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PG-251-110



IN WHAT APPEARS to be the moment of truth, two members of the Wayne State University Children's Theatre are shown in "The Emperor's New Clothes." The play will be presented Sunday, Feb. 6, at 2:30 p.m., in the Louis E. Schmidt Auditorium of Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middle Belt, Livonia. Tickets at 50 cents each will be on sale at the auditorium box office Feb. 3 and 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mail orders will be filled by Mrs. Jan Slatin, 20394 Louise, Livonia. A stamped, self-addressed envelope should be enclosed.

A Student View: 'Mind-Squashing'

By EDWARD WENDOVER

What do Clarenceville High School (CHS) students think of school?

Several of them expressed their opinions in a video-tape shown to CHS teachers during an in-service day conference last month.

The following excerpts were taken from the audio portion of that tape with permission of the students:

"I LIKE learning, thinking - it's a great thing and I dig it," a boy said. "But I'm not sure about the priority business that they (teachers and school administrators) have. It seems like the administration puts authority, time, schedules and community pressures all above the students and getting a real educational system."

A girl said, "It's (school) supposed to prepare you for your ultimate goals in life. I'm sure that reading and writing aren't going to prepare you for everything you're going to encounter in your life, and there are so many sheltered kids - even their parents don't really care what's going on. They're the kids that are going to suffer if we can't bring other things into the school!"

"There are a few teachers on the staff who know what we're talking about," a boy said. "They know it's right, and then there's the rest of them who've heard it all before, and they just have no reaction to it. I really don't

have too much hope this (videotape) is going to do any good," he said.

A girl said school had machine-like qualities.

"They (teachers and administrators) don't want you to think and question because if you do you won't fit into the pattern," she said. "The idea is to keep you that way; they don't want you to think. It's like we were animals and conditioned to respond to a bell and punished if we don't."

"I'M GETTING the impression - and maybe I'm wrong - that teachers are in this just as a job and going through the motions," a boy said.

"This year I have two or three classes that I feel like I'm learning something in, but I feel like I won a victory over the system and I'm learning something in spite of it," one girl said. "What I've gotten from school I've gotten by struggling and I've endured the rest of it to learn what I have learned."

"There's no reason why school has to be a sterile place," a boy said.

"If you force someone in a direction, they're not really going to learn," said another youth.

"We want to set our own direction," a girl said. "God help me if I'd been left to be given direction by my parents alone," a boy said. "And God help me if I'd been left to the schools to give me a direction."

"TEACHERS HAVE to come down to the level of students or let students consider themselves on the same level as teachers," another youth said.

"I feel like my mind is being squashed down not to think and I wonder if they (teachers) know they're doing this to us," a girl said. "We tell them we don't want this, we're bored with this, but they just keep giving it to us," she said.

Harmon's Back

Marine Cpl. Carlton J. Harmon, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.J. Harmon of 16476 Fairway, Livonia, has returned to the United States with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 333 after a six-month cruise in the Mediterranean aboard the aircraft carrier USS America, homeported at Norfolk, Va. Harmon and other "Shamrocks" of Squadron 333 participated in several international NATO operations while they were in the Mediterranean aboard the America, and have now returned to their homebase at the Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, S.C.

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18-Year-Olds Get New Duties

In line with lowering of the age of majority, the Clarenceville Board of Education has recognized the legal rights of its newly-enfranchised students.

Although students 18 years old and over will be expected to continue to follow school rules which are not based on legal age, responsibility for report cards, attendance and other activities will be given majority age students who request it.

According to the rules adopted unanimously by the board at its Dec. 13 meeting, the adult responsibilities will be given to those students 18 years and older who notify the schools that they wish to assume them.

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