

# Camp rule quagmire

## Questions surround judge's decision

Less than three weeks after a federal appeals court found the UIL's summer camp rule legal, a state district judge enjoined the League's from enforcing the rule against persons attending camps this past summer.

The result: A legal quagmire which League officials hope will be settled by the State Court of Appeals.

"The ruling orders that 'all Texas Public High School varsity athletes who are or will be ineligible to play public high school varsity basketball during the 1981-82 basketball season because they have attended a summer basketball camp within the preceding year be ruled eligible,'" Dr. Bailey Marshall said.

"We do not know if the ruling attacks the rule itself and enjoins us from enforcing it next summer, or if it applies only to this group of athletes," Marshall added. "Hopefully, this will be determined by the appeals court."

Ironically, the State District Judge Robert Montgomery's ruling came barely three weeks after a federal appeals court in New Orleans found the rule Constitutional, ending for the moment the celebrated Greg Kite case. Kite, now a student at Brigham Young University, attended a specialized camp during the summer of 1979. He filed suit against the League in Houston's federal district court.

U.S. District Court Judge George Cire declared the rule unconstitutional, claiming it infringed upon "protected parental authority in the child-rearing arena."

However, the appeals court disagreed, ruling "recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court clearly signal that parental authority falls short of being constitutionally absolute. Confronted with these situations which, at first blush, appeal to rest at the heart of parental decision-making, the Supreme Court refrained from clothing parental judgment with a constitutional mantle.

"This case implicates no fundamental constitutional right."

Lawyers for Kite and others associated with the suit have said publicly they plan to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, but no appeal has yet been filed.

It did, however, violate the State Constitution, Montgomery ruled.

"The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the summer camp rule didn't violate the rights of due process or equal protection guaranteed by the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, but in my opinion, this rule does restrict rights guaranteed under those same provisions of the state constitution," Montgomery said after the hearing.

"This rule ... denies parents their rights to control the activities of their children during summer vacations," he said. "Another thing that bothered me is that once a player is accused of a violation ... the student doesn't have a means to prove his innocence. I think the rule could be rewritten to determine the intent of those going to summer camp."

Marshall said he is confident the rule will be upheld upon appeal.

"We feel that in the court of appeals, the rule will stand a better chance of standing," he said. "Once you get past the local, emotional level, those hearing the case are more likely to rule strictly on the points of law, and feel less of the pressure from the community."

Marshall added that judges are not in a position to be examining the merits of school rules.

"In the first place, it's impossible to determine intent," he said, "No one is going to admit they intended to gain an unfair advantage when they circumvented a rule. They can always come up with a better reason than that."

"Second, the school officials have developed a set of rules through a democratic process which they feel best maintains equitable competition," Marshall said. "It's frustrating to have non-school people step in and mandate the rules by which we have to run our programs."



A 747 jet roared over Memorial Stadium, carrying NASA's Space Shuttle, midway through the performance. But Austin Crockett played on and won the Conference AAAAA state marching band contest in Austin. Accepting the championship trophy are Kelly Sheftall and James Caswell.

### Fall champs

State champions were crowned in three fall sports — football, volleyball, and cross country. For full results, bi-district through the state finals, turn to page 11.

### Free speech

Without the librarian, most speech students would have little to say. For details, turn to page 8.

# Soccer implemented into 1982-83 tentative calendar

In order to assist administrators and teachers preparing next year's activities, the League has compiled a tentative calendar for the 1982-83 school year. No major changes in the contest scheduling have been made.

A new contest, soccer, will be implemented next fall.

- Aug. 4 — First day to issue football shoes and socks, Conferences AAAA, AAA, AA, A, and Sixman. (No conditioning drills or organized instruction permitted.)
- Aug. 9 — First day for volleyball workouts, all conferences.
- Aug. 9 — First day for fall football conditioning, Conferences AAAA, AAA, AA, A, and Sixman. (No contact equipment or contact activities permitted.) Contact equipment may be fitted and placed in lockers.
- Aug. 11 — First day for issuing football shoes and socks, Conference AAAAA. (No conditioning drills or organized instruction permitted.)
- Aug. 13 — First day for issuing football contact equipment and conducting contact activities, Conferences AAAA, AAA, AA, A, and Sixman.
- Aug. 16 — First day for volleyball scrimmages or games, all conferences.
- Aug. 16 — First day for fall football conditioning, Conference AAAAA. (No contact equipment or contact activities permitted.) Contact equipment may be fitted and placed in lockers.
- Aug. 19 — First day for football interschool scrimmages, Conferences AAAA, AAA, AA, A, and Sixman.
- Aug. 20 — First day for issuing football contact equipment and conducting contact activities, Conference AAAAA.
- Aug. 26 — First day for football interschool scrimmages, Conference AAAAA.
- Sept. 1 — Last day for accepting Football Plan.
- Sept. 1 — Last day for accepting Girls' Volleyball Plan.

- Sept. 1 — Last day for filling Music Acceptance Cards.
- Sept. 2 — First day for playing football games, all conferences.
- Sept. 3 — Last day for submitting final Music Regional Organization Reports.
- Sept. 15 — Last day for accepting Soccer Plan.
- Oct. 1 — Last day for paying UIL membership fees.
- Oct. 1 — Last day for organizing Boys' and Girls' Basketball districts.
- Oct. 8 — First day for holding Regional Marching Band contests.
- Oct. 15 — Last day for accepting Boys' and Girls' Basketball Plans.
- Oct. 15 — First day for director's planning meeting for One-Act Play.
- Oct. 20 — Last day for receipt by judges of yearbooks for ILPC ratings.
- Oct. 30 — Last day for District Cross Country Meets.
- Nov. 1 — First day for Boys' and Girls' Basketball Practice.
- Nov. 1 — Last day for enrolling in Interscholastic League press Conference.
- Nov. 1 — Last day for accepting Boys' and Girls' Swimming Plans.
- Nov. 1 — Last day for accepting Boys' Baseball Plan.
- Nov. 1 — Last day for filing One-Act Play Enrollment Cards.
- Nov. 1 — Last day to certify District Football representatives, Conferences AA, AAA and AAAAA.
- Nov. 6 — Last day for Bi-District Volleyball matches.
- Nov. 8 — First day for Boys and Girls Basketball scrimmages (all conferences) — one per week through Nov. 20.
- Nov. 9 — Area Volleyball matches.
- Nov. 10 — Last day for filing One-Act Play double representation notification to the State Office.

- Nov. 13 — Last day for holding Regional Marching Band contests.
- Nov. 13 — Last day to certify district Football Representatives, Conferences AAAA, A and Sixman.
- Nov. 13 — State Cross Country Meet, all conferences.
- Nov. 13 — Regional Volleyball Tournaments.
- Nov. 15 — Last day for making corrections to eligible schools list for Music competition.
- Nov. 15 — Deadline for submitting issues of school newspapers for ILPC criticism.
- Nov. 19-20 — State Volleyball Tournament, all conferences.
- Nov. 22 — First day for Boys' and Girls' interschool basketball games, all conferences.
- Nov. 22-23 — State Final Marching Band Contest.
- Nov. 25 — Thanksgiving.
- Dec. 15 — First day for Soccer practice.
- Dec. 15 — Last day to notify League Office of District Spring meet Directors' General.
- Jan. 3 — First day for playing interschool Soccer scrimmages and games.
- Jan. 21 — Earliest day for holding Regional Solo and Ensemble Contests.
- Feb. 1 — Last day for organizing Spring Meet Districts.
- Feb. 1 — Last day for receipt of newspapers for rating by ILPC.
- Feb. 1 — Last day for receipt of ILPC Individual Achievement Awards entries — both newspapers and yearbooks.
- Feb. 1 — First day for baseball practice, all conferences.
- Feb. 2 — Last day for requesting additions to basic set and submitting plays NOT on Approved Lists for consideration as One-Act Play contest entries.
- Feb. 5 — Last day for submission of proposed amendments to ILPC Constitution and By-Laws.

In the age of litigation, League's media image not likely to change

# 'Good press' a luxury League cannot afford

(This article originally appeared in the Dallas Morning News, Sunday, December 20.)

What have you heard lately about the University Interscholastic league?

Probably that some child was penalized here; some team disqualified there. That is the League's biggest, unsolvable headache. Like any other regulatory agency, the public seldom hears of the UIL until someone breaks a rule and gets caught doing it.

The image of the League held by the public at large is the result of several factors: The "me" generation, the Sunbelt explosion, the age of litigation and the obligation of the press to see no further than its circulation limit. Society today is not willing to accept rules intended for society as a whole. Instead, each person is looking out for his "individual rights", without regard for the rights of the majority. Of course, there are always attorneys available to press for those "rights."

When an individual and the rules of the League clash, the press covers the event in a predictable manner. If a student, who happens to be 6-feet, 4, 235 pounds and runs a 9.8 hundred, transfers into a community two weeks before the football season and is declared ineligible, the local press brands the rules harsh, arbitrary, unjust. If the same student moves into the arch-rival school, the rules are necessary to maintain equity in inter-school competition.

Understandably, the lay public has a one-dimensional view of the League, when it affects them. Basically, the UIL is an organization which tells people "you cannot do that." Why? Because someone must take the responsibility of regulating inter-school competition.

In the early 1900's, the superintendents and other public school administrators accepted this duty and have since, passed the rules necessary to maintain balance between schools and to safeguard the health, welfare and education of the participants in these contests. Every rule under which the students compete was passed in order to curb some abuse of educational competition.

