

The Oak

JUNE, 1955

ROYAL OAK HIGH SCHOOL

ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

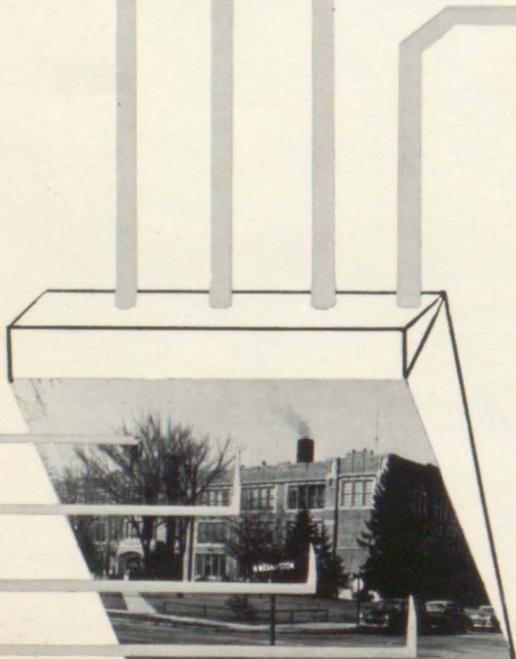
The school has been the center of our lives, the focal point of four years of work and play. It may be likened to a prism which receives and bends rays of light. The school has received us as students, and bent us as beams of light. Each beam represented an individual, pursuing his own course, but who was in turn, to center his interests on the four main facets of his high school career—the classes, sports, activities, and seniors.

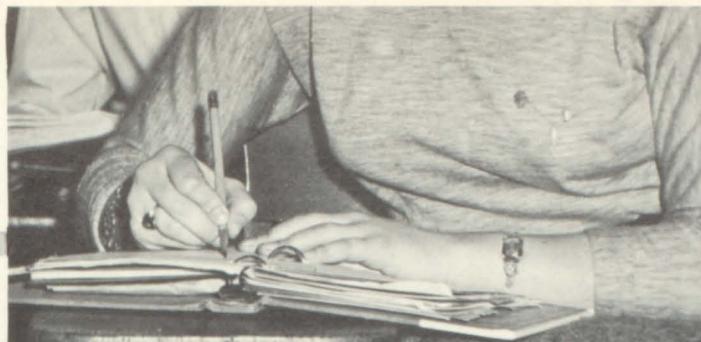
Each of us has been affected in many ways by our school; we have had the time and opportunity to explore the four facets, to discover where our interests lay. Some of us have felt more at home in exploring one facet than another, because that phase of our school life seemed most important. A few students probably have done little more than touched each ray and have not explored the part of life to which it leads.

Yet, there have been others who have worked for the benefits at the end of each ray; they have worked equally in all phases and have found enjoyment and knowledge in their work.

In the following pages we will look more closely at our four main facets and the "beams of light" which comprised them. We will recall the various moods, thoughts, jokes, and ideas which we developed as we participated in our school program.

We have entered here to learn, and we are ready to go forth to serve, but we will always be indebted to the school, our prism.

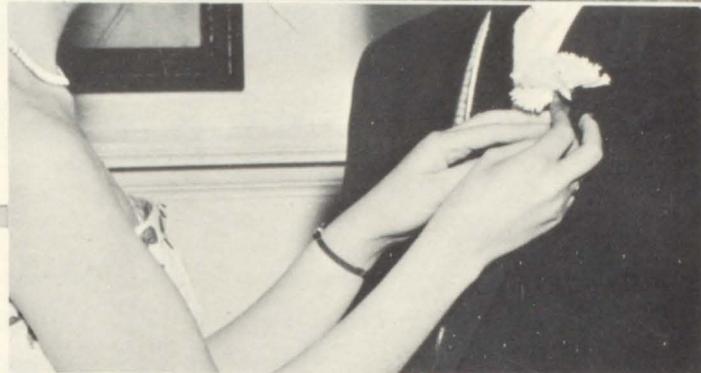




CLASSES



SPORTS



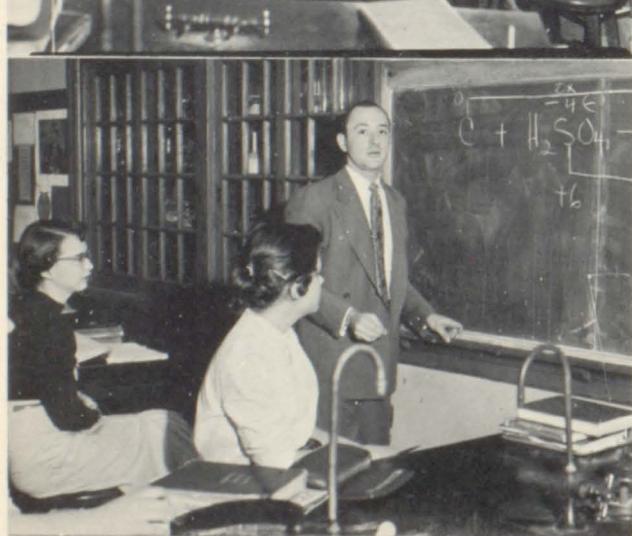
ACTIVITIES



SENIORS



DEDICATION



We, the class of June, 1955, dedicate our Oak to a 1943 graduate of Royal Oak High and a present chemistry teacher, Mr. Richard Hursh.

Our class will always be indebted to him for his help in chemistry even though we made it almost impossible for him to convince us that three liters and two liters equal four liters, let alone that $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3 + 2\text{HCl} \rightarrow 2\text{NaCl} + \text{SO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$!

Those of us who worked with him on the track team and on the swimming team are also grateful to him for his pep talks, advice, and easy-going manner.

Dedicating this yearbook to Mr. Hursh is our way of saying thank you. We are proud to honor him for all he has done for us.



GOOD BYE, MRS. BOHLEN

Mrs. Louise Bohlen

After twenty years as an art teacher at Royal Oak High School, Mrs. Louise Bohlen is retiring.

She began her teaching career in a country school, but after two years she transferred to Ferris Institute where she remained for thirty-six months. After an additional eight years at Grand Rapids Central High and a year in Detroit, Mrs. Bohlen joined the ROHS faculty.

Her theory of instructing art classes not by supervision but by inspiration has been effective, for many former students have gone on to successful art careers. She has often thought of going into commercial art herself, but her interest in young people has been so strong that she never made the change.

Mrs. Bohlen's plans for the future include teaching adult education courses in ceramics and copper enameling at Royal Oak High next fall.





OAK STAFF



Showing off the Oak posters are Marie Waatti and Al Peterson.

Editor Sarah Weiner
 Assistant Editor Barnard Collier
 Business Manager Lyn Lyon
 Editorial Staff Joan Kaatz, Pat Bowles
 Staff Members Gloria Allston, Margaret Ballantyne, Barb Baltzly, Ellen Brindle, Mike Coffeen, Joy Cooper, Jeannie Day, Sue DeHart, Ron DuBois, Betty Fries, John Hall, Sheila Haskin, Barbara Heid, Sue Hill, Sherry Hood, Ron Jones, John Kaehler, Linda Kayes, Joan Logan, Claudia Lomerson, Barb McClelland, Nowana Maynard, Ruth Mittelstadt, Don Otero, Judy Patton, Sondra Perkins, Al Peterson, Sue Pickard, Carolyn Preish, Jane Sherwood, Claudia Taylor, Miriam Taylor, Marie Waatti, Fran Warth, Ruth Wickham, Teddie Wicktor, Pat Zaucha.
 Sponsor I. A. Rosen



Ellen Brindle, Lyn Lyon, and Sue Pickard are checking to make sure they all have the same total of money for ads.



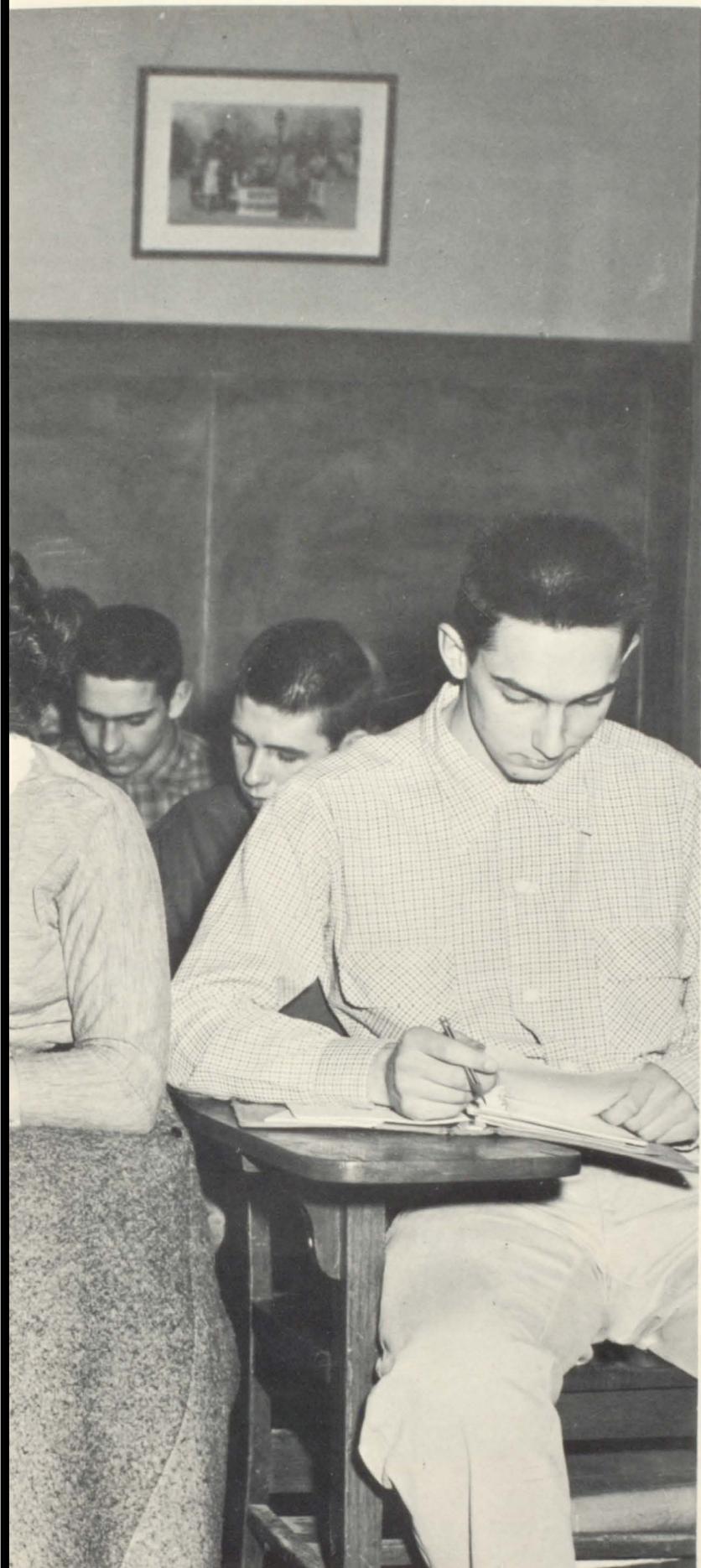
Don Otero, John Kaehler, Sherry Hood, and Carolyn Preish look very absorbed in something — but they're really acting.



