

Hillel Day School is innovative

By NANCY STEIN

Good innovation is always exciting, and what's going on in the library of the Hillel Day School, 32200 Middlebelt, is good innovation.

A program called Cross-Age Learning has been created by librarian Mrs. Marcia Fligman and sociology teacher Dr. Allen Bramson.

It's kind of a "big brother" arrangement, in which the five 10th grade boys (that's the whole class) aid, assist and sometimes teach 11 of the schools fourth graders.

No credit is given, and there are no grades, but the kids run to class and hate to leave.

"IT'S NOTHING like those programs most elementary schools have where the first sixth graders read to the slow first graders," said Mrs. Fligman.

Careful matching in this program seems to have made all the students successful.

For example, David Rosen is a 10th grader who was especially attentive in his biology class last year because he hopes to become a doctor. Earlier this year he did a project called, "The Changing Military."

The two fourth graders he works with are Danny Cohen and Howie Lupovitch. Danny's project in the program is "Changes in Ways of War" and Howie's is a project in "Human Anatomy."

In David Rosen they have a real expert for their resource person.

THE PROGRAM came about because this group of fourth graders were coming to the library three times a week for some form of enrichment.

"They were the ones who got their work done early and then drove the teacher up the wall," explained Mrs. Fligman.

Mrs. Fligman sees a librarian's role as that of a total resource person. Quiet in the library is of no importance to her. She wants to see the library being used and used and used to be a resource center.

She sets the children to work with

independent projects of their own choosing.

When Danny Cohen came to her with questions about his war project, she asked Dr. Bramson if he could offer any additional information. He said he had something better.

A boy in his class who had completed a project that made him practically expert on the subject.

That was where the teaming idea began.

Presently, the fourth graders come to the library three days a week to work on their projects, and the projects are sophisticated, ranging from investigative reports to a filming and acting project that will culminate in an educational movie to be given to the school.

The 10th grade advisers meet with their "students" in the library one day a week offering technique ideas, tools, suggestions for organization and the like. The other four days they meet with Dr. Bramson in their sociology class.

"How they act on their own is practically disgusting sometimes," said Mrs. Fligman, referring to the 10th graders, "but in here it's amazing. They take on the role of teacher and they're great."

Role playing was one of Dr. Bramson's objectives for his students.

It's interesting to see how well Mrs. Fligman's aims for this program dovetail with Dr. Bramson's even though they are entirely different.

Mrs. Fligman's objectives for the fourth graders are: expand learning a specific subject area; develop independent work habits and attitudes; develop research techniques; and learn to transfer techniques, and learn to transfer concept and information into a meaningful activity.

Dr. Bramson's goals for the sociology class are to: learn sensitivity to others; understand the process of role playing; evaluate interaction and various roles people play in groups; analyze research techniques, and learn methods for evaluating research techniques.

Heady goals, and they seem to be being attained. The 10th graders were unsure at first that they could handle it, but Dr. Bramson said, "They even surprised themselves."

As for the fourth grade, well, instead of threatening them with "You can't go to gym if you don't behave," at Hillel Day School, the teacher says, "If you don't stop that I'm not going to let you go to library."

Paper drive for scouts

Boy Scout Troop No. 231 will hold a paper drive on Saturday, March 23 at the Larkshire Elementary School on Tuck Road north of Shiawassee in Farmington.

The scouts will be on hand to unload newspapers and magazines from cars to a trailer.

People in the area are asked to participate and help the scouts meet their expenses.

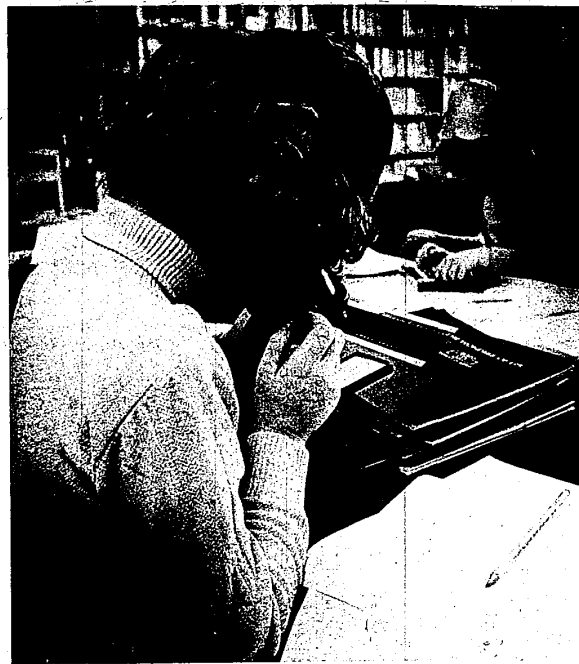
On dean's list

Kari Lynn Margaret Case, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Henry Case, 28088 Pimlico, Farmington has made the Dean's List of Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina.

On all 'A' list

Christine E. Lynott, 32143 Lee Lane, Farmington, was named on the all "A" list at Texas Woman's University during the fall semester. She received the placement by earning a 3.0 average.

Mrs. Lynott is a senior at the university.



ROBERT UDMAN looks at a filmstrip

Students will set counselors straight

High school counselors have reason to wonder how their former students are getting along in college and if they have, in fact, given them good advice about college.

On Monday, senior high school counselors from all over the state, including those from Southfield and Farmington, will attend a program at Oakland University called "Principal-Counselor-Freshman Conference."

The conference will allow high school personnel to talk with their former students. It will give each a chance to ask the other, "How did we do?"

Library shows play excerpts

All four Farmington High Schools will present excerpts from their spring play productions, Wednesday, March 20, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the 12 Mile Rd. library branch.

The first program, sponsored by the Farmington Friends of the Library, was such a success last year that the board of the Friends and the appreciative audience concurred it should become an annual event.

This year Farmington High School, under the direction of Vestus Spindler, will offer brief scenes from "L'il Abner."

North Farmington High School will entertain with short humorous story-telling, balanced with serious oratory, as described by Dean Cobb, the director.

Mercy High will give a preview of their production of "Carousel," with Ronald Sill and Susan Kane in charge of selections.

Harrison High will contribute segments of a forensic program, which Barbara Dubb, director, describes as "refreshing."

The presentation with all four high schools participating was originated by Mary Mitchell, head librarian. There is no admission charge.

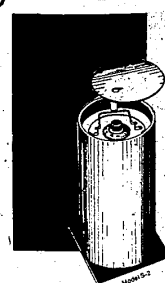
Immunization shots are free

Immunization shots for measles, German measles, polio, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, and tuberculin skin tests are available free to all Oakland County children from 3 months through high school age.

They are offered by the Oakland County Health Department and no appointment is necessary. The only requisite is that the department be furnished with all previous immunization records.

In Southfield, persons may go direct to the South Oakland Health Dept., 27725 Greenfield Road, on Monday through Friday from 8:30-11 a.m. and from 1-4 p.m.

In Farmington, persons may go to the First Methodist Church, Warner and Grand River, on the second Thursday of the month from 9-12 noon.



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