

Polish Constitution Day

by Karth Forsgard

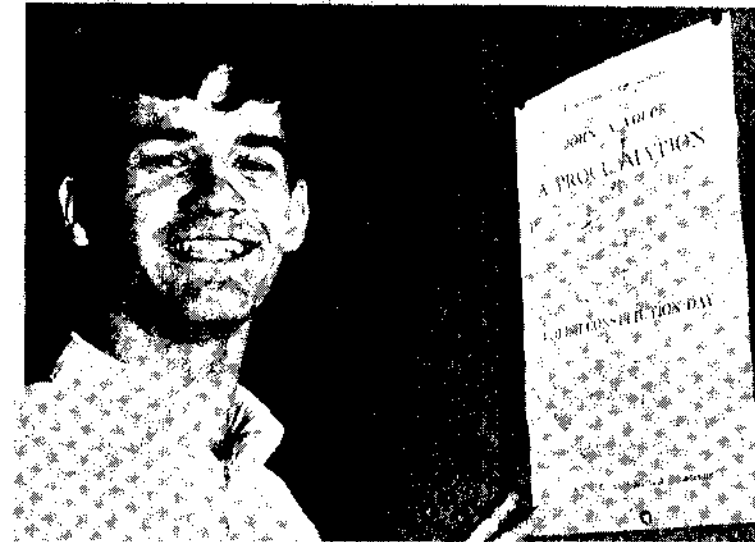
On May 3, 1791, Poland became the first European nation to adopt a democratic constitution very similar to our own. Their constitution proclaimed the rights of man, declared that the purpose of the government is to serve the people, allowed all Polish citizens to hold public office, prohibited serfdom and granted other essential freedoms.

Until the fateful September in 1939, when Nazi Germany invaded Poland, the anniversary of their constitution was celebrated every year, much like our Fourth of July. Now this holiday can no longer be observed in Poland; however, Polish people everywhere still remember their great patriots and their accomplishments on this day. We Americans should remember a

time when Poles stood beside us in our fight against tyranny and were inspired to become independent themselves.

To give our memories a little push, Governor John A. Volpe proclaimed May 3, 1968 as Polish Constitution Day and asked all citizens of the commonwealth to mark the 177th anniversary of the Polish Constitution with suitable ceremonies in schools and cities in order to keep in mind the "brave history and current tragic plight of Poland."

Fran Taginski, one of the more Polish students at PHS, reminds fellow classmates, "The United States is made up of many ethnic groups, and the Polish, who are just one of many, are inclined to be forgotten. Polish Constitution Day is one way to preserve their heritage and to honor the Polish people and their fight for freedom."



Fran Taginski flashes big smile as in General photographer catches him admiring poster proclaiming Polish Constitution Day.

Photo by Rodriguez

Teacher Poll Predicts . . .

by R. Carter Terenzini

In Miami, Florida the Republicans will nominate Nelson Rockefeller for the presidency. In Chicago it will be a bitter fight between Hubert Humphrey and Robert Kennedy. Or so says the recent teacher poll taken at PHS.

After the poll, conducted among the students, I was granted permission by Mr. Murphy to run a similar poll among the faculty. The student poll showed the definite attraction R.F.K. had for the youth. All the results of the student poll were refuted by the results of the teacher poll. In some cases the winner was different. In others the percentages changed radically. The teachers also expressed the belief that the students reflect the views of their parents. From the results I would have to differ. The interesting part of the teacher poll is that they are able to vote, yet the students are not.

Rocky won hands down in the GOP primary. RFK polled 37.3 per cent, HHH 35.3 per cent and McCarthy 23.9 per cent. Richard Nixon lost every contest in which he was involved. Even in the North, George Wallace had a definite effect. Eugene McCarthy was able to beat Reagan and Nixon but was beaten soundly by Nelson Rockefeller. Hubert Humphrey enjoyed comfortable margins until matched against Rocky when he was beaten by more than three to one. RFK had a similar situation. He was beaten by 10 per cent in his own state by Rocky. In this race Wallace polled an alarming 5.5 per cent.

If the results of this poll are valid, Nelson Rockefeller will be the next president of the United States. Many things remain to be seen. Many things . . .

The Means Is the End

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as the school's primary objective. All the rules, forms, paper work, and duties in the school system should merely be the means to the ideal end of dispensing knowledge. Everything exists for this main objective.