"Now that is the way it's supposed to be," says Sarah Weiner to Pat Bowles, Barney Collier, and Joan Kaatz.







The first ray in the prism focused on our classes, those sessions in which we continued to struggle with readin', writin', and 'rithmetic. As freshmen, we were puzzled by all the adjustments of high school, but even more so by some of our courses. Algebra was a foreign language that we had trouble interpreting; English was the same old thing, but somehow it managed to become even more complicated; and in our civics classes, we forgot what was north and what was south in our state.

Sophomore classes held a wider variety of things about which to learn. Those interested in commercial and secretarial work took typing and shorthand, while vocationally minded students began work in the shops.

In connection with retailing and other commercial courses, some of us worked in the co-op training program, doing secretarial work, selling, and sometimes bookkeeping. College prep students delved into world history and a foreign language, and everyone read *Julius Caesar*.

CLASSES

When we reached our junior year, we began to feel more like upperclassmen. Our work remained a challenge to us, nonetheless, and U.S. history and advanced algebra caused much torn hair and chewed pencils.

We began our senior year under new circumstances. For the first time, we were without homerooms, and classes lasted from eight in the morning until almost five in the afternoon. Many of us found schedules a little inconvenient, but we learned to take them in stride. Classes continued as usual, just as interesting and especially exciting, for graduation was only ten months away. We tried to reduce our class loads to have time for senior activities, but we were still able to study trig, physics, government, and advanced comp. As juniors in chemistry, we learned how to blow up the school, but in sociology, we learned why we shouldn't. Some classes we liked; others we felt were forced upon us, but as we look back on them, we realize that they were all a necessary part of our preparation for the future.

ENGLISH CLASSES

Traditionally, English classes must be taken, but are not to be enjoyed. This is a very bad situation, since English is our native tongue, and to be considered literate, we must have at least a partial grasp of it. This picture of distress is rapidly changing in ROHS, however. Visual education, phonograph records, recording devices, and better books are supplementing the regular educational aids. Soon T.V. will be used to increase the potential scope of learning. Many more valuable and interesting new teaching techniques can be foreseen. The future looks rosy for the new students, but our years went something like this:

In the ninth grade ROHS freshmen battled diagraming from Warriners Handbook and spelling in English classes.

Tenth grade classes concentrated on the classics, *Silas Marner*, and the *Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. And since no sophomore year would be complete without coming to bury Caesar, the students read Shakespeare's tragedy.

English 5 classes meant speeches galore to all juniors in Miss Breclaw's and Mr. Mead's speech classes.

American literature was covered by English 6 students. Their reading introduced them to the blood and thunder sermons of Jonathan Edwards and the subtle humor of James Thurber.

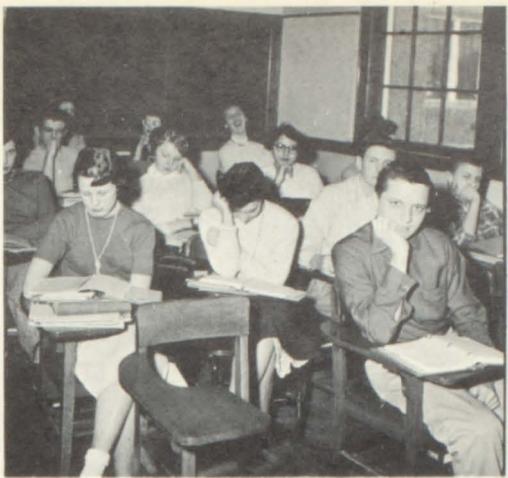
Then came English 7 and 8 featuring Shakespeare, Milton, Chaucer, Keats, Shelly, and Charles Dickens.

Upon graduation students had received a well-rounded background in English. They, of course, were glad it was all over, but they realized that it was worthwhile.



Dynamic Mr. Coughlin puts across a point in his advanced comp class at the beginning of the day (l.), but by late afternoon (above) he is exhausted!

In English 6, Bonnie Recht, Lisbeth Nisbett, Joan Millard, Sharon Martin, Sharon MacKinder, Dick Lechleitner, and Gene Francis ponder over their reading assignments.



Going over some exciting detective stories in English 2 are (l. to r.) Jim Leach, Anita Pettersson, Pete Raymoure, and Lanette Upton.

Rose Marie Loomis, Barb Baltzly, Margaret Bearess, Marcia Bracher, and Ron Jones seem unconvinced as Mr. Morren points out how important the dictionary is to advanced comp students.



Participating in a panel discussion in Mrs. Goodrich's English 3 class are (l. to r.) Kenneth Collier, Miles Young, John Rubert, Rita Michel, and Bill Oleshansky.



Ray Vejack, a very happy corpse, plays Julius Caesar with (l. to r.) Phyllis Mankee, Karen Last, Mike Jackson, Suzette Kirkpatrick, and John Davis taking supporting roles, in English 4.

It looks like Chuck Charmatz and Mr. Rosen are having a difference of opinion on an English 7 question. Mickey Beigler, Fred Nahabedian, and Marcia Wittmer follow the action intently.



Norma Webb gets some tips from her advanced speech teacher, Mr. James Mead, on how to use the microphone. Nancy Eddy, Roberta Bouchard, Dale Palmer, Melvin Ojala, Tom Hahn, Mike Apostall, and Dave Sanford (l. to r.) listen, too.

Judy Angeloscci, Carlin Orr, Harold Laske, Dick MacDonald, and Joyce Andreason (l. to r.) pay close attention to a speech by Joe Murray in Miss Breclaw's English 5 class.

A few seniors in ROHS can look back on four years of math classes, although most of them remember only general math or first year algebra.

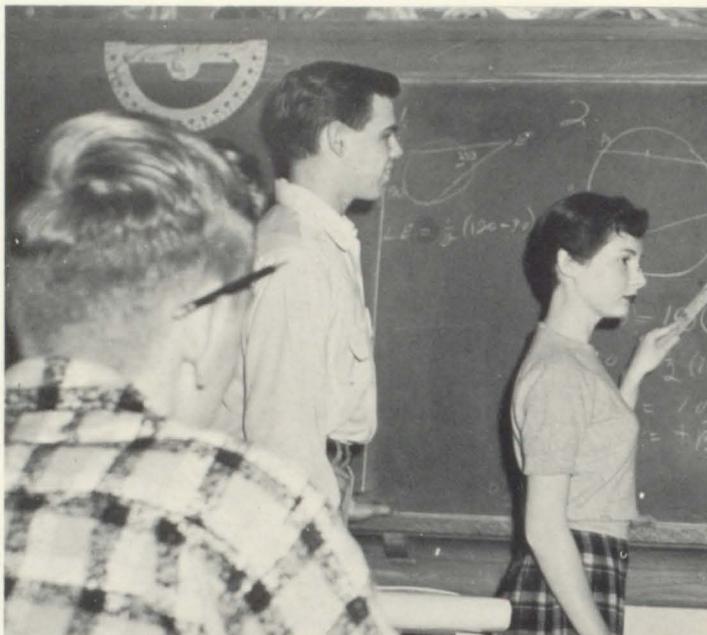
Ninth graders entered algebra and struggled and sweated to find the value of "x." One day, the geniuses finally succeeded in finding it, only to have the teacher give them homework for the next night in which they had to solve for the unknown all over again. By the time they were ready to leave for higher math, they had found at least four thousand values for "x" and still were not sure which one was correct.

Sophomores took geometry and were no longer concerned with "x's"; now they tried to prove that two obviously straight lines were straight, and having finished this, attempted to prove that circles were round. They found how many degrees angles contained and why they contained them. After a year of proofs, hypotheses and theorems, they advanced another step in mastering math.

Juniors went happily into a more advanced algebra, glad to work again with letters, instead of little pictures. The work was harder than expected and some budding mathematicians almost drove Miss Gibson to distraction with their ignorance.

Finally, seniors entered Mrs. Hoffman's trig class, their minds filled with tangents, co-sines, and other confusing terms. The second half of the year was devoted to solid geometry with Miss Kirk, where they studied shapes of cones and spheres. It was plane geometry all over again, this time in 3-D.

MATH CLASSES



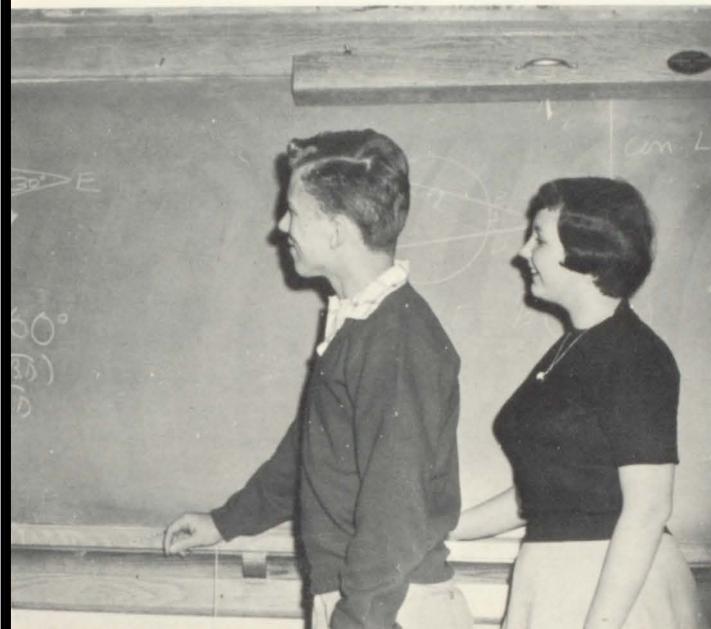
Carol Burns explains the problem to Bob Kauppi, Joe Wickers, and Nancy Smith in Miss E. Schulte's geometry class.