Just as importantly, the school administrators did not establish a program for the top five percent, or the athletically exceptional. The UIL program — which stretches from calculator applications to typing, drama to headline writing — exists as an educational enrichment program for all stu-



## Director's corner

By Bailey Marshall

dents. It is not the purpose of the public schools to produce college athletes. If a student-athlete, by virtue of outstanding ability or dedication, wins a free pass to college, so much the better.

In the meanwhile, administrators must control a program for the 95 percent who will never participate in a college athletic event. It is impossible to establish one set of rules for the exceptional, and another set of rules for the rest. These rules are written and passed by school administrators — not, as is widely thought, by League's administrative staff in Austin. A 20-member Legislative Council, representing every conference and region, meets annually to review the existing rules and discuss new rules.

Because the rules protect students from manipulation by coaches or peers or pressure from the community, an estimated one out of every two graduating students voluntarily participates in some aspects of the UIL program. Texas boasts the largest and most comprehensive inter-school competition program in the nation. More than 1.5 million students participate in the 45 contests offered through the UIL.

We realize the UIL will never receive "good press." As long as the wheels roll smoothly, the League is ignored. The positive factors surrounding the activities seldom come to light. Joe Citizen hears of the League only when a lawsuit has been filed, and the defending attorney paints it as a vicious, heartless bureaucracy.

Perhaps the greatest concern among public school administrators today centers around "hardship cases." Though transfer and other eligibility rules have been greatly softened the past few years, hardship cases remain. Parents, fans and non-school persons feel the schools should make exceptions to every rule. If the schools employed a fulltime investigative force and a full time judiciary to weigh the evidence collected by this police force, such a plan

might be successful. Unfortunately, schools are hard pressed for both time and money.

Without a full investigation into every background, it is impossible to prove the intent of an individual when a rule is broken. Did a student transfer to play football or to enroll in a special science course? Did the outstanding athlete transfer to escape a personality conflict with his coach? Why has he decided to live with an aunt, rather

than at home with his parents?

If the schools cannot prove intent, then violators would be made eligible in all hardship cases. If the rule violators are made eligible, then who suffers the most? One student? Or all the students he competes against, plus the school from which he was lost, plus the student the transfer replaces at the new school? What about the fans of the schools the student will oppose? Are they not all affected?

Although we hear much about penalizing students, in reality, far more youngsters would be penalized if the same rules were not applied to everyone.

Newspaper readers will continue to read about the UIL because as long as rules and lawyers exist, the two will clash. Keep in mind, though, that if a rule adversely affects one litigant, the same rule is protecting many others.

## Official notices

### ONE-ACT PLAY

Remove *Plaza Suite* from the "Ineligible Plays" and also delete "Simon, Neil — all full-length plays including individual acts of *Plaza Suite*."

Delete from "Approved Publishers" David McKay. Note: Most UIL approved plays from McKay's catalogue are now carried by Baker's and French. McKay's plays from the approved list may be produced in the 1982 OAP contest royalty free as public domain until the copyright owners can be located. No further approval is required.

No addendum for the *Handbook for One-Act Play, Ninth Edition* has been or will be published for the 1981-82 school year.

### OAP

These transfer changes apply to one-act plays only. Region III-A, transfer District 24 — Chireno and Woden to District 23 with Kennard, Apple Springs, Laxeto and Wells.

### ELYSIAN FIELDS HS

The State Executive Committee placed Elysian Fields on probation in golf for violation of Rule 8 of the Golf Plan.

### SEMINOLE

Seminole High School has been placed on probation in boys' basketball for 1981-82 for violation of Rule 3 of the Basketball Plan.

### LATEXO HS

Latexo High School has been placed on probation in all sports Kennard, Apple Springs, Latexo and Wells.

### BASEBALL

There is an error in the Constitution and Contest Rules on page 178, Rule 3a of the Baseball Plan. It should read "No team or boy shall compete in more than twelve (12) high school games, exclusive of games allowed in two invitational baseball tournaments and games which count on League standing."

### DUNBAR HIGH

Dunbar High School of Fort Worth has been placed on probation for the 1981-82 and 1982-83 school years in boys' basketball for violation of Article VIII, Section 13, the Changing Schools Rule and Article VII, Section 25, the Bona Fide Residence Rule of the Constitution and Contest Rules.

### SMITHSON VALLEY

Smithson Valley of New Braunfels has been placed on probation in tennis for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Rule 2 of the Athletic Plan.

### SWIMMING

Due to a conflict, the 1982 regional swim tournaments will be held March 12-13 and the state swim meet will be held March 26-27.

### Dripping Springs High

Dripping Springs High School has been assigned to District 29-AA for all Spring Meet activities and baseball for the 1981-82 school year.

### TIVY HIGH

Tivy High School of Kerrville has been placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year in boys' basketball for violation of Rule 3 of the Basketball Plan.

### CARTER HIGH

Carter High School of Dallas has been placed on probation for the 1981-82 and 1982-83 school years in football for violation of the Athletic Code of the Constitution and Contest Rules.

### Bremond High

Bremond High School has been placed on probation for the 1981-82 and 1982-83 school years in football for violation of the Athletic Code of the Constitution and Contest Rules.

### KIMBALL HIGH

Kimball High School of Dallas has been placed on probation for the 1981-82 and 1982-83 school years in football for violation of the Athletic Code of the Constitution and Contest Rules.

### Lake Travis High

Lake Travis High School has been assigned to District 28-AA for all League activities other than football for the 1982-83 school year.

### TRANSFER FORMS

Parents Changing School Forms and Transfer Release Forms are required for any student changing school who competed the previous year in any athletic activity at the previous school. Prior to 1981-82, Article VIII, Sec. 14 applied to football and basketball only. Now, it applies to all athletic activities.

Please note that these transfer forms are necessary only if the student will be representing the varsity team this year.

### DEBATE WINNERS

First and second place winners in the 1981 Conference AAAA State Debate Contest were omitted from the constitution and Contest Rules.

First place debate finishers were Arnie Derrickson and Rene Herrera of Waco Richfield. Placing second were Scott Edwards and Kyle Guthrie of Waco Richfield.

### PETROLIA

The Petrolia High School Band has been placed on probation in music competition for the school year 1981-82 for violation of Article V, Section 15 (b) and Article VII, Section 33 (d) of the Constitution and Contest Rules.

### MUSIC LIST

The Prescribed Music List is not current with the recent reclassification, in which Conference B was eliminated. Music directors and administrators should make certain that the new classification procedure is followed.

Also, the following corrections of the PML should be noted: Page 25, English Horn Solos, Class I, Handel, Concerto in g minor, SMC.

On page 150, the title of event 433 should read "Miscellaneous String Ensembles" rather than "Miscellaneous String Solos."

### MUSIC

The State Executive Committee has placed the A. C. Jones High School of Beeville and MacArthur High School of Aldine choirs on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Art. VII, Sec. 6 and 9.

### POLYTECHNIC

Fort Worth Polytechnic has been placed on probation in choir for the 1981-82 season by Region V Music Executive Committee for violation of Art. VII, Section 33, d, of the Music Competition Plan.

### LONGVIEW HS

The Longview High School choir is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article II, paragraph a, and Article VII, Section 36, paragraph (1), of the Music Plan.

### PINE TREE HS (Longview)

The Pine Tree High School choir is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article II, paragraph a, and Article VII, Section 36, paragraph (1), of the Music Plan.

### ALVIN HS

The Alvin High School choir is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article VII, Section 33, paragraph d.

### PALESTINE HS

The Palestine High School band is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article VII, Section 33, paragraph d.

### NECHES HS

The Neches High School band is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article VII, Section 33, paragraph d.

### CENTER HS

The Center High School choir is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article VII, Section 33, paragraph d.

### A. C. JONES HS (Beeville)

The A. C. Jones High School choir is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article VIII, Sections 6 and 9.

### MACARTHUR HS (Aldine)

The MacArthur High School choir is placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year for violation of Article VIII, Sections 6 and 9.

### CLIFTON HS

The Clifton High School Band has been placed on probation for the 1981-82 school year.

## The Leaguer

The Leaguer is the official publication of the University Interscholastic League, Box 8028, University Station, Austin, Texas 78712. The League office is located at 2622 Wichita on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. Phone (512) 471-5883. The paper is distributed to Texas school administrators, teachers, coaches and contest sponsors, as well as to other parties interested in scholastic competition.

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UIL's only concern  
that rules followed

From time to time other contests, auditions or try-outs frequently use the University Interscholastic League name to indicate approval of their activity. The League neither approves nor disapproves of other contests. It is the director's or school's administrators choice when and where a school unit attends competition and not the League's realm of approving or disapproving.

There are League rules that might suspend or disqualify a music group if certain conditions of outside competition are encountered, but it is still the school's choice whether or not to attend the outside contest. The League's only concern is that all League rules and regulations are followed and not what other contests might require.

Music adjudicators  
workshop scheduled

Texas Music Adjudicators Association workshops will be offered for those candidates who are in the process of completing all other requirements for membership.

The workshops (band, orchestra, choir) will be held at the TMEA Clinic-Convention in February. For further information, contact Vickie Wilson, Box 8028, University Station, Austin, Texas 78712.

Attendance fee is \$5 per workshop. See the TMEA convention calendar for time and site.

# Solo/ensemble just around corner

By CHARLES SCHWOBEL  
Associate Music Director

If you haven't done so by now, its high time to take down the Christmas tree and New Year decorations. Spring is just around the corner and with it are a number of music events requiring student preparation. Solos, small ensembles and medium ensembles provide a means to teach our students about that subject we call music.

A student may perform in a number of different events. Please become familiar with the participation limitations stated in the Constitution and Contest Rules. These limits are intended to encourage a variety of performances by individual students.