But even a quick look around the school, and almost any school will do — ours is not alone by any means — will make it apparent that most of these things exist for themselves. As long as all the rules of conduct and dress are enforced, as long as the teachers perform all their jobs such as corridor duty, as long as all the forms are made out, as long as all the paper work is done, as long as the administration operates efficiently, no one really cares what the students learn. It doesn't matter if the student sent home for wearing "non-permissible clothing" might be missing important school work. There's no reason to be concerned if the teacher is so busy carrying out all these extra things that he doesn't have time to prepare tomorrow's class — just as long as all the required work is completed. The only important thought in the classroom is that the class be "through" a prescribed amount of material, whether or not this material has been learned.

In other words, the means have become an end in themselves. As long as these administrative details are done well, no one really cares if they help in any way to attain the goal of imparting or aiding in the imparting of knowledge.

Certain rules, such as dress codes, seem to violate another basic principle of schools. The major fault with such legislation is that there is no apparent reason for it; or if such reasons exist, they have never been made public. While someone com-

ing to school nude might understandably disrupt the class, a boy in dungarees is hardly likely to have a similar effect. The rules seem completely arbitrary, without any logic behind them. Yet logic should be the very basis of learning! A person can be a student and president of the National Honor Society, but if he fails to see the relationship between the things he has learned — if he can not realize that 2+4 = 6 is the same as 4+2 = 6 — but must take each problem as an entirely new one, then he still has a pre-school mind.

Arbitrary rules, or what seems (for appearance makes all the difference) to be arbitrary, lead the student to believe that the basic foundation of the school is based on chaos. This not only condones, but emphatically encourages the development of the pre-school reasoning and defeats the very purpose of the school.

This, of course, assumes that knowledge is the primary goal. There is another concept of what a school should do, and this idea is much more widely accepted than most people would like to admit or believe. It is the simple theory that schools exist to keep children off the streets. Schools are merely elaborate baby-sitting facilities. If this is true, then all the arbitrary rules and work of the administration are justified. All that is essential is to keep the kids in line. Learning never enters into the picture.

But if it is true, think of all the waste of money! Think of all the administrative and secretarial workers who are on salary, not to mention the pay checks going to the teachers. The fantastic cost of schools could be cut considerably by eliminating all the needless personnel and merely hiring a large number of baby-sitters at seventy-five cents an hour.

Baseball Team Shoots For Berkshire Title

by Matt Bushey

With their backs to the wall, the highly-rated Pittsfield High baseball team is entering the second half of its season. Unexpected losses to St. Joseph's (P) and Wahconah have hurt the record, but this team is far from being counted out. The unfortunate injury to Frank Shultz was a definite factor in both losses. At the time of his injury, Frank was leading the team in RBIs and was second in average. In both defeats, a single hit at the right moment could have changed everything. As it turned



Ricky Russo makes a long stretch to retire opposing player.

out, the hits never came, but the Generals are eagerly awaiting their next chance. Leadership, versatility, depth and balance characterize the baseball team. Enough cannot be said about Coach Pellerin's ability. He knows the rulebook like the back of his hand, and, in many cases, better than the umpires themselves. Versatility, competition, and depth were brought out at the very beginning

Sylvester Makes Racket

by Michael Kurjan

After two years under Coach Paul Rodhouse, the Pittsfield High Tennis Team has been taken over by our very competent wrestling coach, Coach George Sylvester. Coach Sylvester, who has shaped up the wrestling team considerably, has also given the tennis team the spark which it drastically needed in order to get moving. For example, in less than one week, the new coach scheduled as many matches as had been played the year before under Coach Rodhouse.

Although the PHS Tennis Team is still not a threat to other schools, it has been steadily improving and can be expected to do so in the future. Thus far (as of May 20th) the team has compiled a record of 2 wins and 3 losses, as compared to a 0 win, 3 loss record of the preceding season. This record includes a 4-1 victory over the Windsor Mountain JV team, a 3-2 victory over Greenfield High, an 8-1 loss to the Lenox varsity team, a 7-2 loss to the Lenox JV team, and a 6-2 loss to the Darrow squad. (Future matches will be against Cranwell, Rockwood and the Windsor Mountain varsity squad.)

While the team's big losses have been to Lenox, and Darrow, it should be noted that private schools such as these generally have stronger tennis



Number one tennis star Pete Burdett displays winning style during after-school practice session.

teams than those of public schools. Of the twenty boys on the tennis team, seven compete in the matches with other schools. These seven are ranked according to ability, and go up against opposing players of the same rank. Burdett is ranked number one, Ken Hyding number two, Tom Evans three, Dean Papaas, Dave Whithead, and Mike Kurjan are fighting for the number four, five and six spots, and the number seven spot is a toss-up between Stewart Keith, and sophomore Bob Burdett.