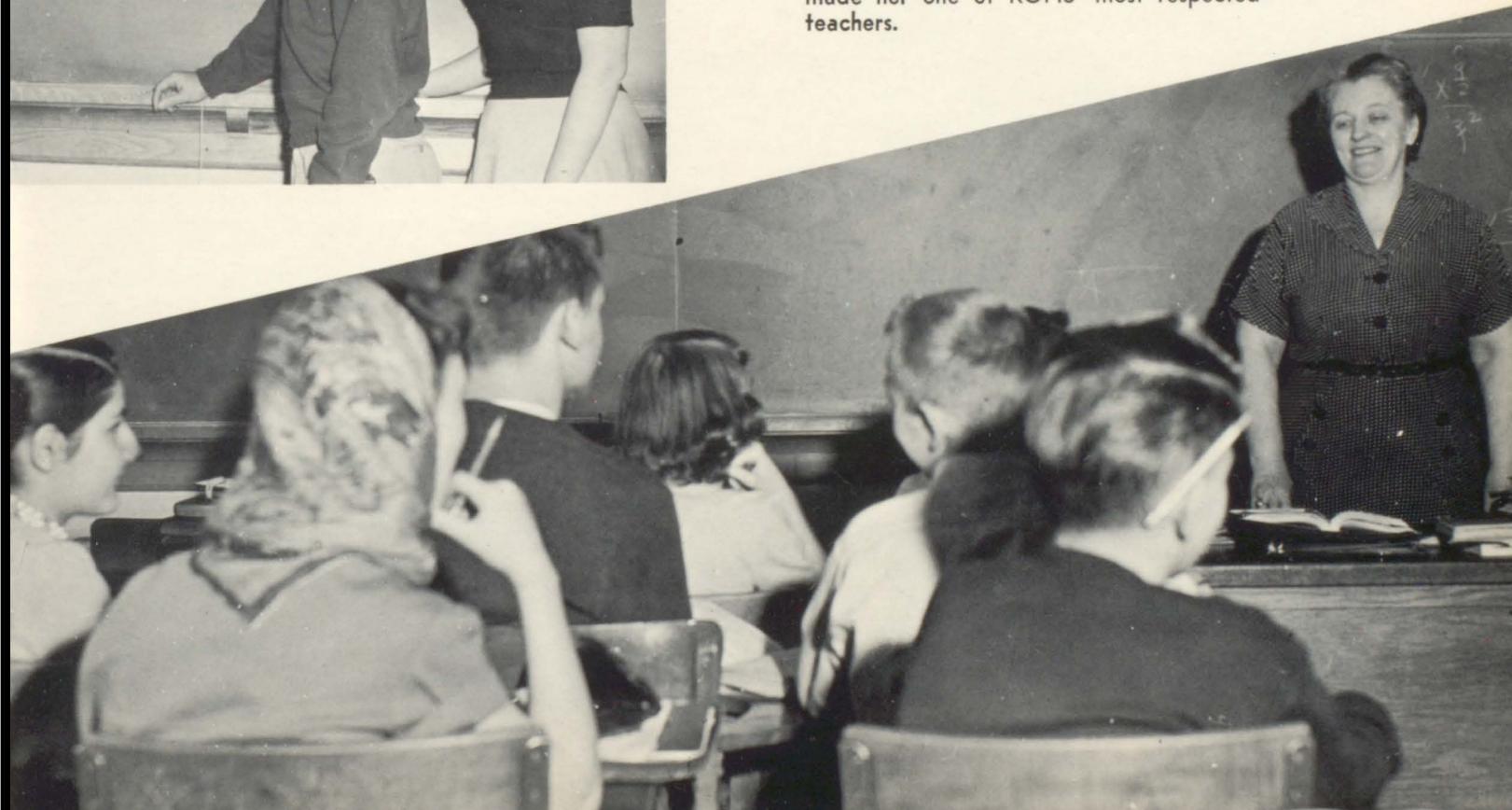
Grades appear to be falling in Mrs. Dyer's algebra class as Ellen McMeeken and Robert Reeves indicate with their graph. Fred Allor is trying to pick his grades up.



Angles, etc. --- Studying solid geometry are, left to right, Doug Marsh, Mike Cof- feen, Tom Roberts, Art Gneiser, Phil Irvin, Claudia Taylor, Smith Cliffton, Robert Brower, Sue MacMillan, Walter Allan, and Tom Allison.



Mrs. Hoffman as her students see her at the front of the class during the semester. Her warm smile and willingness to aid students in mathematical quandries have made her one of ROHS' most respected teachers.





Mrs. Miller personifies government in action.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social studies have become one of the most essential fields in education and an important part of every ROHS student's curriculum.

Ninth graders studied civics, a course dealing with state and local government. They learned some basic psychology and personality training which aided them in adjusting to high school life.

Sophomores learned of "Man's Great Adventure" in world history classes. Although not required, most tenth graders were anxious to know what riches they could get by looking into the depths of Cheops' pyramid or how they would have burned at the stake if they were Joan of Arc.

"The Nadir of National Disgrace," "taxation without representation," and "all men are created equal" became familiar phrases to all juniors in their U.S. history classes. The study of our country, which is a two semester course, proved interesting but complicated to many an 11th grader.

"Where's the government study sheet?" was a cry heard often from 12B's, especially those who had Mrs. Miller (pictures this page). Her students often wondered where she found time to prepare all the notes and exams, but when they left 102, they had a thorough background in government, and were better equipped to judge and understand their country and its leaders.

Bible history students found the study of comparative religions enlightening and exciting. The Bible became more than just a sacred book; students learned psalms, prayers, sayings and the colorful history connected with them. Classes visited various churches and synagogues in connection with their studies.

All twelfth graders took sociology and were fascinated by it. In soc. they learned how to get along with and understand the people in the world around them. They grew to understand why people behave as they do and the importance of an open mind.



Pointing out one of the main sociological problems in Mr. Gange's class are Shirley Tenney and Jean Wolfe.

Delving into their "American Observers" in government class are (l. to r.) Julie Porter, Josie Johnson, JoLinda Pratt, Raoul LePage, Bob Schwauker, and John Smith.

Listening to Mr. Jackson in U. S. history are (l. to r.) Sally Nampa, Tom Wolfe, Dorothy Sabo, Andy Morrow, Joanne Steele, Richard Ventura, John Springer, Joanne Robinson, David Sparks, and Mike Olejniczak.

Teddie Wicktor and Jim Johnson re-enact a divinal dousing for Bible history class members Judy Meyer, Bob Taylor, Nowana Maynard, and Margie Bradshaw.

Discovering places of interest to world history students are (l. to r.) Bea Locy, Roberta Braman, Sandy Girvin, Judy Patton, Bob Davis, Rose Marie Loomis, and Roger Pollock.

In Mr. Johnson's civics class, Barbara Gerold, Linda Chambers, Harry Radclyff, Dick Merkle, Mildred Pense and Kathy Crosby are studying the possibilities of an atomic attack.

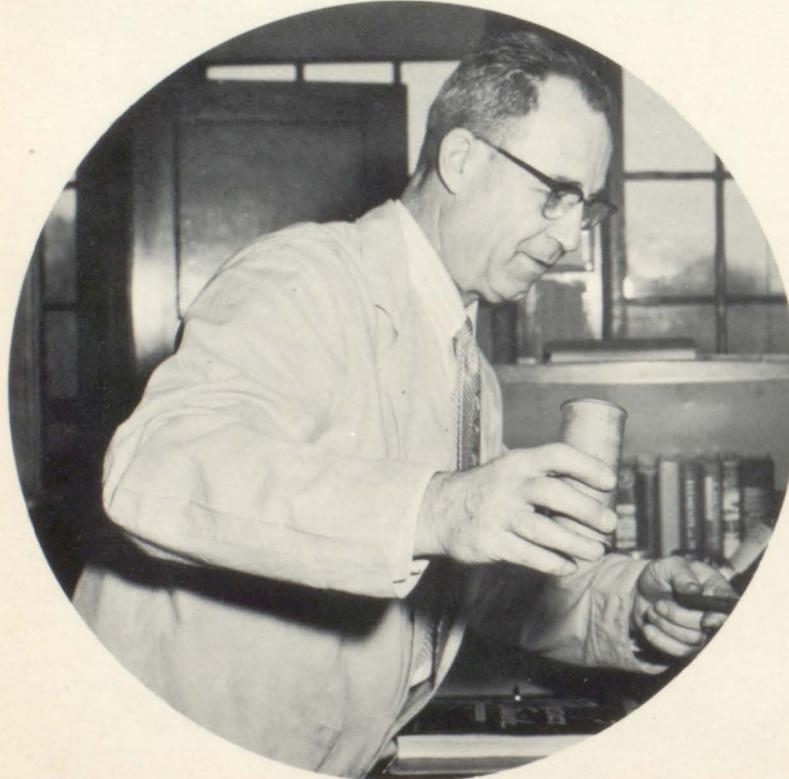




Drawing lines of force for physics are (l. to r.) Barbara Heid, Betty Fries, John Hall, Walter Allan, and Don Marsh.

SCIENCE CLASSES

Busily pouring iron filings for a magnetic field demonstration is Mr. Rathsburg.



Many sophomores, juniors, and seniors, in preparing for majors or a minor in science, have had many different experiences which have added a bit of spice to the process of learning.

None will forget Mr. Strain in Biology I proving to one and all his immunity to poison ivy, by eating some; or his leaf collections of red oak, white maple, and Chinese elm of which he was so proud.

It was from the humdrum routine of Biology I, we entered the hectic rat race of Biology 2 with instructor, Mr. Tenhave, the smiling Dutchman. The cheerful hours spent dissecting grasshoppers, worms, crayfish, frogs, and tabby cats left students with a feeling of nausea. The periods were enlivened, however, by the attempts to capture a terrified screech owl and an allegedly anesthetized frog that was leaping across the table during dissection. Practical jokers were reprimanded for putting dead frogs and live mice in the girls' purses.

