

On the paper: The place to be at Harrison

By Tom Baer
staff writer

Kathy Nyberg sounds more like a football coach than a journalism teacher when she talks about her labor of love — The Catalyst, the student newspaper of Farmington Harrison High School.

"I have to say that I have the horses," said the enthusiastic advisor to the recently honored paper. "I'm not pulling this out of a hat. I have the talent on my staff."

Long known for its football excellence (the unbeaten Hawks will play Dearborn Fordson in the Class A state semifinals Saturday), Harrison also has a good-looking journal to carry results of the games — plus all the other school news.

The Catalyst, 16 pages in four sec-

***'It's a success train
and people want to be
on it.'***

***— Kathy Nyberg, advisor to
Harrison paper***

tions appearing every three weeks, earned the Columbia University Scholastic Press Association's highest award, a first place Medalist Certificate for 1983-84.

The award means that The Catalyst is in the top 10 percent of prep papers serving the nation's high schools in the semimonthly Saturday, Harrison also has 1,000 to 1,500-student range, according to Nyberg.

"It's considered the granddaddy of the awards," she said. "They're the pickiest."

Added Harrison principal James Ceiger, "We've been working toward this national standard — and we've finally accomplished it. We're very proud of them."

Asked how she and her staff pulled it off, Nyberg answered:

"High energy level all the time. There is never a letup. The pace is frenetic — and it's fun."

"And the kids are turned on by it. It's a chance for them to combine their writing skills, their observations, their personalities and see a product from it."

NYBERG, THE PAPER'S advisor for nine of the last 16 years, seems to be The Catalyst's catalyst. Under her guidance the staff has swelled to more

Please turn to Page 13



Matt Freedman (sitting) and Robbie Ellenstein discuss a movie review written by Freedman for The Catalyst.



Kathy Nyberg, Farmington Harrison journalism teacher and advisor to The Catalyst, looks over some copy with student Nancy Onisko, editor of the paper's Focus section.

memory lane

Memories, memories . . . have we got the memories. And we'd like to share them with you. Using local newspaper files, we're dishing up generous slices of life in the Farmington community from 40, 30, 20 and 10 years ago.

NOV. 16, 1944 —

FARMINGTON HIGH capped an unbeaten prep football season with a 18-12 victory over Reed Union in the season finale Nov. 9. Quarterback Ronnie Bacon threw touchdown passes to Bobby McLean and Don Ferguson, and dropped both extra points for coach Robert Hutton's Falcons. Bill Hobbs ran for two RU touchdowns.

CLASSIFIED AD: "FOR SALE — 1 pig, about 150 lbs. 7 eight week old pigs, and army saddle at 23840 Middlebelt. Phone 354-W." Another classified: "WANTED — Woman or girl for cleaning. Will pay 60¢ an hour. Phone 0104-W."

"THE CLOCK PLACED high on the right side of the Civic Theatre is definitely a big help," noted around the Block item on page one of the Farmington Enterprise. "Thanks, Mr. McConnell. Incidentally, those who wish to go to the movie on Thanksgiving Day are reminded that there is a matinee, so if you feel like a bit of entertainment in the afternoon, the Civic Theatre is the answer."

SHORT ITEM: "Born to Mr. and Mrs. J.F. White (Esther Seelye) a son, Walter Edward, at Detroit Osteopathic Hospital, Nov. 1." Another short item: "Several members of the Blue Star Mothers met with Mrs. Ralph Auten for a quilting part Wednesday."

"PUT YOUR FARM machinery in good working order for the coming season," advised an advertisement for the Everett Implement Company, Grand River at Orchard Lake Road. "Let us make the necessary repairs NOW — while we both have the time. Be ready for your spring work!"

NOV. 18, 1954 —

THOMAS SCHRIER of the Farmington Township police apparently scared off several individuals who were stripping a stolen car in a wooded area north of Howard Road between Helix and Haggerty roads. The car, owned by Carl Blehl of Detroit, was found ransacked with its rear jacked up.

"THE EXPECTED HAS happened," noted an Enterprise editorial, "namely Joseph McCarthy has blasted individuals, individually and collectively, the members of the special committee which has recommended censure of the Senator from Wisconsin."