The prospects for this season and next are summed up by captain Pete Burdett, who remarks: "I feel this year's tennis team has a lot more spirit than last year's. Though we may not be doing that well, we are definitely doing a lot better this year than last. Coach Sylvester is doing a great job, and the team has a lot of potential." Pete refers to the twelve sophomores who are going out for the team, along with the four returning juniors, Dave Whithead, Ken Hyding, Dean Papaas, and Stewart Keith, who will form the core of next year's squad.

Thus, with a little more work, and the emergence of new players, Coach George Sylvester can be expected to build the Pittsfield High Tennis Team into a squad

Sportswoman of the Month



Senior, Joyce Cadorette had been recognized as Sportswoman of the Month. Joyce's continued interest throughout the year in almost every sport has earned her her title.

During her three years at PHS, Joyce has been an enthusiastic participant in field hockey, gymnastics, badminton and softball. She has performed well in all these sports, particularly in badminton where she and Kathy Frahm have won the tournament for the second consecutive year. Also Joyce has put her skill in gymnastics to good use by instructing those less skilled during gym classes.

Perhaps Joyce's most impressive quality is that in addition to being a frequent winner, she is also a good sport about losing. One can tell that she sincerely enjoys sports and relishes the game for itself, regardless of the outcome.

By earning the four required letters, Joyce was one of the few to receive a monogram. Besides being active in sports,

Joyce Cadorette, always a good sport and well deserving of this honor. Photo by Markowitz

Joyce was a varsity cheerleader and remained on the credit list with high standing in the C.P. course with A.P. Biology.

In the fall Joyce plans to attend Springfield College and major in physical education. She has indeed been an asset to our PHS sports teams, playing for the girls and cheering for the boys!

Track Team

by Tom Sacchetti

After compiling another terrific season at the Steele Relays, the Springfield Invitational, and in several dual meets, the Pittsfield High Track Team, under the capable leadership of Coach Rudy Benedetti, has captured its fifth consecutive Western Mass. Championship. Pittsfield amassed 72 points, to Agawam 35 1/2, Cathedrals 23, and Classical's 18 1/2.

The highlight of the meet as far as Pittsfield was concerned was when Barry Clark threw the discus 147 feet 4 inches. This was a new Pittsfield High record, and was good for a first in this event. Paul Metallo also captured three events: the 100 yard dash, the 220 yard dash, and the javelin. Paul tied his own record this season by running a tremendous 5.9 seconds at Springfield; he also ran a good 21.9 seconds in the 220. Our fifth first was in the pole vault, in which Paul Augustine jumped 11 feet 8 inches.

Other men placing in the Western Mass. included: Jim Bagdonas, a 2nd, and Fran Trela, a 3rd in the 440 yard dash; Jim Vandegrift, a 2nd, and Jim Bourdon a 3rd in the 880 yard run; Cable Mitchell, a 2nd, Kevin Corbett, a 3rd, and Larry Litscher, a 4th in the mile run; Dave Genest, a 3rd in the high jump; Phil Glassanos, a 2nd, and Dave Pelletier, a 3rd in the pole vault; Leon Kelly a 4th in the long jump, and Barry Clark, a 5th in the shot put; Dan Scace, a 4th in the discus and Goodrich, a 5th in the javelin.

Thus with many sophomores and juniors returning next season, the Pittsfield High Track Team can look forward to a fine season next year, and perhaps its sixth straight Western Mass. victory.



Jim Vandegrift leads Pitts-

Putters Aim High

by Matt Bushey

As usual, the PHS golf team is breezing through its Northern Berkshire League season. The only obstacle standing between our team and another championship seems to be our traditional arch-rival, Wahconah. Mount Greylock, one of the top three teams in the league, along with Pittsfield and Wahconah, has had little trouble beating the Warriors, but Pittsfield has had problems breaking the jinx. A match against Pittsfield pumps a new life into the Wahconah team and makes them virtually unbeatable. All the other teams, including Mount Greylock, are easily knocked off by the Generals.



Billy Ryan tees off on PHS fairway. Photo by Markowitz

Next year's team, with a strong returning nucleus of medalists (Bill Ryan, Bob Cella and Ken Sullivan), should also be a top contender.

If I May Say So

It is with regret that we note the suspension of the following members from the PHS Baseball Team: Rick Russo, Mark Reynolds, Dick Russell, Steve Girard, and Kevin O'Donnell. They were suspended violating a team regulation restricting players from attending the after-prom party at Eastover. Although this decision by Coach Pellerin was done in good faith, we still hope to see these players back in action in the future (after they wake up from this all-night escapade).