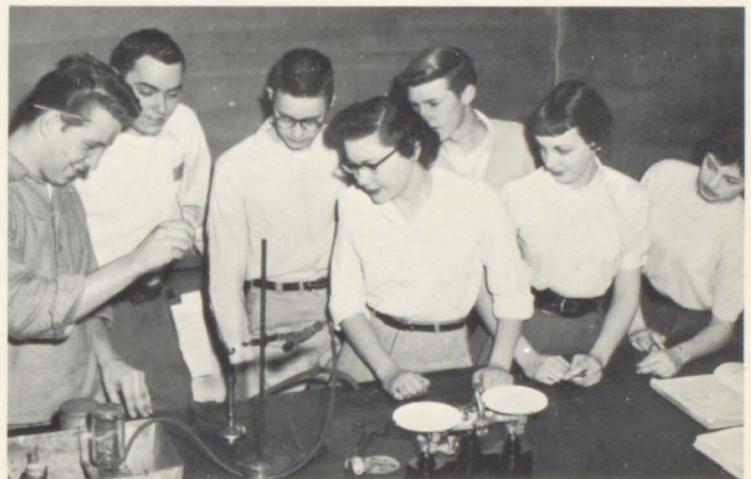
In the junior year came chemistry, with its smells and its mysterious chemicals in odd shaped bottles, and of course, the professors Hursh and Rathsburg. The sulphur experiments, the making of nitric acid, the flash powder episodes, along with the "experiments" served to keep the class in stitches.

Finally, tired seniors reached physics, the top of the ladder. The students were bewildered by the maze of weird apparatus, and taken aback by Herr Rathsburg. They scorched their fingers on the expansion experiment, electrocuted each other with the static machine, received mashed fingers by falling weights (testing the theory of gravity), and barely passed sneak tests which served to keep them on their toes, if nothing else.

Nevertheless, at the end of three years, the graduates are ready to apply their new-found knowledge to the outside world, whether it is to be raising chickens, mixing paint, or fixing a broken radio.



Crayfish meet their doom in biology class as dissection is done by students (l. to r.) Martha Cavanagh, Frank Sturgell, Allan Kemp, Ken Castell, Jim Rae, Judy Howie, Marge Dormeier, Sue Schuler, and Nancy Stubrich.



Experimenting in general science are (l. to r.) Ron Michels, Bill Bales, Dave Hubbard, Joyce Hayward, Jim Cowan, Sandy Chamberlain and Sue Carpenter.



An unusual chemistry experiment is performed by students (l. to r.) Bill Braeuninger, Roger Mumbrue, Bob Brown, Dick Bader, Jane Lauer, Bob Duff, Donna Alpert and Bonnie Snider.



Studying for a French exam are: First row (l. to r.) Evelyn Loyal, Kay Lane, and Virginia Parker. Second row: Janet Ammerman, Harvey Ruskin, and Jane Lauer. Third row: Pat Bowles, Yoey Swan, Karen Sadler, Lynn Stanaback. Fourth row: Shirley Luetzow, Dorothy Sabo, and Sandra Edmonds. Fifth row: Mary Williams, Nancy Freeman, Klaus Haas, Roger Jacobs, Joan Feige, Sally Nampa and Elaine Hartje.



Ruth Wickham is proving she knows her Spanish geography to Keith Carney, Lucas Nereian, June May, Barbara Bidwell, and Nels Nelson.



In Latin class (l. to r.) Charles Seidel, Norman Spencer, Ellen Katzman, Janet Birnkrant, and Jerry Keyes seem to be wondering about that old, old saying, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do."

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

"Habla Usted Espanol?" "Veni, Vedi, Vici." and "Parlez vous francais?" became familiar phrases to all ROHS foreign language students in Spanish, Latin and French classes.

Some have passed through the doors of 324, forgetting all English for a while, in order to learn Spanish from Mrs. Rowe, "la profesora." During the semester students studied the history and culture of Spain and Latin American countries, besides the language itself.

Caesar came, saw and conquered, but in doing so he caused many a Latin student considerable consternation. After learning the composition of this most difficult romance language the first year, students delved into translating stories of Julius Caesar with the assistance of their teachers, Miss Hetzman and Mrs. Young.

Making "ous" sound like "oo" was the task tackled by French students in 304. Mr. Matthews, the French instructor, provided records, a French newspaper and other special activities to make the study of that language more enjoyable.

ROHS students who took even one of the above, may have had difficulty. All of them realized, however, how much better they understood their own native tongue, for English is nothing more than a mixture of all of these romance languages.

Miss Hetzman is correcting a sentence for her Latin class.



Room arrangements are looked over by home arts students (l. to r.) Jeannie Grayson, Florence Stickel, Janice Kline, Karen Nieman, Carol Thompson, Dorothy Drinkert, Bev Collins, Pat Roberts, Iva Beaudin and Ellene Smith.



Baking cookies in the foods class is taken seriously by (l. to r.) Sharon Kingsbury, Donna Kennedy, Bob Jackson, Karen Broderick, Lynn Livingston, and Ronald Hulbert.



"How does it look?" asks Judy Johnson of her clothing classmates (l. to r.) Ellene Smith, Pat Christian, Betty Hannaford and Gail Pelkey.



"HOME ARTS"

The home arts courses included foods, clothing, child care, and home decoration. Although these courses were designed primarily for girls, some boys enrolled.

One of the most popular classes in this department was foods. Students in these classes learned about the nutritional values of foods as well as how to cook them. They were responsible for the delicious odors that came out of 218 and often made cookies and cakes for important school functions.

Clothing students made skirts in their first two semesters of study, but by the end of their second year, they were able to make coats and fancy formals. The highlight of the year was the fashion show when students modeled the apparel which they had made.

Those in child care were taught home nursing by a local Red Cross worker. They also learned how to understand and take care of youngsters. Students in Mrs. Bohlen's home arts class studied color schemes and decoration for the home. As a part of their final project, they made and furnished a model room; many of these were displayed in the lobby cases at the end of the semester.

Mrs. Bohlen shows her classes some useful items for the home.



COMMERCIAL CLASSES

Many ROHS seniors will leave school to go straight into the business world, and, through the many commercial courses offered, will be prepared to do a good job.

A basic commercial subject was typing. At first the course was difficult and all attempts at learning the keyboard seemed futile. But in time, this feat was accomplished and students were able to advance into more difficult exercises, business letters, bills, contracts, and outline forms.

After typing, shorthand first appeared to be an easy subject but it didn't take long to learn otherwise. It has been said that to take shorthand is comparable to learning a whole new language.

Perhaps one of the most fascinating commercial courses offered here is office machines. This class enabled students to learn the complicated procedures by which various office machines are operated.

Filing is a course which is necessary to every student entering the business field.

Especially helpful for the girl who planned to step out of high school into an office was "model office." In this class she was able to learn actual office procedures.

Students who have chosen selling and related professions found retailing, taught by Mr. Robinson, an interesting and helpful course.

Two commercial subjects not directly related to the actual field are commercial law, which concerns itself with legal cases involved in commerce, and consumer's economics which studies the trends in the cost of living and rising prices.

A student who took the many courses offered at this school, was prepared to enter the commercial field.



Bank courier on the co-operative training program is senior Pat Martin.



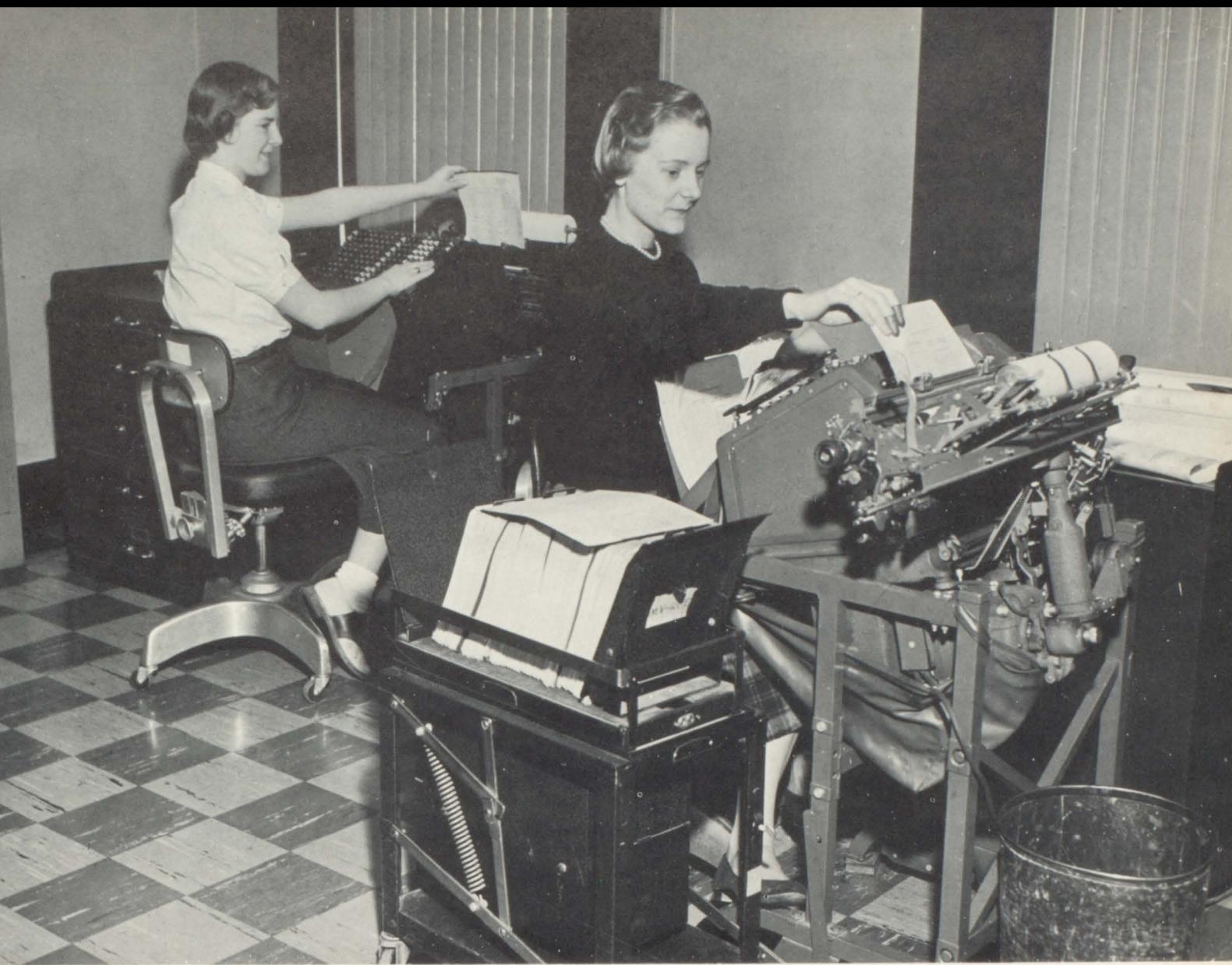
Sue Pickard argues her case in commercial law as Howard Beckman, Pat Martin, Mary Davies, Mike Coffeen, Dick Jordan and Steve Kerns listen.



Looking over consumers' economics pictures are Joyce Jilbert, David Pickens, and Karen Marvicsin.



Retailing looks like fun for Marcia Wittmer, Joan Sobosky, Ron Taylor, Judy Beggs and Pat Pelkey.



Working at the bank by the co-operative training program are Kay Bridges and Donna Robar.



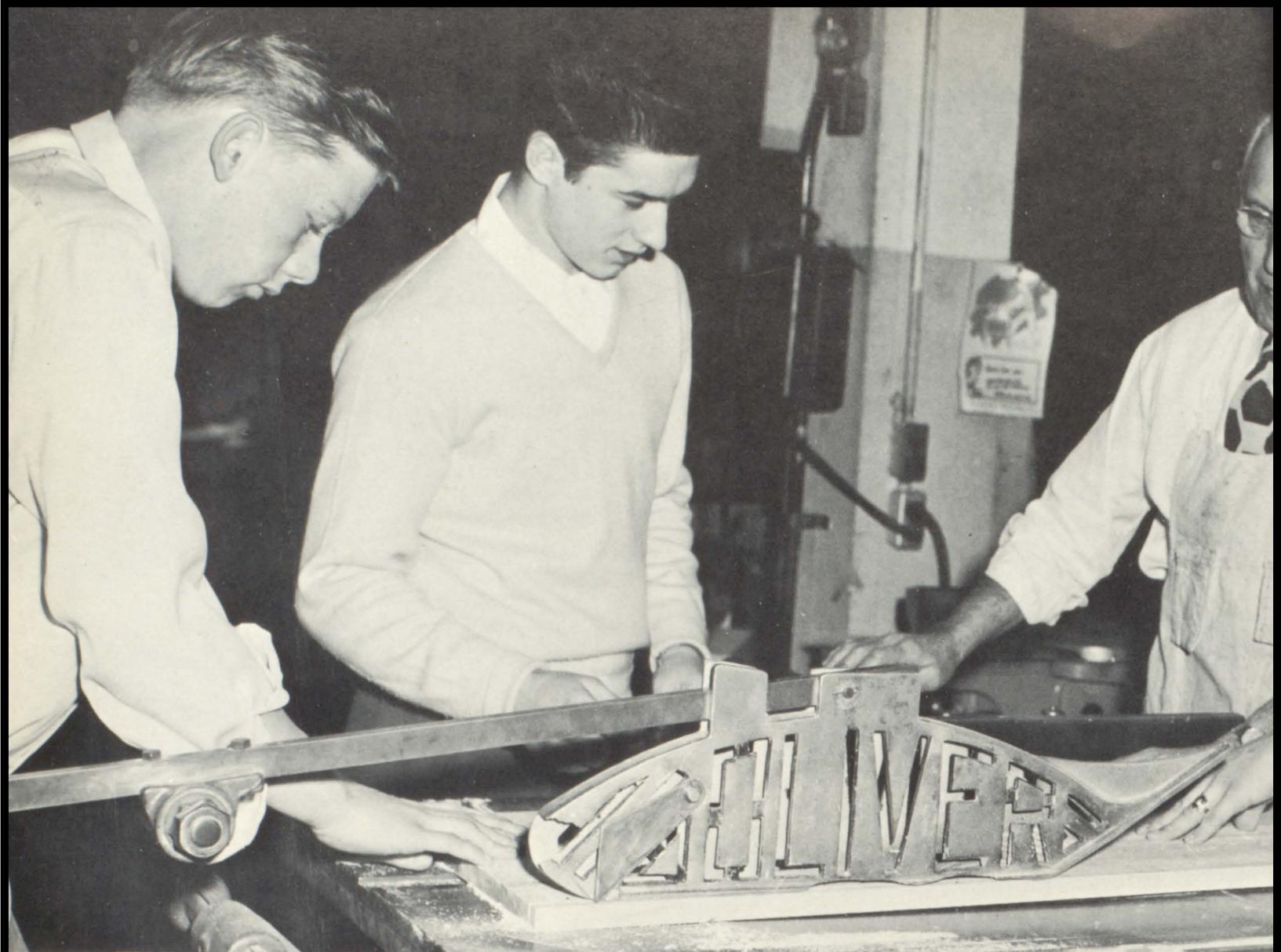
Learning to type are (l. to r.) Carol Dagon, Kathleen Jelvin, Tom Wolfe and Jim Lavett.



In model office are (l. to r.) Elaine Cummings, Carol Kimmel and Joy Cooper.



Mr. Spector is teaching book-keeping to Vicky Fox as Joyce Jilbert, John Novich and Betty Smith look on.



Working with Mr. Hannan in wood shop are Howard Maseles, Bob Meyers and Bob Hearn.



Working in print shop are Roger Sides and Mike Donaghue.



Making the big pile of shavings in wood shop is Dick Hopkins while Chuck Chamberlain works at another machine.



Metal shop appears intriguing as Reynold Meisegeier, Arthur Farley and Jim Buhl work on one of the machines.

VOCATIONAL CLASSES

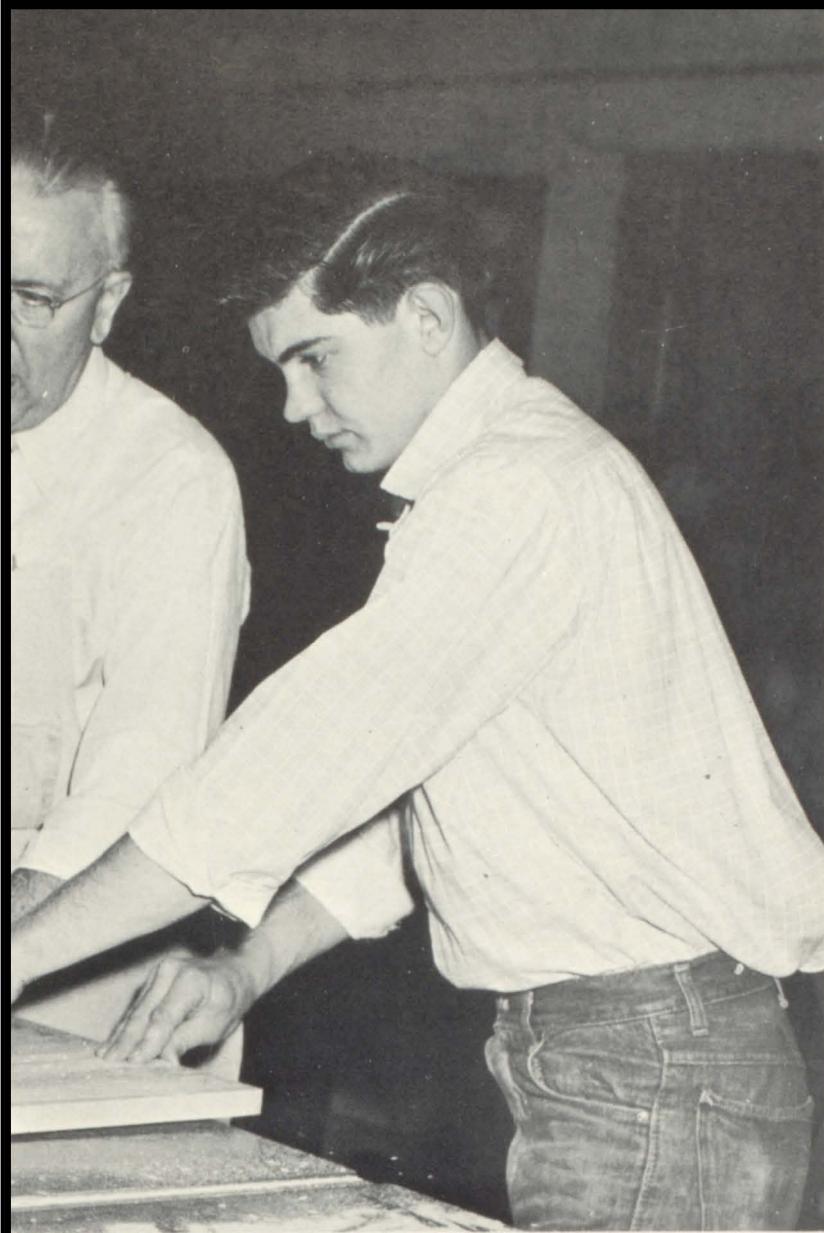
Aside from purely academic subjects, the manual training courses in ROHS were preparation for skilled jobs after graduation and provided practical experience which enabled students to work while going to school.

In the wood shop, boys learned to operate lathes, bandsaws, drills, and the other power machines related to wood working. They were taught to operate the metal lathes, milling machines, and stamps in the metal shop.

After a course in auto mechanics, a pupil could take apart and reassemble any part of a car.

The print shop gave basic training in all phases of typesetting, lithograph, and operation of the presses. Nearly all the multitude of forms, passes, slips, and cards that were necessary to the school were made here.

The mechanical drawing courses taught students how to draw blueprints, diagram engine parts, or other complex apparatus. These courses were of considerable importance to those whose talents ran in the direction of practical mechanics, which, after all, is the basic foundation of the era in which we live.



Sketches are done in mechanical drawing by Lanny Le Blanc, Bob Jones, Robert Jamron and Jack L' Hate.



Sorting type in the print shop are Kurt Dernberger and John Barkkari.



Al Smith, Bob Runnels, Jim Tariar, and Mike Swarthout examine various geometrical figures in Mr. Edmond's mechanical drawing class.





Sports are an essential portion in the beam of a student's passage through high school and are represented in the second ray of our prism.

In this field many of us emitted but a dull and half-hearted glow, while some shone brightly; all found pleasure, but few excelled. Those who did, however, gained for themselves honor, prestige, and a feeling of deep pride, for they not only showed themselves to be outstanding, but reaped awards and honor for their school.

Many years from now, sports and physical excellence may have no part in the curriculum of a high school, and honor and pride may be won only through intellectual means, but now, and we are very glad of it, sports are a necessary and most enjoyable part of school life.

Following a great fall sports season in which our football and cross-country teams added to Royal Oak prestige in Michigan prep circles, the basketball season came into the limelight. The cagers provided many thrills, although the season wasn't outstanding. Included was a big upset over Fordson.

The swimming team, however, really rated the headlines. They splashed from one victorious

SPORTS

meet to another. These included a terrific upset over Fordson, which broke the opponent's thirty-three meet winning streak, and a close win over Grosse Pointe. The natators won the B.C.L. championship and also were the state's only undefeated Class A swimming team. The climax of this year's season came when Royal Oak captured fourth place in the state finals. The team was supported by a great showing of school spirit.

Before the snow began to melt, our track, baseball, tennis, and golf teams took to the field. By April the teams were rounded into shape and eagerly awaited their opening contests.

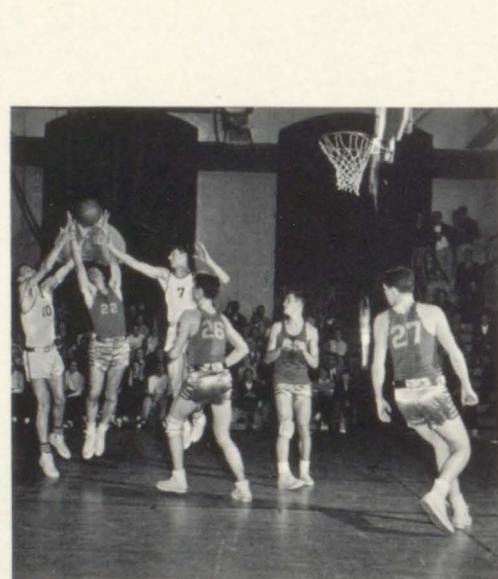
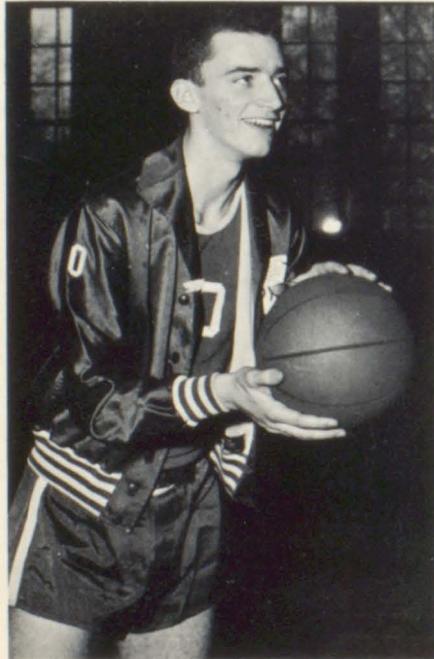
At the beginning of the season, ROHS was only two and one-half points behind Grosse Pointe in the chase for the B.C.L. Sweepstakes Trophy, and we all hoped that the outcome of the spring season would bring us that long-sought-after cup.

All the teams did a great job and were responsible for a glorious ending to the school year.



First row: (l. to r.) Dave Pickens (mgr.), Darrell Harper, Bob Grundeman, Roger Sides, Bob Kelley, Art Bromley, Bill Braeuninger, and Bob Glover (mgr.). 2nd row: Ed Heideman (mgr.), Larry Rightler, Gene Filippis, Bob McCall, Jim Zalenski, Jim Eilertsen, Bud Allen and Coach Don Bray.

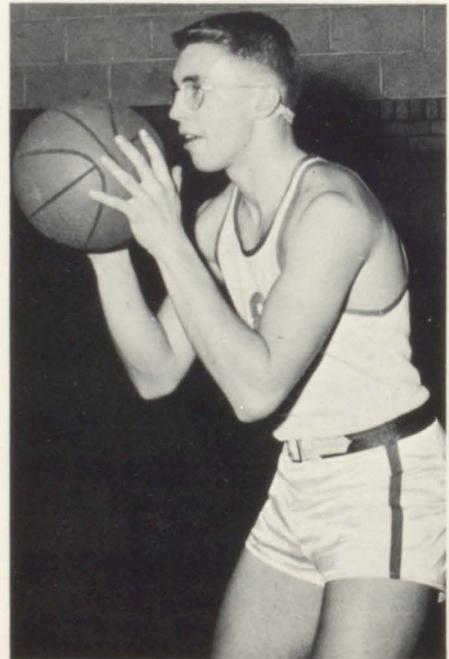
BASKET



Roger Sides and Darrell Harper
fight for the ball with a Wyan-
dotte player.

Captain Roger Sides

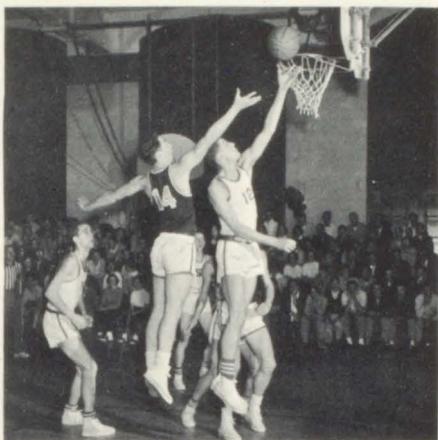
BALL



Senior Bob Grundeman



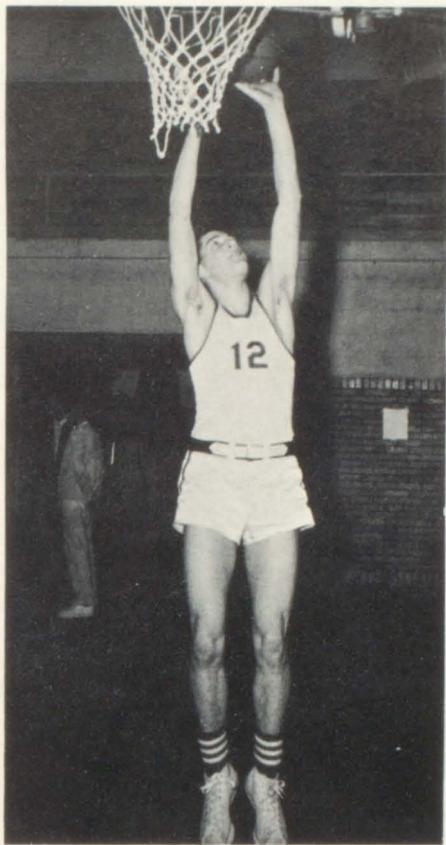
Harper waits as Bob Kelley reaches for the ball in the Wyandotte game.



Art Bromley watches as Bob Kelley reaches for the jump ball against Fordson.

SUMMARY

R.O.	Opp.	Opp.
40	Pontiac	49
38	Birmingham	51
59	Grosse Pointe	62
66	Monroe	58
59	Wyandotte	41
47	Highland Park	87
57	Fordson	54
53	Denby	67
57	Ferndale	50
68	Grosse Pointe	62
50	Monroe	60
68	Wyandotte	51
66	Hazel Park	43
48	Highland Park	52
47	Fordson	61



Reach, Bob.



Playing hard during the Grosse Pointe game are Bob Grundeman, Darrell Harper, Roger Sides, and Bob Kelley.



Roger Sides and Bob Kelley watch Art Bromley take the ball away from Grosse Pointe.

The basketball team this season provided thrills at every home game. Although not compiling a large number of victories, the cagers dropped a couple of games that could very easily have been won by a single break.

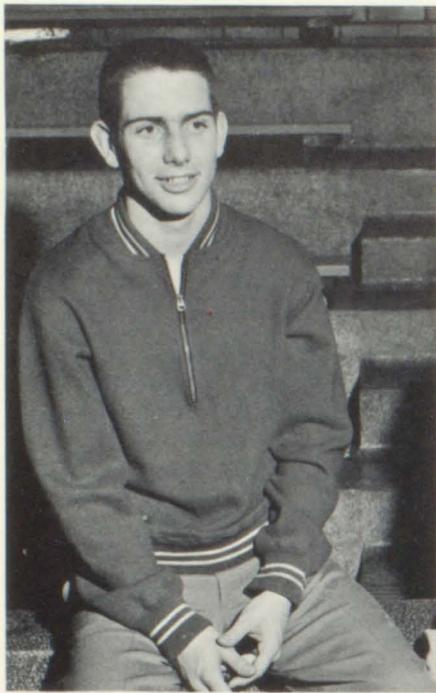
The Oaks' overall record was six victories and nine defeats. In BCL competition Royal Oak earned fourth place with a four wins-six losses season. In the regional tournament our cagers were defeated in the opening round with Hazel Park.

Included in the victories was a thrilling 62-58 decision over Fordson. The Oaks completely dominated the play and withstood a last minute rally by the Tractors to post one of the biggest upsets in the state for the 1954-55 season. Last minute rallies on the part of Grosse Pointe and Highland Park nipped further upset hopes of Royal Oak.

Captain Roger Sides and guard Bob Grundeman paced the Oaks' attack. These two were only two graduating seniors, so next year's team will be built around a well-experienced nucleus of veterans.

This season also saw the retirement of Coach Don Bray after seven years leading the varsity squad.

SWIMMING



JIM JOHNSON
Co-captain



DOUG WIDTH



EARLE SPOHN



RUSS SEAMAN
Co-captain



LARRY MASON

R.O.		Opp.
61	U. of D. High	23
44	Grosse Pointe	36
60	Hazel Park	24
49	Monroe	35
64	Ferndale	20
45	Wyandotte	39
52	Trenton	32
53	Highland Park	31
43	Fordson	41
59	Ferndale	25
49	Grosse Pointe	35
56	Monroe	28
57½	Wyandotte	26½
56	Highland Park	28
44	Fordson	40

Royal Oak's 1954-55 swimming team compiled Michigan's only unbeaten record of the season, winning all fifteen of its dual meets.

Included in coach Art Solow's splashes' ten Border Cities League victories were a pair of decisions over traditional enemy, Fordson. Individual stars of the year were Russ Seaman, who co-captained the team along with Jim Johnson, and Andy Morrow. Seaman's specialties were the fifty yard freestyle and individual medley, while Morrow concentrated on the distance freestyle races. Both were consistent winners for the Oaks.

In the class A State Meet at East Lansing, Morrow captured the two hundred and four hundred yard freestyle events to pace Royal Oak to a fourth place finish.



Waiting as Ron Barnes and Bob Manser dive in are Bob Denison and Doug Width.



ROHS diver, Larry Kelly



First row: (l. to r.) Coach Art Solow, Duane Platt, Earle Spohn, Russ Seaman, Jim Johnson, Larry Mason. 2nd row: Ron Barnes, Tom Last, Andy Morrow, Collin Stafford, Bob Leich, Larry Kelly, Barry

Andy Morrow, ROHS freestyle star.

Reed. 3rd row: Larry Baker (mgr.), Mike Nordstrom, Ronald Woody, Art Beasley, Ralph Nutter, Dave Gilanders, and Jerry Richardson (mgr.).

Diving in as Andy Morrow reaches the edge is Duane Platt. Watching are Doug Width and Russ Seaman.





First row (l. to r.) Ron Barnes, Robert Dingman, Ken Winsauer, Gordon Kreiner, Jerry Steinard, Evans Webb, Bill Burton, George Boyd, Bob Kauppi.

Second row, Jerry Kellstrom, Ed Bartz, Ralph Forbes, Jerry Snider, Fred Mester, Gene Filippis, Mike Nordstrom, Wiley Wendell, John Badoud.

Third row, Coach Stange, Norm Larson, Lee Burnett, Claude Hull, Fred Thompson, Jerry Hendershot, Ron

Jones, Don Otero, Bill Braeuninger, William Holdsworth, Bob Taylor, Bruce Lowery, Bill Stouffer, Bob Vogan, Charles Richards, Ross Forbes, Dave Edgerly, Coach Hursh.

Fourth row, George Sheridan, Chuck Wiethuff, Don Kitzmiller, John Davis, Jim McGran, John Kaehler, Roger Sides, Jim Eilertson, Bob Spencer, Bob, Walsh, John York, Jim Zalenski.



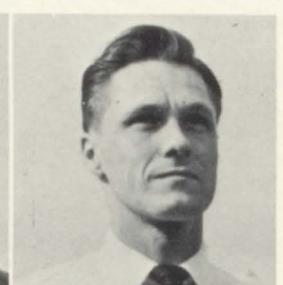
John Kaehler



Don Otero



Coach Hursh



Coach Stange

TRACK

With eighteen seniors serving as a nucleus, Royal Oak's track team began its practice early in March. Additional strength was supplied by promising underclassmen.

After taking second place in BCL competition last year, Coaches Richard Hursh and Ed Stange looked forward to one of Royal Oak's finest seasons in the past decade.

The stiffest competition was expected from Fordson, annual BCL track power, Grosse Pointe and Highland Park.

The schedule was as follows:

April 15	Highland Park
April 19	at Fordson
April 22	Hazel Park
April 26	Waterford Township
April 29	Wyandotte
May 3	at Grosse Pointe
May 6	Berkley
May 10	Monroe
May 14	Regionals
May 21	State Finals



Ed Bartz



John York, Fred Thompson,
Jerry Steinard.



Jerry Snider, Mike Nord-
strom, Gene Filippis.



Bill Braeuninger,
Roger Sides, Don
Otero.



Jim Eilertsen, John Kaehler, Jerry Hendershot.



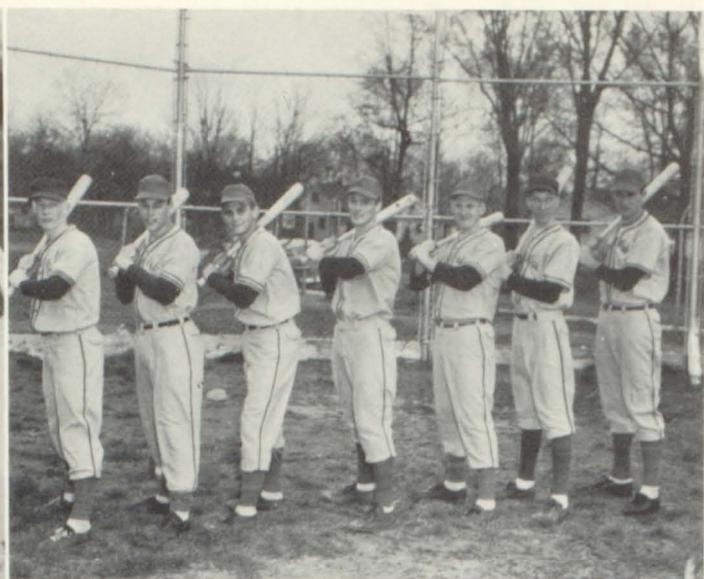
Graduating seniors are, first row (l. to r.), Gordon Kreiner, Bill Burton, Jerry Steinard, John York, Wiley Wendell.

Second row, Ron Jones, Fred Mester, Don Otero, John Eilertson, Roger Sides.

Third row, Jerry Hendershot, Ed Bartz, Jerry Kellstrom, Bob Walsh.



Warming up are Art Bromley and Joe Vestrand.



RO's slingers line up, (l. to r.) Danny Harrison, John Springer, Joe Vestrand, Bud Allen, Art Bromley, and Bob Kelley.

BASEBALL

This spring Royal Oak's baseball team was made up almost entirely of lower classmen. Art Bromley and Bob Kelley were the only seniors on the squad.

The team lacked the experience to put them at the top of BCL standings this year, but Coaches Manilla and McLean were building for the future.

First row, (l. to r.) Herb Deromedi, Dan Harrison, John Sekeres, Roger Groulx, Bob McGarva, Jerry Patenaude, Ken Heikkinen, Paul Alpert.

Second row, Coach Manilla, John Springer, Larry Rightler, Gary Pitcher, Bill Knotts, Bob Manser, John Kerr,

SCHEDULE

April 19	Highland Park
April 23	at Grosse Pointe
April 26	at Monroe
April 29	at Fordson
May 3	Wyandotte
May 10	Grosse Pointe
May 13	Monroe
May 17	Fordson
May 19	at Wyandotte
May 24	at Highland Park
May 31	Ferndale

Joe Vestrand, Coach McLean.

Third row, Jim Miller, Bud Middaugh, Bob Arthur, Ken Castell, Darrell Harper, Bob Kelley, Art Bromley, Bud Allen, Fred Allor, Jim Kallio.





TENNIS

First row: (l. to r.) Dave Beck, Klaus Haas, Clyde Beck, Foster Gibbs, Jay Lyon, Eldon Smith. 2nd row: Coach Mike Stoolmiller, Bob Runnels, John Keller, Vern Osterlund, Doug Jamieson, Ron Pelaedant, Larry Tarrant, Bill Kern, Dave McAurcher, Tom Bittker, Chuck Matthews, Bill Pence, Greg Mosier, Dave Goddard.

GOLF

First row: (l. to r.) Dick Daniel, Keith Fox, Joe Leich, Bob Grundeman, Bob Smith. 2nd row: Dick Collins, Larry White, Roger DeMinor, John Cornish, Dave Sackman, Bob Glover, Dennis Granger, Fred Nahabedian, Bill Madlock, Randy Uren, Dave Richey, Tom Kemp, Coach Struble.





R.O.H.S. BAND

The ROHS Band this year was composed of seventy-two members, under the direction of Mr. Henry Garen.

One of the highlights of the year was the Awards Banquet at which some of the twenty-five graduates received service awards, based on the number of points they earned while participating in band activities.

Mr. Garen and some of the band members led the Michigan delegation of patrol boys on their annual trip to Washington, D.C., last winter.

The student body heard the band at such events as the senior play, the spring music festival, and at an all school party. The band also played at the S.O.C. Home Exposition show, the Memorial Day parade, the band concert, and the S.O.C. Band Festival.



"Keep your eye on the ball." (l. to r.) Diane Warren, Judy Petersen, and Nancy Kirk.



Arguing over rules are the students of Miss Doerr's ninth hour gym class.



Miss Doerr has a very intent audience as she tells them the finer points of playing badminton.

GIRLS' SPORTS

Red eyes, fatigue, wet hair. These were the effects of girls' pool class. During the semester the girls worked hard on different strokes, diving, and on stunts. All of these things were used in the water ballet, "H₂O Dudes."

Meanwhile, girls in gym class were improving their form in badminton, tennis, and baseball. As the days got warmer, the girls, braving the cool spring air, picked up their tennis rackets and marched to the courts. Determined not to be out-classed by the boys, the girls also took up baseball. It could be said that they were following the "male example."

Anne Houston is showing Cecilia Heft how not to hit the birdie.



Miss Doerr



Miss Davies



Miss Stevens



Carolyn Hicks is trying not to miss the birdie.