Solos develop individual performance skills while small ensembles teach chamber music skills. Medium ensem-

bles allow the director to draw upon individual performance strengths while teaching a larger group of students without becoming discouraged by literature that may be too difficult otherwise. The exceptional performers can be challenged musically in a larger ensemble without being lost in a large parent organization.

However, please note that the participation limitations also prevent the outstanding high school musician from being exploited as a work horse. That is, he should gain educationally from his participation and not be placed in too many events singly because he is the only one that can "cut" the part.

Although a director may petition to perform a selection not on the concert band list, that option does not exist for solos and ensembles. Students may perform only those solos and ensembles ap-

pearing on the Prescribed Music List. Each year the state office receives numerous requests to perform solos and ensembles not on the current list. These requests must be denied because there are no current rules allowing such an option.

If you have a selection you would like to see appear in the Prescribed Music List, now is the time to present your case. The committee will be meeting to consider changes for the next Prescribed Music List. This edition will be used for the 1983, 84, 85 and 86 school years.

Please contact or send a score to the respective committee chairman. The committee chairmen are William Porter, 11521 Sabo, Houston 77089 (orch); Sally Schott, 2126 Possum Creek, Houston 77017 (choir); Bill Woods, 1603 Meadowbrook, Abilene 79603 (band).

## New prints available for elementary grade picture memory contest

The contest remains the same. Only the pictures are changed, to keep it interesting.

That's the scoop on the league's picture memory contest, which underwent its regular two-year facelift. The operation was simple: Replace pictures used in the con-

test during the past two years with ones to be used for the next two years.

As always, the contest remains highly supported in educational circles.

"Today, more than ever before, art education through picture study is expanding at the elementary grade level," said Ray Westbrook, activities director.

"The picture memory contest prints represent the best illustrative material available to acquaint students with old and contemporary masterpieces of painting," Westbrook said.

Pictures in the Picture Memory Bulletin are selected for a two-year period and reproductions of all are available in small

and large sizes. The small prints, reproduced on heavy paper, are 4 x 6 inches and the larger prints are on extra-heavy stock, 11 x 14 inches.

Each set of prints, large or small, contain the full 40 prints listed in the Bulletin.

The picture memory contest is open to fourth and fifth graders. The picture Memory Bulletin contains the official list of pictures, pronunciations of artists' names, contest rules and general instruction about the painting.

Texas School Pictures, P.O. Box 34270, San Antonio, Texas 78233 has complete sets of prints available. Prices will be sent on request.

## 'The public is losing confidence in our division system'

# Review of band judging procedures needed

This year, I had the privilege of attending four regional marching band contests and was impressed by three outstanding factors: (1) The added interest in audience appeal of the band movements and music; (2) the wide diversity of contest administrations from region to region; and (3) the broad standards of evaluation used by judges in each region.

The latter factor seems to apply primarily to conferences AAAAA and AAAA. The standards applied to AAA, AA, and A bands seemed to be consistent and somewhat rigid.

Nearly all bands reviewed in the four regions seemed to make special efforts to develop audience appeal. The students presented their work enthusiastically, trying to attract the audience. The music presented was suitable to the occasion and with some shows superbly performed. From the standpoint of audience appeal, I think the bands have made a giant step forward regardless of the style of marching.

In the administration of the contest we have a wide variety of procedures. The designation of marching order has become a point in some regions; the assignment of judges has caused several regions to question how this is done.



## Music matters

By Nelson Patrick

□ State Marching Band Photo Essay, pages 6 and 7

Probably the outstanding discrepancy is that of timing the show. One region began time whenever the band set foot on the playing field, and stopped when the last member left. Another group started timing according to judges wishes or at the convenience of the judges. Still another region began timing on signal from the director. In this latter region some bands utilized 25 plus minutes. One group played from gate to gate as well as taking the time to align according to a knotted string followed by a tape measure.

The audiences and bands seem to survive these two discrepancies except for a few letters and telephone calls. However, the

third problem, that of consistent judging did not fare as well as the first two.

In the four regions attended, conference AAAAA bands and a majority of the conference AAAA bands reaped nearly 90% of the Division I's given. The conference may not be a factor if the rating had been consistent, because you see, there was a wide range of differences in the Division I bands. The two or maybe three excellent bands in each conference were easy to locate. The audience had no problems in recognizing outstanding performances — marching or playing, but the audience could not equate the use of Division I with some of the poorer bands of the same conference. Where I

was sitting, the audience did not hesitate to let it be known that they thought the ratings were not equally applied.

The most disheartening remarks came from the radio. An announcer mentioned having a letter from two schools who had been given a Division I. I might add that he was very congratulatory to the two groups. However, following the next song he reported seven other schools, same conference, earning a Division I. "... in fact, all except one school got a I." Another announcer spoke up and said, "Don't you know, everybody gets a I. All bands in the state got a I." The conversation continued on the merits of contest ratings for the next thirty minutes. I can summarize the conversation by saying that the ratings at that particular contest did not have much credibility. How the radio audience reacted, I do not know, but that kind of news report could not be the most encouraging.

The report described above could well be a unique reaction, or it could be a general reverse of the public reaction to our rating system; we do not know which could be correct, but I am of the opinion that the public is losing confidence in our Division system. We need to review it carefully.

## TETA to hold final critic judge workshop

The final UIL one-act play contest critic judging workshop scheduled this year is planned for Thursday afternoon of the annual Texas Educational Theatre Association Feb. 4-6 in San Antonio. Theatre directors and prospective critic judges should plan now to attend.

Demonstration scenes for the workshop will be provided by MacArthur High School in San Antonio, directed by Luis Munoz and Taylor High School in Katy, directed by Rachel Anne Mattox. This workshop will certify new judges for OAP and allow those previously certified to renew.

Most critic judges have attended a workshop in the past five years and all listed that have failed to do so must attend a workshop to remain on the Accredited List. A new and renewal judges list will be published in February. Randall J. Buchanan and David T. Deacon have renewed their listing since publication of the Accredited Critic Judge List in November. Olga Samples Davis, St. Philip's College, San Antonio 78203 IV, 512/531-3543, has been added to the list.

Prospective judges must have a minimum of 36 college semester hours of drama/theatre courses or the equivalent in professional training and experience in educational theatre.

Prospective one-act play critic judges are invited to attend the workshop Feb. 4 at 2:00 p.m. in the Little Theatre at San Antonio College.

## OAP clinics needed

A real need for one-act play contest workshops, clinics and festivals exists, according to UIL drama director Lynn Murray.

"We've received an inordinate number of phone calls asking for practice workshops, but there seems to be a shortage," Murray said. "Persons hosting clinics or having information concerning clinics should contact us as soon as possible so that we might pass the word along."

# State Meet honor crew proposed

The OAP Honor Crew was initiated in 1977 when the State Office invited Austin I.S.D. high schools to select two outstanding theatre arts students from each school to serve on the State Meet One-Act Play Contest production staff. For five years, we have experimented with students from Austin area high schools and expanded the program to include 10 school districts. We believe the time has come to make this opportunity available to all.

I would like to propose the nomination of two outstanding technical theatre students from each high school to serve as Honor Members of the 56th State One-Act Play Contest production staff. The State Meet One-Act Play Contest is April 27-May 1 this year. Nominations should be based on academic and production excellence in each theatre arts program.

Since the program is experimental the actual selection process is still to be developed. It is essential that students be nominated by the principal of each high school, endorsed by the superintendent or designated I.S.D. administrator, and recommended by the theatre arts teacher or UIL play director. One additional recommendation from a teacher in each school is required.

All students nominated must be academically capable. It will be necessary for those selected to be in Austin from Monday afternoon, April 26 through Saturday evening, May 1. The school must see that housing and transportation is provided for students selected.

A maximum of 40 honor crew members will be selected. Every effort will be made to select members from all regions and all conferences.

Students selected as Honor Members of the State Meet OAP staff will be involved in a learning experience available only to State Meet participants. They will be prepared for their responsibilities by UT-Austin Department of Drama faculty and staff. Several hold valid Texas Teacher Certificates and all have worked extensively with high school students, including UT Summer Theatre Workshop and Student Activities



## Educational theatre

By Lynn Murray

Conference programs annually. In order to provide the best learning experience, the students selected should be allowed to fully participate in production operations for the full week, Tuesday through Saturday.

Orientation and training for all students will begin Monday afternoon, April 26. Preparation and production activities are scheduled from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. for the five days of the State Meet. Student schedules will be tentatively set to allow for four shows of working and four of watching. Those scheduled late evenings will not likely have early calls the next day. This schedule will allow each student selected to see four productions and crew four in each conference.

This experience for outstanding theatre arts students has provided enrichment for the entire school program for those participating since 1977. The State Office has yet to receive any negative comments from students, teachers or administrators involved. This invitation from the League to recognize outstanding technical theatre students as part of our State Meet production activities is issued after careful evaluation of past years and consultation with teachers and many administrators. All feel this recognition is a deserving addition to the Texas secondary theatre arts program.

Nominations for State Meet OAP Honor Crew must be postmarked no later than April 12. Final selection will be made and notification mailed to teachers of students selected April 19. Students in companies qualifying for the State Meet OAP Contest or other UIL literary and academic events may be withdrawn from the State OAP Honor Crew in consultation with the State

Drama Director. Students withdrawing from the Honor Crew without just cause (illness, disaster, or acts of nature) will render students from their school ineligible for nomination for a period of not less than two years. It is essential that administrators, teachers and students be committed prior to nomination.

Application for State Meet Honor Crew nominations will be mailed with OAP eligibility forms. Each school may nominate two students. Two schools in the same conference and district or adjacent school districts may join together to nominate two students. Students will be selected in pairs unless the nominating school administration and teacher can provide convincing arguments (evidence) that a single student from their school be selected.

Final selection of the Honor Crew will be made by the State Meet OAP senior staff in consultation with me. Early application will be heavily considered. Honor Crew members will not be chosen from the same school two consecutive years.

This is our last year in Hogg Auditorium and may be the last year of a five day State Meet. Teachers and administrators have finally convinced me that the state wide honor crew will work and that we have no right not to provide this opportunity to outstanding crew members and students of technical theatre. I have been convinced that theatre arts students can learn from this extensive field experience and administrators outside the central Texas area have convinced me that they would like this opportunity for their students.

Now we will see what happens.

# The improvement stands out, retired critic judge says

By CHARLES A. SCHMIDT  
Sam Houston State University

"Retirement" — anathema to some, but to me a real delight, for that is what I did last August after a little more than 30 years at Sam Houston State University. Retirement does not necessarily mean divorce, however, and just this past Nov. 7, I participated in a session for UIL one-act play contest judges; it brought back to mind many a vision about the state of the contest when I began to teach. As I retire, it is a real pleasure to note that this period of thirty-plus years has seen a definite improvement in the standards of contest work.

Those first few contests were eye-openers for a freshman professor out to judge, a guy who had seen little contest work but that which reached state level. Sometimes the poor students had been left to their own devices or given minimal supervision; you can guess the results.

Sometimes the contest manager wanted

the judges to manage as well as judge. Sometimes the judges were expected to donate their services while at the same time school districts thought nothing of paying athletic referees for their work. Money was never my primary objective in contest judging, but even in those days of thirty-cent-per gallon gasoline, help with travel expenses was always welcome.

Sometimes you saw wild things: perhaps a production looked as if it had been lighted by flashlights more than anything else. Sometimes a moustache was made of crepe hair that had been straightened, but the hank of hair, uncut, was simply glued around the upper edge of the actor's mouth. Sometimes a beard was merely penciled on the facial skin. Sometimes the opulent drawing room chair was really cane bottom. Sound of a sort emanated from exhausted tape recorder that could, at best, haul the tape unsteadily past the playback head. English that should have sounded

polished was studded with twang and the dialect forms of whur, whut, fer, thang, git — a full list would wear us all out.

Sometimes the mere act of judging was almost hazardous. At one contest in deep East Texas years ago, a director whom I was encountering for the third time stomped up to me after the critiques and literally trumpeted her huge dissatisfaction into my face: "We laughed where it said laugh and we cried where it said cry! Now why didn't we win?" She was really almost ready to take a swing at me. When I was asked to judge in that area the subsequent year, I refused; I felt it was time for that director to hear from someone else that her work was rotten (although I had never used that word to her).

A cast once surrounded me like a swarm of raging wasps after the critiques: "Have you ever really read Moliere?" "Do you really know anything about the way Moliere is supposed to be staged?" The faculty di-

rector had not stayed with these youngsters, and here were the 18-year olds (average) throwing these questions at considerably more age and experience as if it were illegal for them to lose.

As always, however, I tried to explain my opinions and convictions (when they would listen, which was not often); my point was that beautiful costumes and an imaginative set piece did not make up for the lack of acting and good directing, quite in accordance with UIL rules.

Several years later a director and her assistant cornered me at a restaurant after the critiques, where there had been all the opportunity in the world to "cuss and discuss"; I was tired and ready for that food, but they would leave me no peace at all and showed signs of staying to the last bite.

Finally there was nothing to do but tell them in the plainest language that what they and their students had done was down-

Turn to LONG ROW, page 12

## TPW writing contest deadline February 1

Deadline for the Texas Press Women's editorial, feature and news writing, and feature photo contests is February 1, according to TPW director Ferne Bloodworth of Burkburnett.

All first, second and third place winners will receive certificates and be invited to "Spend A Day On the Job With a Media Pro." First place winners will also be invited to attend the Texas Press Women's annual convention in Odessa, March 26-28.

First place entries will be sent to compete in the National Federation of Press Women's high school writing contest. National winners will be invited to attend the NFPW convention honors luncheon in California next June.

For entry forms, contest rules and other information, contact Bloodworth at Texas Press Women, 806 East street, Burkburnett, TX 76354 or call 817/569-3863.

## Judging precautions

In most cases, the most qualified journalism contest judges are the high school publication advisers themselves.

However, care must be taken to ensure the confidentiality of the contests. No adviser may judge a district contest during the same week that his district meet is held.

The UIL spring meet contests are scheduled over a two-week period. A teacher may judge a contest if his own spring meet contests or the next week. Or a teacher may judge a contest the second week, if his contest was held the first week. But extreme care should be taken to make certain that no adviser judges during the same week of his district contest.

## Convention for all

You need not be a ILPC member in order to attend the ILPC state convention, March 19-20 in Austin.

For a variety of reasons, some schools select not to join ILPC. However, they wish to improve their publications by attending conventions and workshops. The purpose of ILPC is to improve Texas scholastic publications and any staff — member or not; public, private or parochial school — may attend the convention.

For information concerning the convention, contact Bobby Hawthorne, ILPC Director, Box 8028, Austin, Texas 78712.

## Photography contest

Again this year, the Texas Association of Journalism Directors will conduct its photography contest. However, the contest has a new twist, according to contest director Bill Jackson of Channelview.

The top winners will have their winning entries published in a special edition newspaper which will be mailed to all member schools. In addition, criticism will be available for each entry.

The winners will be announced at the Grand Awards Assembly of the ILPC state convention, march 19-20.

For more information, contact Jackson at P.O. Box 854, Channelview, TX 77530. Deadline for entry is February 1.

# Journalism

## Cover the rank-and-file student

The teacher had a good point.

"We wrote a story about a kid who is getting his flying license. We did an article on a little girl who's nationally ranked in gymnastics, and our school doesn't even have a gymnastics program. We've done stories on all the exceptional students and quite frankly, I'm getting a bit tired of it and our readers are tired of it.

"They want us to cover the regular students — the everyday, normal teenagers."

And well they should. In the quest for a bonafide feature story, scholastic journalists begged student reporters to seek out the unusual or exceptional and tell the story of these outstanding people and their achievements. Rather than an arbitrary "student or teacher of the month," seek out the sublime, young reporters were told.

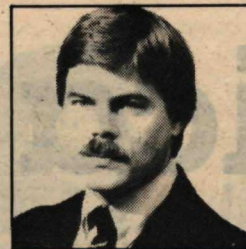
Why? Because it's a lot easier teaching students to report on the unusual rather than the usual. Few writers have a gift for making the mundane interesting or amusing. Andy Rooney of 60 Minutes fame is probably the best of the lot.

No doubt, a major obstacle in teaching students the rudiments of reporting is the thin line separating the newsworthy from the immaterial. Surely, any student can comprehend the significance of a fellow student who spends his weekends working as a sportscaster at a local television station.

Or the young lady who finished second in the Van Cliburn international piano festival.

Problem is, when you dedicate the bulk of your coverage to these achievers of an above-and-beyond magnitude, the other 95 percent are left out. Don't let this happen.

Student publications, hopefully, are mov-



## Scholastic journalism

By Bobby Hawthorne

ing into a third era: Interesting coverage of the run-of-the-mill student. The first stage evolved around the inane adage, names are news. Names are not news. If names were news, we'd read the telephone book at the breakfast table.

Issues and events are news. Names are news, as they apply to these issues and events. Nothing is less newsworthy than long columns of names.

We're on the cusp of the second stage — coverage of the superlatives. With a slight push, we can move into the third: An examination of the high school experience from the eyes of the average teenager.

If any yearbook exemplified the possibilities of this third-level coverage, it was the 1981 *Yourbook* of Van Buren High School, Van Buren, Arkansas.

On consecutive student life spreads, adviser John Cutsinger's staff turned a critical eye on the following:

- Rolling out of bed in the morning. "Hassles for bathroom privileges toppled the tardy excuses given at 8:15 in the office."

- Selecting the right clothes and cars. "I don't worry about my clothes as much as I do about my car. If it doesn't run, I have to ride the bus and I don't like that."

- Transforming from student to worker,

volunteer or homebody. "While some 'busted their buns' getting to work, others had nothing better to do than to go home and catch forty extra winds, though still other 'head-for-homers' did as much or more work when they reached their destinations than those with 'real jobs.'"

- Living with braces and glasses. "Lost in carpets or rooms of crowded people, contacts and visual hardware provided wearers with inconvenience which was not limited to the field of vision."

- Surviving the trauma of being grounded. "Just prior to the slam of the front door and an evening out with the guys or the girls or that special 'you know who,' parents laid down the law and set the consequences as 'or else.'"

- Living up to big brother's image. "My sister and I hardly see each other at school, but if she hears something about me, you can bet mom will hear about it too."

As much any book ever (I acknowledge the gravity of the claim), the Van Buren yearbook told the real story of that student body, that year. The over-achievers were recognized, but not to the point of excluding the rank-and-file student who, in reality, makes the high school experience so special.

## Officers expecting successful convention

By SHARON CASANOVA  
ILPC President

In expectation of a most successful convention, the ILPC officers met in September and again in December to discuss possible changes in format and content. The changes we've planned will make this convention a more informative and pleasant experience for everyone.



Sharon Casanova

First, we've changed the individual achievement award format, moving the assembly to Saturday morning (March 20) and splitting the large ceremony into individual sessions. Conference AAAAA will hear only AAAAA results and on down the

line.

Moving the IAAs to Saturday morning frees students and advisers to dine and enjoy Austin Friday night. It also allows us to provide four sets of sessions on Friday afternoon, rather than three.