June's Question of Month

The continued success of the GAA over the years has caused much discussion in the hallowed halls of PHS, and has brought forth the follow-

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Ad prepared and drawn by Patricia Demick

SUMMER IS SOUL TIME



AWAY

Juniors could have and did dance all night at the junior prom on May 24. The decorations and music carried everybody UP, UP, AND AWAY to an exciting time. Special thanks go to prom co-chairmen Patty Cud and Marvin Kennedy, pictured above while decorating.

photos by Markowitz and Rodriguez



The missing link? photo by Rodriguez



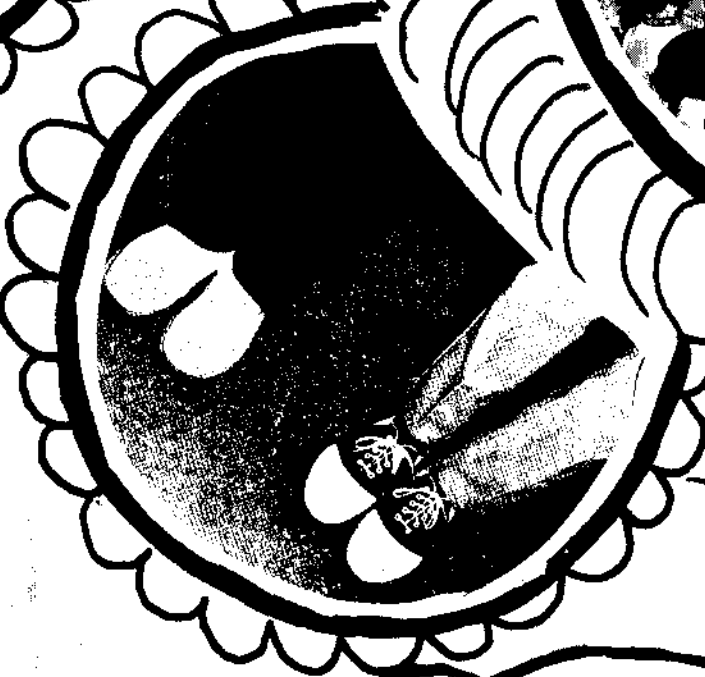
Friendship in the park - Isn't that sweet? photo by Markowitz



Summer has its hazards - too many lawns to mow! photo by Markowitz



STUDYING?



NO COMMENT!



SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS & SENIORS BLEND BRIEFLY

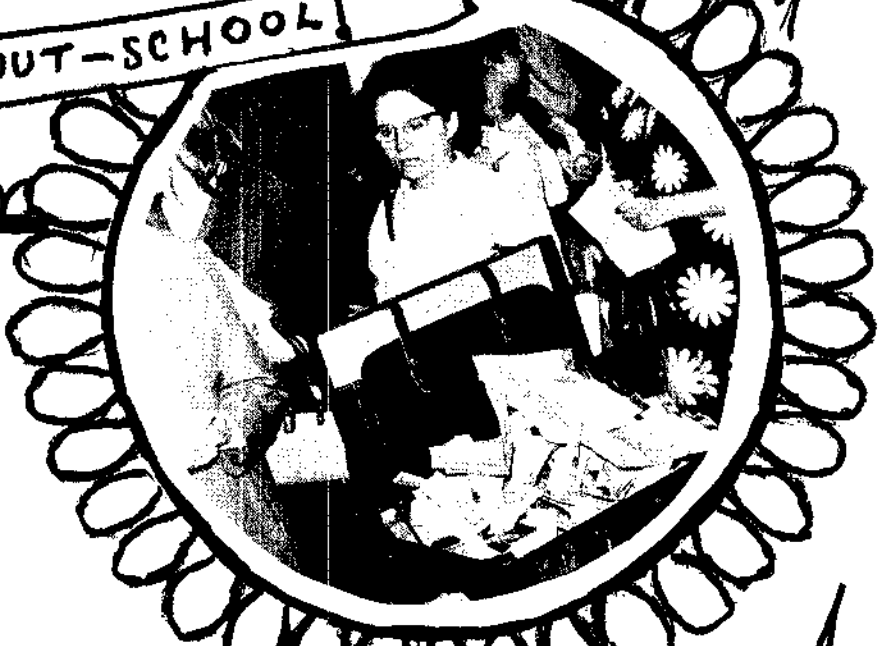


PHS students enjoy the sun and the breeze as they view the "scene" on North Street. photo by Markowitz



These feet fall into groove as summer approaches. photo by Rodriguez

SUMMER SOUL STAMPS OUT-SCHOOL!



NICE HAIR

OR RINGS

FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY