Some sixth graders at Lederle Middle School wrote letters to a gov-ernment agency in Newfoundland opposing Canada's seal hunt, only to have their ideas tagged foul and their teacher called a brainwasher.

After reading an article in their Jun-Atter reading an article in their Jun-ior Scholastic magazine, the Southfield social studies class discussed the plight of baby seals with teacher Steve Goldberg. The magazine story explained that baby seals were being killed for food and fur coats. Appalled by the slaughtering, the

Pacheco paces NF soccer squad

Debbie Pacheo, a middle forward on North Farmington's girls' soccer fearn. Scored three goals last Wednes-ream. Scored three goals last Wednes-ream. Scored three goals last Seed for the goals for the seed of the goals this season. Susan Pacheo added two goals and nassist, and Kathy Cole had one goal against. Harrison. In other recent games, North befated Livonia Frank-lin (6-1) and Livonia Churchill (4-0). Coach Mark Hoerner's Raiders, now 8-1 this season, play next on Wednesday (May 31) at Farmington High. The game has a 3:45 p.m. start.

students began a grass roots letter-irit-ing campaign to express their opin-

ing campaign to express their opinions.
Sixty-nine pupils wrote to St. John's Tourist Commission and Convention Bureau in St. John's, Newfoundland. Only one letter favore due seal hunt.
A few months later, Goldberg received a letter from the commission manager John Tessier, stating that the 'small chitdren were subjected to a blanket brainwashing session."
Tessier explained in his letter that the massive seal herd consumes more fish than is caught in the commercial fishery. That is frightening because the seal herd is actually growing, he said, He enclosed brochures discussing Newfoundland's ressoning for hunting seals.

FOLLOWING the surge of letters to St. John's Tourist Commission, an article appeared in their local paper The Evening Telegram, telling how an article on the seal hunt hit an American school magazine. "It evolbed a flood of organized criticism from a

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group of Michigan sixth graders," the reporter wrote: Quotes from the stu-dent's letters accompanied the story. Correspondence between New-foundland and Southfield continued. A Correspondence between New A. S. John's resident saw the story and wroke a letter to Goldberg, saying this armount of the continued of the con

money."
THE STUDENTS DISAGREE that their letter writing campaign was hate mail. Instead they contend they were excerising their rights to make their

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"People have a right to say what they feel. Mr. Goldberg was not brain-washing us like they said. We just wanted to tell our opinions," student Ellen Folbe said.

wanted to tell our opinions." student Ellen Folbe said.

"We weren't trying to write hate mail. We sent them the letters to let them know how the people feel in America," said 12-year-old Blake Thomas. "I don't think they understood what we were saying. They wrote us back but go off the subject in the letter."

Eleven-year-old Karen Walli, says the fault for the baby seal slaughter lies with both the U.S. and Newfoundland.

"They can't prove that the sealty won't become extinct and we can't prove that they will," she added. Objections to the slaughter centered primarily around the frivolous use of the dead seals.

"It would be one thing if they were cusing them for food, but they're not. They are using them for furs and money," says Craig Frost, 12.

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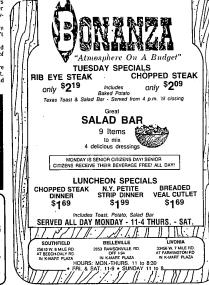
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