

SPARTAN NEWS



Spartan Musicians Honored

The Sparta High cafeteria was the scene for the annual Music Department Award Banquet on Thursday, June 2. Following a potluck dinner, the award presentations began with recognition of all band and choral soloists and ensemble members, including the first-division finishers. Laura Johnson, choir vice-president, then announced the results of the choir mock elections, with the "winners" being: Flattest Soprano - Cindy Klein; Mellowest Alto - Betty Peterson; Sharpest Tenor - Joe Miller; Lowest Bass - Mike Davenport; Choral Clown - Merri Jo Frisk; Big Mouth - Sally Gunnell; Worst Sightreader - Stormy Baker; Wandering Eye - Dot Route; Flirt and Wolf - Donna Schuiling and Chuck Harnish.

Next on the program was the presentation of awards for the flag corps, twirlers, and drum majors. Winning letters for two-year service were Kathy Ruiter, Rhonda Usher and Terri Wilson, while Julie Chesla and Shelly Roberts won first-year letters. Anna Norton won a pin for four years as a twirler, with Evonne Holoczek receiving a certificate for three years of service and Patty Shepard for her first year. Chuck Harnish and Mike Jackson were awarded one- and two-year pins, respectively, for being drum majors.

Fifteen bands were presented letters for meeting the required quota of honor points and passing the letter tryout; sophomores Donna Fraser and Karl Nickolai, juniors Nina Benson, Dave Beuschel, Chris Deshaw, Lisa Fahling, Merri Jo Frisk, Lauri Harrison, Denise Johnson, Kurt Mullen and Dennis Traxler, and seniors Tim Beuschel, Rachel Brophy, Mike Jackson and Brad Ritter. Mrs. Stiles then commended the participants from Sparta who played in the Tri-River Honors Band.

The Madrigals took their turn on the dais and received pins for their performance during the year. Pin winners were Matt Nitschke, Lee Bradford, Chris Deshaw, Denise Stiles, Vicki Deshaw, Kelly Lang, Betty Peterson and Dawn Wienczkowski, while the two-year Madrigals were recognized; Vicki Cumings, Kurt Mullen, Chuck Harnish, Doug

Schutter, Laura Nitschke and Bill Van Dyk. Vicki Cumings then read a condensed version of the Madrigal Diary, containing the highlights of their various performances.

The graduating seniors then took their turn in the limelight, with the choral seniors needing to be in at least two years and the band personnel, three. Winning pins in choir were Janis Archer, Vicki Deshaw, Chuck Harnish, Laura Johnson, Bowman, Mark Erickson, Kelly Lang, Laura Nitschke, Rhonda Usher, Dawn Wienczkowski, Penny Fahling, Cindy Klein, Sue Lamb, Betty Peterson and Jeri Schrader. Band pin winners were Janis Archer, Jeff Bates, Tim Beuschel, Rachel Brophy, Ed Denhof, Chuck Harnish, Tim Heitz, Mike Jackson, Laura Johnson, Sue Kober, Lori Lockard, Laura Nitschke, Brad Ritter, Karen Seelman, Ed Shangle, Rhonda Usher, Terri Wilson and Dawn Zarbeck. In addition, Essie Koevoet was awarded a pin for participating in choir.

The climax of the banquet was the announcement of the Outstanding Choirister and Outstanding Bandsman of the year. The prerequisite for the band award was that the nominee must have won a letter, while the choir award had no prior qualifications. Final nominees for the O.C.Y. were Betty Peterson and Dawn Wienczkowski, while Janis Archer, Claire Fairchild and Karen Seelman were the finalists for the O.B.Y. Sue Schuiling, O.C.Y. of 1976, presented the 1977 award to Betty Peterson, while the O.B.Y. of last year, Bruce Mullenix, presented Karen Seelman with this year's top honor.

All in all, it was an enjoyable evening for everyone, and congratulations to all those involved in the music program for making one of the most successful around.

Graduation Notice

NOTICE — The graduation program for the Spartan class of 1977 will be held at 3:00 p.m., June 12 on the Spartan Field.

NEWSADVERTISERS
FREEDOM'S GUARANTEED

Missed it by That Much

The Sparta Spartan baseball team capped off the season with a fine loss to the Rockford Rams in an effort to advance in district playoff action, Saturday, May 28.

The Spartans played well but, unfortunately, it fell a little short as the Rams came on strong in the later innings.

The Spartans started off the first inning by scoring all four of the Spartan runs. The Spartans took advantage of the numerous flubs made by Rockford. Rockford settled their nerves, however, and began playing good baseball. It was the other way around for the Spartans. As the pressure and a long double put the final wound in the Spartans, subduing them 5-4. Tim Thome and Bill Badgerow had the only two for the Spartan cause in the first inning. Pitcher Tom Antor struck out five and walked four.

Conner Plays in State Tennis Tour

Kevin Conner, freshman at Sparta High School, played in the state tennis tournament last weekend in Kalamazoo. Kevin won the regionals earlier to qualify for state competition.

In Kalamazoo, Kevin won his first two matches by scores of 6-1, 6-1 and 6-1, 6-0 over Stephen Kobijak of Grosse Ile and Tom Ewing of Battle Creek Haper Creek respectively.

In the quarterfinal round, he lost a three set match, 6-0, 2-6, 6-2 to Matt Sandler of Essexville Garber.

Kevin ended his first year of high school competition with an overall record of 32 wins and 2 losses. Congratulations, Kevin, on a super season.

Notice

NOTICE — Report cards can be picked up in the Sparta High School office starting June 20, Monday-Thursday, 8:00-12:00 a.m. or 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Story Sport Short

Dave Anderson, Sparta High's Junior 2 mile man, placed 8th Saturday, June 4th at the state track meet. Good work "Butch."



Outstanding Musicians of the Year

Pictured here (L to R) are Mr. and Mrs. Seelman, their daughter Karen, and O.B.Y. winner for 1976, Bruce Mullenix. Also pictured above are Mrs. Platt, her daughter Betty, and O.C.Y. winner for 1976, Sue Schuiling. Congratulations to these two very deserving young ladies!

Karen Seelman, Betty Peterson, named Outstanding Musicians of the year.

Last Thursday night at Sparta High School, was the scene of many music department students receiving well-deserved awards for various activities and events throughout the year. Most of these awards are discussed in the school section of this paper, however at the top of the list is the selection of the outstanding bandsman (O.B.Y.) and chorister (O.C.Y.) of the year.

This year fellow bandsmen and committee selected Karen Seelman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerhardt Seelman, as their number one choice for Outstanding Bandsman of the Year. This is the highest honor awarded to a band member at Sparta High.

standing Bandsman of the Year.

Close "contenders" were Janis Archer (12), and Claire Fairchild (11).

Also selected, was Betty Peterson, daughter of Mrs. Dawn Platt, as Outstanding Chorister of the Year. A very close runner-up was Dawn Wienczkowski (12).

The basis for each of these awards was attitude, musicianship and overall contribution to the group. Needless to say, these awards are highly coveted, and rightly so, as they represent the highest possible "all-around" person in the music department.

Director of the Community Band, and instructor for the private lessons will be Bill Fisher, an instrumental music major from Central Michigan University, and the instructor of last year's private lesson program. Since becoming a music major at C.M.U., Bill has worked with various musical organizations, from the beginning stages of playing through the college level. In addition to directing, he has also run the private lesson programs at several surrounding school districts. Any questions concerning registration for lessons, or questions involving details of the Community Band may be directed to Bill, at 887-0924.

Project HOPE was the first U.S. health organization to initiate a formal education program in Egypt. Since February 1975, HOPE and the Government of Egypt have been conducting a five-year medical teaching and training program.

Project HOPE has been conducting medical education programs in Latin America since 1962 and currently maintains five separate program sites there.

The now retired S.S. HOPE, the world's first peacetime hospital ship, was the brainchild of William B. Walsh, M.D., who still serves as President and Medical Director of Project HOPE.



Community Band and Summer Lessons

Beginning June 20, 1977, a Summer music program, consisting of both private lessons and a Summer Community Band, will be offered at Sparta High School.

Rehearsals for the Community Band will be held on Monday evenings, from 7-9, in the High School Bandroom. Persons interested in playing must be at least the age of an entering high school freshman. Rehearsals will run from June 20, through the month of July and into August, after which one outdoor concert will be held (exact concert date and location not yet determined.) Music selected will be basically that of the concert type, and will be determined to a great extent by the members of the performing organization.

Private lessons will be offered, as last year, to any students entering at least into the sixth grade. Students registering for the lessons will receive a half-hour lesson, once a week, for six weeks. Make-up lessons will be given for vacations, band trips, illness, or other important conflicts. All lessons will be held in the High School Bandroom during weekdays, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Specific time requests will be granted on a first-come-first-served basis.

Director of the Community Band, and instructor for the private lessons will be Bill Fisher, an instrumental music major from Central Michigan University, and the instructor of last year's private lesson program. Since becoming a music major at C.M.U., Bill has worked with various musical organizations, from the beginning stages of playing through the college level. In addition to directing, he has also run the private lesson programs at several surrounding school districts. Any questions concerning registration for lessons, or questions involving details of the Community Band may be directed to Bill, at 887-0924.

School Election-June 13

The annual school election for the Sparta Area Schools will be held on June 13 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Sparta Civic Center, 75 N. Union Street. Absentee ballots may be obtained from the board offices in the High School or from Floyd Buege at 160 E. Division, Sparta.

Candidates for the Board of Education are Neil Andrus, Athena Eary (incumbent), and Fredrick

Thorne. There are two openings for terms running from July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1981. Also on the ballot is a request for eight mills for two years. This is renewal millage and will not increase the operational millage that was levied in 1976.

All registered voters residing in the Sparta Area School District are eligible to vote.