Registration will begin at 10 a.m. Friday, March 19 in the lobby of the Thompson Conference Center on the campus of the University. The first session will begin at 1:30 p.m. As much as possible, we will attempt to schedule similar sessions in nearby buildings. However, there are only so many large rooms and we're forced to use whatever is available.

Instead of 15 minutes between sessions, students will be given at least 20 minutes to find buildings and rooms.

We realize that the convention will be held during some student's spring break. We hope that does not deter your atten-

dance. Some of the nation's best publication experts will be in Texas for the two-day convention and we feel the changes we've made will make this one the best ILPC meeting ever.

For those planning to attend, we urge you make hotel reservations as soon as possible and wear only comfortable shoes and clothes. There will be no formal luncheon or banquet so your first consideration should deal with comfort.

The other officers — Donna Bearden of New Caney, Penny Bible of Channelview and Nick Nuspl of Del Valle Middle School — and I would again like to encourage you to attend the convention. Not only will you have a great time, you'll improve your publications and keep Texas as the number one newspaper and yearbook state in the nation.

Hope to see you in March!

## New CSPA director sees changes coming

Edmund J. Sullivan has been named director of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA), the largest national school press association.

Sullivan, 30, is the youngest individual to hold the directorship in the CSPA's 58-year history. He is an alumnus of Columbia College and has been associate director of the association since 1978.

Sullivan succeeds Charles R. O'Malley, who retired earlier this year after 12 years as director.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Sullivan graduated from Columbia College in 1973 with a BA in political science. He earned a MA in higher Education Ad-

ministration from Teachers College of Columbia University in 1981.

Sullivan said that a number of changes would be made in the Association's programs and services in the next year. The CSPA's first summer residential workshop will be held at Columbia July 6-9. In addition, a new top awards program will be established in the existing publications evaluations and a major study of the Association's present and future needs will be made, Sullivan said.

I heard something that one experiences  
only occasionally during a lifetime —

# I heard America Sing



By NELSON G. PATRICK  
State Music Director

As the plane approached the Austin runway, I looked down on Memorial Stadium from 10,000 feet. The air was clear, stars were out by the thousands and the weather was crisp — a perfect night for a band contest. Would I make it on time? I did not know; this was the world's largest unscheduled airline, but tonight they were approaching their published schedule.

On landing, a taxi was waiting and whisked me away to the stadium, a rush to the elevators and ascent to the camera booth. I was in time for the finals to our third state marching contest. Although I had missed the high school bands, the Longhorn Band was entering the field. At least I could hear the finale and the contest results.

But I got more than the finals, more than the final ratings — I heard something that one experiences only occasionally during a lifetime — I heard America sing — Really I

Cheeks flared, William Mitchell of the Odessa Permian band blasts the final strains of Jim Webb's "McArthur Park" during the AAAAA finals.

did.

As the band played through their routine the crowd became quieter, an electrifying tension seemed to pass slowly through the audience. All eyes and ears became glued on the band and its music. As the band began its introduction to America The Beautiful, the entire 20,000 people seemed to sense an emotional fulfillment, an expression of mutual feelings and musical response. One by one, the audience stood; one by one, the audience began to sing. My only feeling was that of the poet, "God's in the heaven, All's right with the world."

Yes, I heard America sing. I heard America sing from its soul, its response to reverence, its response to an evening of American youth doing their thing only as American youth can do it.

The marching contest became the great thing that only our collective music performance can do — a spiritual expression of our nationalism. For a brief point in time we became one within the steel bonds of music expression.

No microphone necessary. James Caswell of Austin Crockett dazzled the crowd of 20,000 with the trumpet solo, "En Sueno."



## Perfect weather greets marching band contestants

By CHARLES SCHWOBEL  
Associate Music Director

Outstanding bands from across the state met in Austin on November 23 and 24 to show their finest marching maneuvers and play their golden horns for an audience of more than 10,000. Two panels of five judges determined five state champions amid the brilliant displays of performances already determined 'superior' at regional UIL contests.

The weather was never better. Moderate temperatures for the daytime preliminaries dropped to cool and clear for the evening finals.

The students, talented and disciplined, represented communities from Groom in the Panhandle to LaJoya in the Valley, and West Orange at the east border to Marfa out west. These youngsters represented the many ethnic cultures which have settled in this state. But with all these seeming dif-

ferences, they were commonly the best of the best. All the hours of practice, early and late rehearsals, miles of travel were welded into proud musical performances.

All this in a spectacular presentation of what music education has accomplished in Texas.

From over 800 bands entering regional contests, 91 bands, or 86% of those certified, chose to attend the State Marching Band Contest. There were 23 AAAAA bands, 22 AAAA bands, 21 AAA bands, 17 AA bands, and 8 A bands, representing all but one region.

Each judge could assign a score of up to 100 points per band. The high and low scores were dropped and the remaining three scores averaged to determine ratings and the final ranking.

In conference AAAAA, Crockett (Austin) again won first place with a score of 97.16; second place, Permian (Odessa), 96.46;

third place, Klein (Spring), 93.33; fourth place, LBJ (Austin), 92.66; fifth place, MacArthur (San Antonio), 92.13.

In conference AAAA, first place again went to Georgetown with a score of 97.66; second place, Fredericksburg, 95.66; third place, Tivy (Kerrville), 93.33; fourth place, DeSoto, 92.33; fifth place, Falfurrias, 91.33.

In conference AAA, first place went to Robinson (Waco) with a score of 95.0; second place, Allen, 93.66; third place, Hondo, 91.3; fourth place, Medina Valley (Castroville), 90.4; fourth place Dripping Springs, 90.0.

In conference AA, first place was regained by Carroll (Southlake) with a score of 94; second place, Rogers, 91.8; third place, Seymour, 91.7; fourth place, Early, 91.1; fifth place, Howe, 91.0.

In conference A, first place was captured again by Iraan with a score of 94.66; second place, Rankin, 90.73; third place, Johnson City, 90; fourth place, Falls City, 87; fifth

place, Groom, 85.66.

It is of note that all five bands certified by Region XI attended and earned berths in their finals competition. Only two other regions had two bands in the same finals competition, Region VI in conference A finals and Region XVIII in conference AAAAA finals.

A Division I rating was earned in preliminary AAAAA competition by Cooper (Abilene), Monterey (Lubbock), Odessa, Pearl and Rayburn (Pasadena). In conference AAA, Hebronville received a Division I in preliminary competition.

The judges were impressed with the high quality of performance by all the bands at the contest. It is a very positive reflection on the quality of teaching in our state when each band shows this exceptional level of musicianship and precision in marching. Congratulations to every participant because they are all "superior."

Photography by Bobby Hawthorne



Unidentified members of the South Grand Prairie band (above and to the immediate left), performing under the perfect skies of a November, Central Texas day. The band presented four pieces: Caravan, Here's That Rainy Day, Pardon My Fantasy and Temptation.

Facing a hot afternoon sun, twirler Valerie Nail of Odessa Permian completes a feature performance during the Conference AAAAA preliminaries.

# Librarian often speech students' best friend

By MARTI KIRK  
Amarillo High School

Library doors are swinging open around Texas revealing speech students who have opted to enter the contests of the University Interscholastic League. Primarily these students will be looking for suitable contest material for Prose and Poetry Interpretation. You, as the librarian can be the best friend a speech student and his/her teacher has ever had. It is wise to keep in mind that most of these students though gifted and talented are still in need of a lot of guidance while making their choices. Helping them to choose the work, and being a springboard to their success with the selection can make you, them, their coach and the school a group of very happy people.

To say a librarian can be responsible for all of this is truly easier said than done, but a few well placed steps with these very bright students might make the difference in their continued interest in the field and indeed in their bringing home that medal. Perhaps you will consider these suggestions when working with these priceless students.

- Obtain a UIL Constitution and Contest Rules for the library. Read the rules

for these contests. Note the suggested authors and poets and if you have the time and space, set up a resource center containing materials from some of the authors. Novice students and new speech teachers really appreciate this.

- Visit with the students and try to discern just how well read they are. These contests should be an outgrowth of classroom activities of speech, English, and social studies. Often a student has done a special project with something in the literature curriculum such as John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*. He can use the information gleaned from the English teacher's presentation of the literature as well as his history teacher's rendition of the depression. Close scrutiny of the student's background can tell you immediately if he already has something with which to work. Remind the student of this, if appropriate.

- Have on hand the *Short Story Indexes*, *Poetry Indexes*, and *Play Indexes*. These are easy to use and students can be taught to look up a selection by title, author or subject and then refer to the Card Catalog for the book which contains the material. If you do not have the book, encourage the student to ask at the public

library.

- Introduce them to *Magill's Masterplots*. These books contain synopses of novels. They might find a selection or an author to research. Point them to other helpful reference books such as *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, Riley & Hart; *A Library of Literary Criticism*, Nyrrer & Kramer; *Contemporary Authors*, Gale Research; *Current Biography*, Wilson; *Twentieth Century Authors*, Kunitz; *American Authors*, Kunitz & Haycraft; and *Modern British Literature A Library of Literary Criticism*, Temple & Tucker.

- Teach student some library skills. Refresh memories about the use of the Card Catalog and finding the book on the shelf by its classification number. Guide them to the areas of the library which normally house essays, novels; and poetry and short story collections. Remind them to do thorough research which might include reading several works by the chosen author and a biography.

- If you know a really good selection in a book, refrain from showing the student the exact pages where it begins and ends. Entice him to read the entire book and discover

er the special part of parts. Mention several books, authors, collections from which to choose.

- After the student has found a selection with which he feels comfortable, remind him that his job has just begun. He now needs to research the author, the times in which the author lived and wrote, and delve deep into the art of showing the author's talent and expertise rather than becoming a performer himself. Show him that his research in these areas can be worked into an intriguing and personal introduction to the cutting.

- Continue to show an interest in the students. Check with them to see how their presentation is progressing. If their interest is waning, begin all over with them. The library is full of wonderful materials and the essence of the 1981-82 genre is to encourage reading, and it makes the sky the limit as far as finding material is concerned.

Seeing students and teachers using the library is a dream come true and your involvements with them is what makes you special. It is a real trophy for you when they say, "We don't know what we would have done without you."

'Some operations of State UIL Literary Meet are a total mystery to us'

## Small school speech coaches face special problems

By BOB WEISINGER  
Montgomery High School

We're a small town and proud of it. One year hasn't given us enough time to adjust to being in the "big time" of AAA. In 1978, we didn't even know what informative and persuasive were or what roads led to Austin. Now, for three years in a row, we have sent contestants to UIL state persuasive speaking.

But some of the operations of State UIL Literary Meet are still a total mystery to us. We're stepchildren or country cousins. Quickly, desperately, we need help.

In most contests, we have received the help we need. In debate, for example, we know the topic in advance, we have all year to get ready, and the handbooks are invaluable. If a debater does not know how to analyze the topic, construct a case, document or refute, the handbooks and briefs tell him. We appreciate that.

We also appreciate the help we've received in prose and poetry. UIL has listened to our suggestions. They've relaxed the categories. They've told us where to find materials. They've told us what terms such as "program" and "folklore" mean — and in time for us to ditch Thurber Carnival and switch to Fables of Our Time. Often that word hasn't filtered down to district and regional judges, but we've survived that.

But informative and persuasive are quite another story. Our basic problem can best be illustrated by comments made by some judges and contest directors at state. Several prefaced critiques and comments with the phrase, "Surely your speech coach has told you..."

Obviously, the speaker is a university prof or a 5A coach. Our "speech coaches" are usually English teachers who haven't had a day's training in speech (I haven't

had a speech course since high school, 22 years ago). I even spoke to two A finalists at State who had no coach.

There was not another small town coach I met at State who wasn't mystified by the topics. Questioning revealed the philosophy behind the topic selection. It was that the topics at State ought to be tough in order to separate the wheat from the chaff among the top 12. Many of the topics were deliberately obscure because a legitimate State contestant "ought to have it in the files."

This is undoubtedly true of contestants in some larger schools. But does anyone up there know what our files consist of? Our local newspapers don't carry legislative updates or articles on Superports, initiative and referendum, Lester Roloff or Houstonization. They do write up Judge Justice, prison reform, immigration and trade policies and a lot on the Middle East, but to our chagrin, we never heard those topics men-

tioned at State.

When one contestant bemoaned lack of fingertip information, a judge even remarked, "That appeared in a U.S. News & World Report. If you couldn't put that in your file, you should have copied it on the school xerox."

What school xerox? If you can't put it on a spirit master and run it off on a hand-cranked duplicator, forget it. There were good magazines — and a Xerox — at the Montgomery County library 20 miles away, but the library burned down last year and even before that, no one could do farm chores and still get there before closing time. Maybe dozens of current event magazines and statewide newspapers should be in our school library but has anyone ever heard of taxpayers revolt, bond defeats, and school cost squeezes, especially on library budgets?

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## Immigration, defense, legal system chosen debate areas

Next year's high school debaters will argue either American defense policy, immigration policies or the American legal system, depending on the results of a preferential ballot, due back in the League office January 22.

The three debate areas survived debate coach scrutiny at the National Debate Topic Selection meeting, Dec. 27-29 in Las Vegas. During the meeting, 11 topics were submitted for consideration. Virginia Myers of West Texas State University presented a study report on immigration policies, a topic which last year missed by two votes being submitted to the 50 states as a topic area.

The item was reexamined at the request of the Congressional Research Service in Washington, DC.

Other Texans represented at the meeting were Dr. Bailey Marshall, UIL director, a member of the NUEA Speech Committee and the National Federation National Speech Committee; Janet Wiman, UIL activities director for speech; and Rita Harlien of El Paso Eastwood, the 1981 Texas Teacher of the Year and a speech teacher for 17 years.

"Each of the reports submitted was comprehensive, interesting and gave the delegates both sides of the topic," Wiman said. "I was impressed with the interest ex-

pressed by the representatives for the student debater in selecting the topic."

Debate coaches will also be asked to vote on one of three problem areas within each debate area. The problem areas for each is as follows:

**National Defense:** (1) That the US should significantly alter its nuclear weapons policy; (2) That the US should significantly reduce its commitment to NATO; (3) That the US should significantly curtail its arms sales to other countries.

**Immigration:** (1) That the US government should significantly change its immigration policies; (2) That the US government should enact and enforce new policies

to regulate employment of aliens in the U.S.; (3) That the federal government should significantly alter its policies toward aliens residing in this nation.

**Legal System:** (1) That the federal government should establish uniform standards for the practice of law by attorneys in the US; (2) That uniform rules governing investigative procedures for all crimes should be adopted for all enforcement agencies in the US; (3) That the use of juries in the US judicial system should be fundamentally changed.

Results of the balloting will be announced at the speech coach's meeting, April 29 during UIL State Meet in Austin.



Dwight Teeter: 'Knowing you're the best only limits your tendency to improve.'

# The Big Payoff

## Writer cashes in on State Meet success

By LISA McCAFFERTY  
UT-Austin

Four years ago, I hit a streak of good luck, placing second at the district and regional feature writing contests and earning a trip to Austin to compete in the State Meet.

Austin — the Mecca of the UIL participant. But, like most, I didn't expect to win. I thought I'd enjoy the trip, eat at an expensive restaurant and return home. With memories, sans medal.

So certain I wouldn't win, I didn't bother to attend the awards ceremony, until all places had been announced and the crowd on its way home I glided through the last stragglers and asked the contest director if he had a certificate with my name on it.

He did. The certificate said I'd placed first. I poked myself with the first place medal to see if it was true. It was and remains one of my most cherished moments.

The story which won centered around an interview we conducted with the newly-appointed chairman of the University of Texas department of journalism, Dr. Dwight Teeter. He disclaimed rumors that I'd never heard — that the journalism market is glutted, that jobs are few and far between, that a degree in journalism is worthless.

That was four years ago.

Now, I sit in front of Dr. Teeter three mornings a week, courtesy of the department's requirement of a media law course. For some reason, I feel that I know him better than my classmates. I can remember when the temples were darker. I know that the easy tone and dry wit — which as much as anything made my story a winner four years earlier — are for real and not very likely to change.

Dr. Teeter came to the University with a goal: To make this the best journalism school in the nation.

Has he done so? Well, how do you know when you're number one?

He answers. "You don't. Knowing you're the best only limits your tendency to improve. When you think you've made it, where do you go from there?"

Basing his ratings on the quality of the faculty, Teeter ranks UT's journalism de-

partment second to Indiana. And the faculty, he says, makes or breaks a program.

"We have lost some giants around here," Teeter said, referring to the late DeWitt Reddick and Norris Davis. Reddick founded the Interscholastic League Press Conference and served as its unpaid director for 27 years. Davis was a longtime UIL consultant and supporter.

Still, the faculty includes several outstanding professors. If rumors are worth much, a few speculate that Walter Cronkite will join the faculty as soon as his duties at CBS thin.

Teeter will not douse the rumors but he won't confirm them either. "Why shouldn't he come here?" he teases. "He might as well come to Texas as anyplace else."

Four years ago, Teeter told the state meet feature writing contestants that Texas in general and Austin in particular — its beauty and opportunities — loomed especially important in his decision to leave the University of Kentucky. Other professors — and perhaps Cronkite — may be lured by the same attraction that nabbed him, Teeter said, adding he plans to remain for the duration.

"My wife has said that there are only two ways I will ever get a divorce: Bring home another Airedale puppy, or leave Austin," he said.

So, barring future love affairs with Airedales, he's here for a while. That's good to hear. As I near graduation, I'm constantly reminding myself that, but for some luck at the district and regional meets, I'd have never participated at the State Meet, never met Dwight Teeter, never won a Houston Endowment scholarship, never studied under Dwight Teeter, never graduated from the University of Texas with a degree in journalism.

That state championship story that made it all possible ended with a brief summation of Teeter's philosophy. "I just like seeing my students succeed, in spite of me," he said.

Last week, in class, he strode in, obviously pleased, and announced, "This has been a great morning. My nine o'clock class decided to learn something today, in spite of me."

## Invitational meets

### Port Isabel

Point Isabel Independent School District will host its first elementary invitational spring meet tournament, Feb. 27 at the Port Isabel High School.

Persons interested should contact either Lorene Villareal or Cecilia Castillo at Port Isabel Elementary School.

### Sharyland (Mission)

Sharyland High School will host a math meet for area schools, January 16. The tournament will include League number sense and calculator applications competition, along with subject area tests.

For more information, contact George Natrass, tournament director,

Sharyland High School, 1106 N. Shary, Mission, 78572 or call 512/585-1381.

### University of Maryland

The seventh annual Atlantic Region Mathematics League Meet will be held at the University of Maryland, June 4-5.

Interested in forming a team to participate? Contact Alfred Kalfus, Babylon High School, Babylon, NY 11702.

### Houston Lee

Lee High School, Houston, will be hosting an invitational math-science tournament April 17.

Persons interested in more information should contact Kathryn Timme at Lee High School, telephone (713) 781-9360 or (713) 782-7300.

# \$1,000,000:

With three recent contributions to TILF college scholarship foundation, endowed funds inch steadily toward magical million dollar mark

Endowed funds to the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation crawled steadily toward one million dollars, with the acceptance of three donations of \$80,000, according to TILF secretary Dr. Rhea Williams.

"We are extremely grateful to these foundations and individuals for their contributions," Williams said. "Each year, we see outstanding young men and women complete their educations and take a place in our society, thanks in great part to the financial assistance they received from the individuals and foundations of the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation."

Scholarships presented include:

- A \$50,000 grant from the Lola Wright Foundation, bringing its total endowment to \$100,000.

- A \$25,000 grant from the Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation, bringing its endowment to \$125,000.

- A \$5,000 donation from the Fasken Foundation.

With the receipt of the three grants, the TILF endowed fund rose to \$875,000, either in hand or committed, Dr. Williams said.

Williams reminded students that the UIL spring academic and literary contests — the basis for TILF scholarship donations — will be soon conducted.

"We urge all students to participate in a UIL literary/academic contest and to work as hard as possible in the contest area selected," he said. "Of course, there are the many educational benefits of participation

as well as the opportunity to win a scholarship, and in these economic times, college financial help is needed by many."

The TILF scholarships go to select regional runners-up and State Meet participants.

"Not every State Meet qualifier receives a scholarship, but our selection committee works diligently to see that the most talented and most qualified — and in some cases, most needy — young people receive a scholarship," Williams said. "Our fundraising drive is a result of the fact that many talented and deserving young people do not receive grants simply because money is not available to give a scholarship to every qualified entrant."

Williams urged all persons eligible to ap-

ply to do so.

"Many years, students eligible to apply fail to do so," he said. "Students must keep in mind that eligibility earned as an undergraduate extends to his senior year. In other words, if a student earns eligibility for a scholarship as a freshman, sophomore or junior, he retains that eligibility after graduation his senior year and should apply for a grant."

Williams emphasized that selections are based on UIL participation as well as other school and community involvements.

In June, 165 new scholarships and 110 renewals will be awarded to some 275 students, he added. These grants will total approximately \$283,000 in scholarship funds.



# Respect, cooperation solves differences between officials, coaches, players, fans

League member schools, according to policy, must agree on officials used in any game or contest. The *Constitution and Contest Rules* lists an Official's Pay Scale for all team sports: volleyball, football, basketball, and baseball (and soccer in 82-83). There is also a scale for junior varsity and junior high games.

Some common complaints from schools are:

1. The officials are not competent enough.
2. The officials are influenced by the "home" crowd.
3. The officials over charge for travel.
4. The officials do not know the rules.
5. We do not have enough officials.
6. Officials become personally involved in the game rather than being objective.
7. Officials who are assigned some times scratch from a game without calling the schools.

On the other hand, the officials have the following complaints:

1. The pay scale is not adequate.
2. Schools are dishonest in accounting for the paid attendance.
3. Coaches do not know the rules.
4. Fans, players, and coaches are disrespectful.
5. Travel fees for junior varsity and junior high are sometimes not paid.
6. The schools dictate policy.
7. Schools are apt to scratch officials.

Sometimes it appears that both sides, the officials and the schools, lose sight of the total objective for interschool athletics. Officiating chapters do try to dictate to schools. Same schools dictate to officials. There is not enough communication, understanding, and interchange of mutual problems.

Why does the problem exist? No one simple answer will suffice. Essentially, officials are involved in a highly controversial profession. Whatever call or judgment they make they are automatically 50 percent



## Postscripts on athletics

By Bill Farney

**“It appears both sides lose sight of objective for athletics”**

wrong. It is true, many people, including coaches, do not know the rules. It is true, officials sometimes do not know the rules.

Even though the Southwest Officials Association has undergone extensive training and evaluation programs, many officials still fail to apply the correct rule or call to the situation. There are occasional incidents of verbal or even physical abuse to officials. The League has demonstrated that it will not tolerate any abuse of game officials no matter how poorly they officiate. Schools or individuals guilty of misconduct are subject to severe penalty.

Schools must remember that for the most part, the officials are calling the game because they want to; because they enjoy working with young people and feel they can contribute. If they are in it for money, they soon find out they are in the wrong profession. For the most part, the sports officials who work at UIL events

demonstrate a great deal of integrity, perseverance, and knowledge. Those few that do not demonstrate these qualities, need to either get out or get with it.

Some chapters have considered not calling games in their area unless certain conditions are met by the schools. Some schools in these same areas resent being dictated to with near union tactics. The League office recommends that no chapter in any sport mail anything to any school indicating a "chapter policy" or chapter regulation without FIRST checking with the Southwest Officials Association office in Dallas. The League office and the Southwest Officials Association office are in close communication with official's fees and other policies concerning officiating.

Schools are instructed to be prompt and punctual in their payment of approved officials fees. Furthermore, school's administrators must continually remind coaches, players, and fans to display the highest caliber of sportsmanship at all times. Never verbally or physically abuse an official.

Remember you have the option not to use that official if he or she is incompetent.

A final point: We often get reports that charge officials with being either disrespectful or incompetent. But remember, your coaching techniques or a crowd's behavior may also be judged to be incompetent or disrespectful. Officials and schools must work together for the benefit of wholesome, worthwhile interscholastic competition.

## National Federation lauds Charlie Dyer of Dallas

Charlie Dyer, Dallas ISD athletic director, has been selected as a recipient of a prestigious National Federation Citation, presented by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

The citation is presented annually to outstanding high school athletic administrators in recognition of contributions to interscholastic athletics on the local, state and national levels. As one of six recipients in 1981, Dyer was honored at the National high school athletic director conference, Dec. 8 in Las Vegas.

Dyer has been involved as a teacher, coach and administrators for 30 years. He has served as board member of the Texas High School Coaches Association, the President's Council on Youth Fitness and Vice President George Bush's "advisory committee" on the effects of Title IX.

"The recognition of such outstanding individuals as Charlie Dyer enables the National Federation to express its gratitude for the indispensable assistance of high school athletic directors in every state who make interscholastic programs possible," Federation executive director Brice Durbin said.

"Dyer truly possesses the outstanding qualities found only in the very best athletic administrators and his efforts and leadership have benefited countless people."

## Texas A&M to host soccer coaches school

In preparation for the first year of UIL soccer, a soccer coaches school will be held in June and July at Texas A&M University. Sessions will be held June 13-18, June 20-25 and June 27-July, according to Telmo Franco of the Texas A&M athletic department.

Graduate or undergraduate credit will be given. For more information, contact Franco at Texas A&M, College Station, 77843 or phone 713/845-4531.

## State soccer tournament April 8-9

# Changes few in 1982-83 tentative calendar

Continued from page 1

Feb. 15 — First day for baseball interschool scrimmages.  
Feb. 15 — Last day to certify District Girls' Basketball representatives, all conferences.  
Feb. 19 — Last day for Girls' Bi-District Basketball games.  
Feb. 19 — Last Day for holding District Swimming Meets.  
Feb. 19 — Last day to certify Girls' Basketball Bi-District winners, all conferences.  
Feb. 22 — Last day to certify District Boys' Basketball representatives, all conferences.  
Feb. 22 — Girls' Area Basketball Games.  
Feb. 23 — Last day for filing One-Act Play Title Entry Cards.  
Feb. 26 — Last day for Regional Girls' Basketball playoffs, all conferences.  
Feb. 26 — Last day for Boys' Bi-District Basketball games.  
March 1 — Boys' Area Basketball Games.  
March 1 — Last day for organizing Baseball Districts, all conferences.  
March 1 — First day for playing interschool baseball games, all conferences.  
March 3-4-5 — State Girls' Basketball Tournament, all conferences.  
March 5 — Last day for Regional Boys' Basketball playoffs, all conferences.  
March 11-12 — Regional Swimming Meets.  
March 12 — Last day to certify District soccer representatives.  
March 10-11-12 — State Boys' Basketball Tournament, all conferences.  
March 19 — Last day to certify Bi-District Soccer champions.  
March 18-19 — State Swimming Meet.  
March 18-19 — State Convention, Interscholastic League Press Conference.  
March 14-19 — Zone One-Act Play Meets allowed in districts with eight or more entries.

March 21-26 — First week for holding District Academic, Literary, and One-Act Play Spring Meets. (High school music contests are permitted only when there are no District Meets or other Spring Meet Contests.)  
March 21-26 — Week for District One-Act Play contests for districts affected by Area Meets (All except Conference AAAAA).  
March 25-26 — Annual meeting of Music Rules Advisory Committee in Austin.  
March 28-31 — First four days for District Girls' Golf, Tennis and Track & Field Spring Meets. (No District Meets may be held on April 1.)  
March 31 — Last day to certify Regional Soccer representatives.  
March 31 — Last day for holding Regional Solo and Ensemble contests.  
April 3 — Easter.  
April 4-9 — Last week for holding District Academic, Literary and One-Act Play Spring Meets. (High school music contests are permitted only when there are no District Meets or other Spring Meet Contests.)  
April 4-9 — Week for Area One-Act Play contests for districts affected by Area Meets (All except Conference AAAAA).  
April 4-9 — First week Boys' Golf, Tennis, and Track and Field District Meets allowed.  
April 4-9 — Last week Girls' Golf, Tennis, and Track and Field District Meets allowed.  
April 8-9 — State Soccer Tournament.  
April 11 — Last day for filing entries in Regional Academic, Literary, and One-Act Play.  
April 11-16 — Regional Spring Meets for Academic, Literary, and One-Act Play.  
April 15 — Entry deadline for State Solo and Ensemble Contest.  
April 18-23 — Last week for District Boys' Golf, Tennis, and Track and Field meets.  
April 18-23 — Regional Girls' Golf, Tennis, and Track and Field meets.

