Jennifer Beals of "Flashdance."

Exceeding the playing field, sports fashions make their way to daily wear. Take a look around, and a glance can catch a pair of old running shoes, too old to practice in, but just right to wear with a pair of blue jeans, an old baseball jersey, ripped at the elbows, reminiscent of that slide into second base, or even those old soccer shoes, laces untied, daring the wearer to ever play again.

Though sport's fashions have slowly increased through the years, that doesn't mean less impact has been placed on the sport itself. A new uniform or pair of brand new cleats can give the athlete that extra edge needed to push them to new heights of performance, and win that fateful game.

## Indoor Soccer brings new excitement to the winter months

by Sarah Friend

Can you recall the days when "indoor soccer" meant kicking an overgrown tennis ball around a basketball court? Well, 1987 is upon us, and with it has come a new soccer arena at Turners which is quite incredible. This newly constructed building is a spacious, well lit, cleanly inviting atmosphere perfect for the highly action packed game it houses. A sleek white wall encloses the hockey style arena, and astroturf has replaced the wooden floors of the past. Clear lighting has been installed to replace the old dim yellowish haze. No longer do spectators have to fight for a tiny corner allowing minimum visibility, for upper and lower viewing areas are provided.

Indoor soccer is a game much quicker and more

controlled than outdoor. Where size can be an advantage outdoors, big kicks and powering the ball have no place indoors. Instead, finesse and ball control are the keys to success. Quickness is also very important, for the quick movement of the ball off the wall and on the astroturf speeds the game greatly. The thrill of scoring is also always close at hand for the constant offensive drive is a major thrust in the enclosed area. "You get tired really fast because you are constantly sprinting. It's a lot more intense," says Coley Cook.

For several reasons indoor soccer has become incredibly popular this year. People who have never touched a soccer ball before in their life are out just for the thrills of the fast paced, action packed game. Part of

the appeal is the excitement the game itself has to offer, while many people are going out just to experience playing on such an advanced floor. Marta Roemer who was stunned at the awesome arena said, "I wasn't planning to go out, until I saw how nice it was."

Not only is the new soccer arena helping to get new players involved in the program, it is also providing serious players a chance to play almost year-round on a floor quite comparable to an actual outdoor field. Charlie Wilkenson, the man in charge of the construction of the arena feels the new facility will have a tremendous effect on area soccer. "After playing in here all winter, the players are going to be in terrific shape for the spring," he says.



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## Editor's Column

## Quality should come before quantity

by Paula Makris

During the last few years, Governor Robert Orr has attempted to improve the quality of Education in Indiana, starting with his Project Primetime in 1982. Primetime focused on second and third-grade classes, its goal, as the name suggests, to improve the quality of time spent in the classroom. In order to do this, class sizes were reduced to 18 in kindergarten and first grades, and to 20 in second and third-grades. Individual help was made more available in the form of an increased number of teacher aides. A study of Primetime by the IU School of Education suggests that "significant" gains exist in reading and math skills.

Now the governor, flushed, perhaps, with his first

projects apparent success, has decided that further improvements are needed in the entire school system and has consequently made several rather controversial proposals, including a tax increase and a 10-day extension to the school year. Orr is not far off in determining that the public high school student could be getting a better education, but taking on a few extra days and hoping, in the process, to improve students' performance, is a simplistic approach to a complex problem.

Instead of adding more time, a good first step would be to realize that the schools could make better use of the time that already exists. A project based on the goals of Primetime might work well in the upper grades. Smaller class sizes would give students more of the individual

help they need.

If this proves to be too difficult, an equally effective method would be to structure all classes, not just English, Math and Science, on varying levels according to ability. This would insure individual needs were met; those of students who need extra help as well as those of students who need new challenges. Keeping students of such differing ability in the same classroom only slows the progress of the entire class.

In short, the schools should first look to the time spent in the classroom now and make necessary improvements before adding 10 days of what could amount to wasted time anyway. This should be a question of quality before this a question of quantity. Only when the former is resolved, should the latter be considered.

## "Brotherhood" lacks creativity

by Kathy Strieder

New Order has made another contribution to the pile of synthopop accumulating in American and European record stores and collections. "Brotherhood," their most recent release, is full of bouncy, believable dance tracks that will fair well on the nightclub circuit if not in the discriminating listener's headphones. Not much else can be said, however, for this group hailing from Manchester, England's latest recording.

The album opens hopefully enough with "Paradise," a hauntingly muted track that makes skillful use of New Order's hushed vocals and rhythm machines. Their best and most famous trait is that of their

computerized-funk percussion, and although it is distributed generously throughout "Brotherhood," it jars noticeably with the keyboards and guitars.

After listening to a few of the songs on the album, New Order begins to dull the listener's ear. Too often the same rhythms and melodies are rehashed into new songs with little creative initiative. Many of the ideas and techniques utilized on "Brotherhood" are merely reflections of the current poppy New-Wave-descendent mode.

The lyrics follow in the traditional post-New-Romantic style of lost and/or found love. "We got along like a house on fire/Until you told me you had to

go." Most of the well intended attempts at psychedelic imagery fall embarrassingly flat due to a lack of talent or training. Bernard Sumner allows some of the other members of the band a chance to share the vocal spotlight, offering some interesting diversity, but not enough to pull "Brotherhood" up off the floor.

"Brotherhood" is basically listenable. It has several well-mixed songs which promise New Order a respectable amount of success on the dance charts, the best example being the first release off the LP, "Bizarre Love Triangle." The rest of the album, however, falls flat, too clearly a synthopop carbon copy with a complete lack of creativity.

## IN MEMORIAM



Mrs. Frieda R. Fuchs

June 25, 1930 -

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