"McCarthy's script follows an equally expected pattern with the main theme centering around the charge that the committee is 'an unwitting handmaiden to the Communist party.' The Senator has always been quick to take his critics as either Red sympathizers or soft toward Communists. It is a handy diversionary tool which has no foundation in record or fact."

"No one has any quarrel with McCarthy in his basic desire to rid the country of Communists. But there is considerable concern over the methods and techniques used by the Senator. This is an important line of demarcation which McCarthy does not choose to recognize. The question is not Communist or not, but rather McCarthy. Other leaders have done an equally effective job in fighting Communism and they have done it without insult and fanfare."

"We can expect the expected from McCarthy . . . and we're getting it."

AN "ANTI-COMMUNIST Rally" was scheduled for Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 24, at the Farmington First Baptist Church. The speaker, Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, was to speak on "The Communist Blueprint for the Conquest of the United States."

SIRLOIN STEAK was advertised for 59 cents a pound at Farmington Meats, 33419 Farmington Road. Also advertised: Domino sugar, 39 cents for a five-pound bag.

NOV. 18, 1964 —

A GROUP OF ABOUT 25 residents of Warner Farms subdivision appeared at a recent Farmington City Council meeting to demand that action be taken to prevent nearby Bill Root Chevrolet from building a parking lot on its property.

SEVERAL HOMES IN THE Meadowbrook Hills subdivision in Farmington Township were without water because construction of a sewer nearby interrupted the flow of water from private wells.

"WHATEVER ELSE YOU may say about Barry Goldwater, don't knock his golf," said Farmington Observer publisher Paul Chandler in his Facts and Opinions column on the front page of the paper. "While visiting the club where the Senator played in Jamaica, we received an intelligence report that he carries a golf handicap of only three . . . which puts him down in the almost-professional class. Barry's three-handicap compares, for instance, to Eisenhower's 16-handicap."

FARMINGTON AND North Farmington finished their football season by playing to a scoreless tie on Nov. 14 at North. "We held their passing attack well in check," said Farmington coach John Hayes. Farmington finished at 5-3-1. North bowed out at 7-1, the lone loss to Livonia Franklin.

NOV. 18, 1974 —

THE FARMINGTON Board of Education was to meet in an open study session Nov. 18 to discuss millage needs. Shortage of funds has been a constant topic of discussion at school board meetings since two recent requests for millage were voted down. Supt. Marinus VanAmeyde was expected to ask the board to hire a research firm to determine population trends for future enrollment needs and to conduct a survey of community attitudes regarding schools.

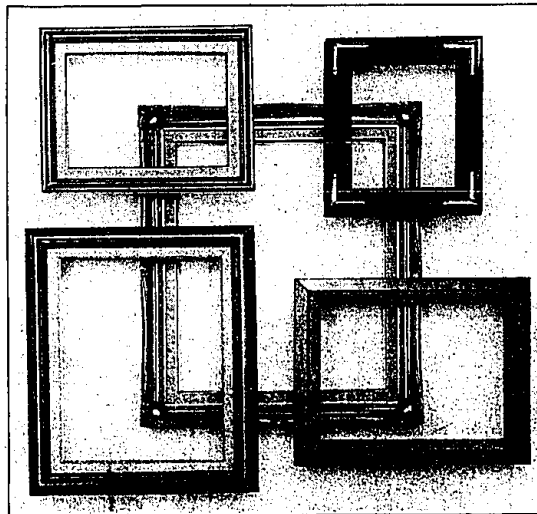
MICHIGAN BELL's downtown Farmington office at 33616 Farmington Road was to be closed Nov. 27 as part of an austerity program.

DOUGLAS J. GAYNOR was named director of the Farmington Area Recreation Commission. Gaynor, whose duties in Farmington were to begin Dec. 16, was Southfield's Recreation Supervisor. The Farmington Area Recreation Commission was formed in 1963 by Farmington, Farmington Township and the school districts of Clarencville and Farmington.

IN THE NOV. 5 general election, Margaret G. Schaeffer defeated Judith A. Holis, 9,318 votes to 8,816, for a seat on the bench of the 47th District Court in Farmington.

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