April 25-30 — State Meet — Literary, Academic, and One-Act Play.  
May 1 — First day for submitting applications to the League Office for TILF scholarships.  
May 2-7 — Regional Boys' Golf, Tennis, and Track and Field meets. (It is recommended that Tennis matches be held May 2, 3 or 4.)  
May 5-6-7 — State Meet — Girls' Golf, Tennis, and Track and Field.  
May 7 — Last day to determine District Baseball Representatives, Conference AAAAA.  
May 12-13-14 — State Meet — Boys' Golf, Tennis, and Track and Field.  
May 14 — Wind Ensemble Contest.  
May 14 — Last day to certify Bi-District Baseball Champions, Conference AAAAA.  
May 14 — Last day to certify District Baseball Representatives, Conference AAAAA.  
May 21 — Last day to certify Area Baseball Champions, Conference AAAAA.  
May 21 — Last day to determine Bi-District Baseball Champions, Conference AAAAA.  
May 21 — Last day to certify District Baseball Representatives, Conferences AAA, AA, and A.  
May 25 — Last day to certify Bi-District Baseball Champions, Conferences AAA, AA, and A.  
May 25 — Last day to submit applications for TILF scholarships.  
May 28 — Last day to certify Regional Baseball Champions, Conferences AAAAA and AAAAA.  
May 28 — Last day to certify Area Baseball Champions, Conferences AAA, AA, and A.  
May 28, 30 — Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest.  
June 1 — Last day to certify Regional Baseball Champions, Conferences AAA, AA, and A.  
June 4 — Last day to certify Quarterfinal Baseball Champions, all conferences.  
June 9-10 — State Baseball Tournament, all conferences.



# Speech help needed

Continued from page 8

We don't have any student speech specialists. The students we work with are also in athletics, the band, drill team and the county fair. We can't work with them in speech class, because there is no speech class. It is even difficult for the kids to watch network news — that's at a bad time for rural kids. To bigtown judges, we come to State looking unprepared. But we do our best.

Everywhere at State, we heard, "You weren't organized." We further heard that it was our responsibility to impose organization on seemingly general topics, or to make a seemingly persuasive topic informative and vice versa.

Obviously, many of the big schools can do

so admirably and did. But we don't know how. All the UIL Constitution really says is that the purpose of a persuasive speech is to persuade, or an informative speech to inform. That doesn't tell us how to analyze or organize. It doesn't tell us exactly what points judges will be looking for. One coachless A finalist asked, "When do I have to sit down?"

He had never heard of a "grace period" partly because it is nowhere written down and because there seems to be no definitive consensus in its interpretation.

We have noticed that UIL preparatory tournaments catering to smaller schools generally omit informative and persuasive as events. Topics are the probable reason. In addition to the intrinsic difficulty in devising topics, no one has ever explained

to tournament directors what informative and persuasive really mean, what good topics are, and how topics should be worded in order to accomplish their objectives, whatever they might be. Like the weather, everyone complains but no one ever does anything. Few wish to walk in where angels fear to tread.

What we need badly is direction. Workshops are great, but we are quickly intimidated when a student or coach asks a question we don't understand. We need workshops especially for us. We also need explicit written explanations of the two events, and to know that judges too have read them. We need to know that there is a consensus around the state about

what the events are, what exactly the topics and speeches are supposed to accomplish, and how we will be evaluated at all levels of competition. But from talking with other judges and coaches, I suspect there is no such consensus.

We appreciate tremendously the opportunities UIL has provided us for interscholastic competition at our own level. So much has been done so far that I feel almost guilty at asking for more help. But I will, anyway — if only because we so need it.

(The Legislative Council recently approved a Literary Committee recommendation that a study committee be appointed to develop the informative and persuasive speaking areas.)

## Sample speech topics given

Never ask an extemper a question about current events if you do not expect an informed, organized, well-ordered answer! Often the most informed students in a high school, the informative and persuasive speakers develop skills during the preparation for the contests in doing research, organizing material, and speaking effectively. These skills carry far beyond the classroom/contest setting.

Topics for informative and persuasive

speaking contests are taken from such sources as major news magazines, newspapers, and television. Examples of topics that students may find throughout the year in contests are reflected in these sample topics.

### Persuasive

- Reagan's Latin American Policy: How Successful?
- Has Reagan used up his bargaining chips with Congress?

- Will Mubarak follow the policies of Sadat?
  - Nuclear Power: Is it worth it?
  - How cohesive is the Arab world?
  - Should public employees have the right to strike?
  - How has the labor movement fared under the Reagan Administration?
  - Will the Republican Administration's attitude toward entitlements help or hurt reelection chances?
- Informative**
- What are some of the significant recent developments in cancer research?

- Who is William Wayne Justice?
- Who are the contesting parties in the Namibian struggle?
- What is Britain's Social Democratic Party?
- What are organized labor's grievances against the Reagan Administration?
- Trace the development of the break in relations between the USA and Libya.
- Thatcher/Williams/Foot: Compare their politics.
- What political climate and circumstances would allow Clements to be reelected as Governor of Texas?

# A long row to plow yet, but the ground is softer

Continued from page 4

right bad; anybody who had implied that it was good was myopic. And that reminded me of one of our graduates years ago who reported that at her first contest, a panel of three little old ladies had coyly stated at the outset, "We don't really know anything about drama, but we watch TV a lot."

One beautiful irony happened not while I was a contest judge but when we were hosting a contest on the SHSU campus. I was simply watching a rehearsal, but the director and the mother of a young actress latched on to me to give me a 30-minute rundown about the girl's genius; they were doing a cutting of *Anastasia* because they had been so impressed by the Ingrid Bergman/Helen Hayes film, and they were sure that they had a scene that would electrify Texas.

You wonder how blood relationship can so blind a person — how this mother could watch the Bergman/Hayes combination and then not discern the travesty unfolding before us on the stage for what it was — pitiful. This does not take away from the fact that the two young girls were doing the best they knew how to do, that their effort was sincere — but the two adults were doing them no kind of favor in telling them that Bergman and Hayes were in danger of losing their laurels.

Over the years the contests have taken me from the Louisiana line down to Port Arthur, all along the coast past Port Lavaca, over to Austin and San Antonio, up to

Kilgore and over to Lubbock and many points in between; the range has been from the smallest to State. As you can tell, there has been work that almost made me cry, it was so bad — or laugh sometimes because it was so bad — and then made me labor mightily to tell the truth in ways that would not seem cutting, in ways that could be construed as helpful.

Now and then, there was work that moved me tremendously — moved me as a theatre work and moved me because it is a tremulous sensation to feel suddenly that you are seeing the butterfly unfold its wings for the first time. That sort of thing just didn't happen as often in the old days as it does now.

What has been so noticeable in the last few years is a much higher general stand of high school work. In these years my judging has been much more limited because of increasing work load and change of positions at SHSU, but I have realized that I was leaning forward with much greater interest more of the time and spending less time squirming in my seat and prying my eyelids apart.

The 1980 season was like an explosion for me: I saw a production of *Exit the King* that was superb, even down to the last little bit of make-up. A couple of weeks later in a zone contest in a large city, I saw a cutting of *The Shadow Box* that had the poignancy, the sensitivity, and the penetration that one might normally expect from actors of much greater age and experience. Both of these plays are difficult to do well, and oh,

how well — how well they were done here!

With *The Shadow Box*, I could hardly believe my eyes, and for two reasons: (1) It did not seem possible that only one high school in that end of that city could have access to students with that degree of capability, and (2) It hardly seemed possible that a first-year director could so out-perform her competitors.

In 1981, I judged only two contests, one district and one regional, and even on the State level, I have never seen UIL contests with as good an overall level of work. Furthermore, each of these contests had two schools doing the same play, and in each case these plays were done back-to-back. In each case, the schools that were doing the same play (*Romeo and Juliet* in one and *Antigone* in the other) took highly different approaches; in each case, each production was delightful.

It was a relief when UIL regulations were changed to permit sending two plays forward from each contest, for in good contests there is sometimes almost no way a single winner can be picked without reducing a judge to babbling frustration. More important, it gives good students a chance to learn more and more. But as for the judge, better this problem than the other of choosing the least of various evils.

In the case of *Romeo and Juliet*, I did not send both plays forward, but I have never seen better losers from the director on down through the stage-hands. While I genuinely hated not to be able to send them forward, too, I could not help but admire

their discipline and their attitude, for there is no way to avoid being disappointed at missing by a hair.

In the case of the two *Antigone* productions, it was absolutely amazing to sit back, review the notes, and realize how equally impressive the two versions were — and how utterly different; they both went forward. This sort of thing never came up 30 years ago.

As I relax and stretch, cat-like, in retirement, this says to me that the one-act play contest is not only increasing in participants but also in quality. Slowly but surely, Texas has to be nurturing a more sophisticated and demanding theatre audience, and that cannot help but be to everyone's benefit.

A former student who was present at this session on November 7th remarked to me that if she were to try to do one of the old stand-bys of earlier years such as *Antigone* now, her students' parents would take her out to the tar and feathers; her next production is to be *Equus*.

Of course, Texas has not suddenly become a theatrical paradise. There's a long, long row to plow yet, but I do believe the ground is softer now. I honestly believe that the efforts of the UIL, and its conscientious concern for good standards and good sportsmanship, have made and will continue to make a great cultural contribution to this state. Despite retirement, I'll still participate on occasion when people will have me — if some wild and wonderful trip isn't on the agenda at that moment. Schedules are flexible, however — in retirement.