ED BARTZ
3 Football, 2 Track



BILL BURTON
3 Track



RICHARD DANIEL
2 Golf



FOSTER GIBBS
2 Tennis



R. GRUDEM
2 Basketball, 2 Golf



THOMAS HAHN
2 Football



CLARENCE HARDER
1 Cross Country,
2 Track



BRUCE HAUSWIRTH
1 Cross Country,
(manager)



JIM HAWKINS
1 Tennis



G. HENDERSHOT
2 Track



HERB JOHNSON
1 Football



JAMES JOHNSON
2 Swimming
(co-captain)



RON JONES
3 Track, 3 Cross
Country (co-captain)



JOHN KAEHLER
3 Track (co-captain),
1 Football



JERRY KELLSTROM
1 Football



STEVE KERNS
1 Football



J. LA FOUNTAIN
3 Tennis (captain)



FRED LEONARD
3 Track



JOE LEICH
2 Golf



BRUCE LOWERY
2 Track



DON MARSH
2 Football



LARRY MASON
2 Swimming



FRED MESTER
1 Football



JIM MILLER
2 Football (manager)



DAVE MUHN
1 Track



RUSS OSGOOD
1 Track



DON. OTERO
3 Track (co-captain),
2 Cross Country
(co-captain)



AL PETERSON
1 Baseball



ROY PRINGLE
1 Track



TOM ROBERTS
2 Football



RUSS SEAMAN
2 Swimming
(co-captain)



ROGER SIDES
3 Track, 3 Basketball
(captain)



ROY SOLDAN
3 Football
(co-captain)



EARLE SPOHN
2 Swimming



JERRY STEINARD
3 Track (co-captain),
3 Cross Country



DOUGLAS WIDTH
2 Swimming



BILL WILSON
2 Football



JOHN YORK
3 Track, 1 Cross
Country

ROYAL OAK LETTERMEN



COACH DICK HURSH



COACH NYOL HAYES



COACH MIKE STOOLMILLER



COACH ART SOLOW

VARSITY COACHES

COACH DON BRAY



COACH JACK McLEAN

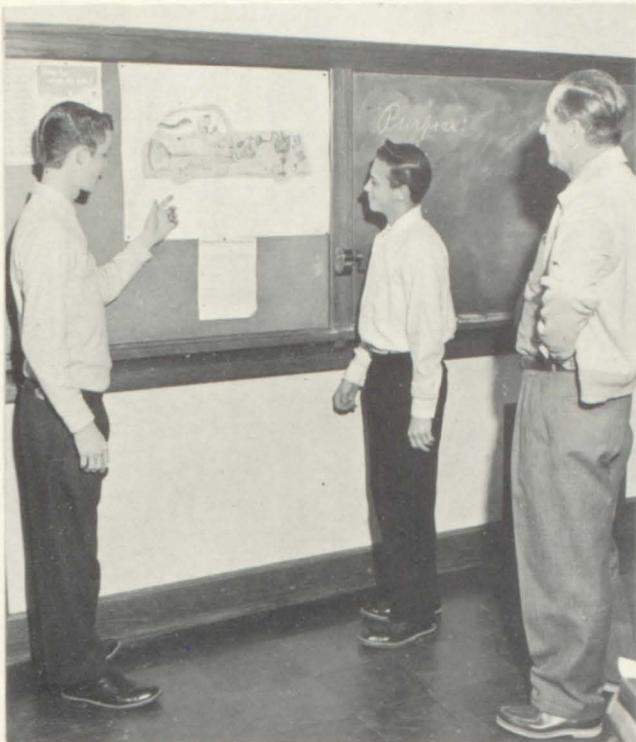
COACH JIM MANILLA



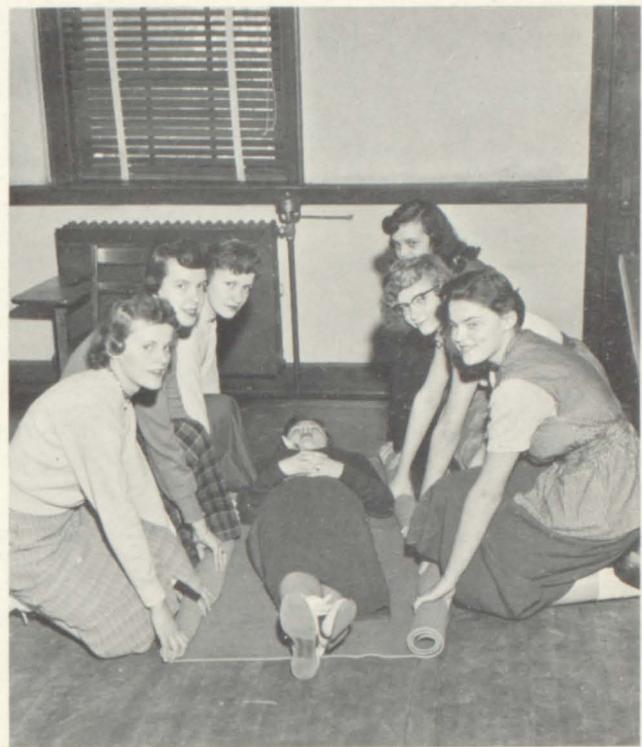
COACH ART STANGE

COACH CHARLES STRUBLE





George Boyd and Claude Hull are showing Mr. Hayes that they know how a car works.



Sally Eaton, Judy Albright, Carol McDoumal, Marion Goodspeed, Vi Ann Bock, Barbara Carl, and Linda Morris are helping a "stretcher case."

Gym, Health and Safety



"One - Two - Three - Push." Learning artificial respiration techniques are Evans Webb, Dave Rightler, George Boyd, Aldon Niemie, John Richon, Barry Melnick, Vince Cicos, and Mike Donohue.



Getting practice in bandaging are Judy Wilson, Martha Burns, Sandra Neiman, Margaret Vincent, Karen Last, and Roberta Chaffee.





All the activities in which we participated comprised the third ray of our prism. Activities made school life something more than academic homework; through them we made new friends, developed new interests, and in some cases, helped ourselves in preparing for future careers.

There were clubs of all kinds—from pep to Latin—and they sponsored many projects. Some students with special musical talent joined the choirs or the band; outstanding talents won special awards.

Those interested in student government ran for the Senate, and others who enjoyed creative writing joined the Acorn and Oak staffs.

The senior play was a big event, especially since we gave two performances for the first time. We realized that some of our best friends could act, and all joined in the fun of making the play a success.

There were open houses after school events, impromptu gatherings after dances, slumber parties, and picnics. When a member of the gang had a birthday, we sang to him in the cafeteria, and sometimes even felt adventurous enough to plant a small firecracker in his cake!

ACTIVITIES

Almost every week banners or posters appeared in the halls, announcing a coming event. But the yearbook staff added a new twist when they advertised with mobiles and modern art.

Hi-Y and R.O. club boys won the reputation of being the best salesmen in school, whether they were selling cotton shirts or tickets to an away sports contest.

All-school parties took care of many Friday nights. There was swimming, dancing, and ping-pong, not to mention refreshments. The biggest informal event of the year was the D-J Hop when all upperclassmen went Bobbin' with Robbin Seymour from radio station WKMH.

Junior and senior class parties helped the classes become better acquainted with themselves. Bunny hops and square dances left everyone breathless, but no one missed the fun.

Formal dances were the biggest activities of all. The girls dug into their purses for the Girls' Lit Dance in April, and good naturedly paid for the tickets, an old ROHS custom. The June commencement dance topped off a wonderful year of excitement and activity.



The cast includes: (left to right) bottom row Leo Bores, Carol Eberle, Barney Collier, Barbara Bidwell, Jim Hawkins, and Jim Davis. Second row: Joan Logan, Sarah Weiner, Barb Baltzly, Mickey Beigler, and Sallie Walters. Third row: Smith Clifton, Jim Douglas, John Eilertsen, Joe Leich, Greg Hunt, Fred Mester, DuBois, Roger Merritt, and Mike Meyers.

Barney Collier and Linda Kayes, the student director, plead to Miss Breclaw.

Barney Collier, Jim Davis and Sallie Walters.

(Lower left) Barney Collier, Jim Hawkins, Barbara Bidwell, and Carol Eberle.

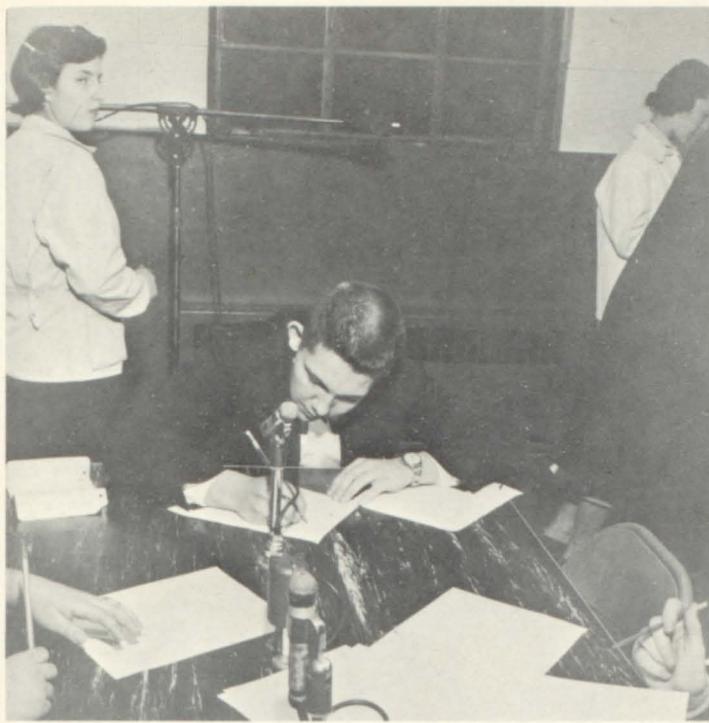


SENIOR PLAY

The Man Who Came to Dinner, a comedy in three acts by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, was presented by the Atwas club at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30, in the ROHS auditorium.

Barney Collier, 12A, played Sheridan Whiteside, the man who came to dinner in a small town in Ohio, but found himself there for almost a month because he had allegedly broken his hip.

The part of Maggie Cutler, Mr. Whiteside's secretary, was taken by Carol Eberle, 10A. The play was directed by Miss Marilyn Breclaw, Atwas club sponsor. She was assisted by Linda Kayes, student director, Catrin Haas and Margaret Ballantyne, prompters. All club members worked behind the scenes for the eight weeks the production was in rehearsal.



Working to meet the 8:15 deadline for Radio Workshop are (l. to r.) Linda Kayes, Art Gneiser, and Mickey Beigler.

(Upper right) Radio Workshop in session: (l. to r.) Sue Ann Fishman, Carole Ann Fournier, Art Gneiser, Phil Irwin.

Debating for ROHS students is Art Gneiser as fellow debaters Judy Meyer, Elaine Hartje, and Joan Coulton listen.

(Lower right) Discussing a future debate with Mr. Mead are Judy Meyer and Art Gneiser.



RADIO WORK SHOP AND DEBATE TEAM

At 8:15 p.m., on Saturday nights, many Royal Oak radios are turned to WEXL to hear ROHS Radio Workshop. The fifteen minute script is written by the students under the direction of Mr. James Mead, the sponsor. The actual mechanical work and performance is also done by the members of the workshop.

The program usually consists of a sports and school activities round-up, the playing of the school's favorite current recording, and an interview with one of the many important personalities around ROHS.

ROHS' debate team finished this year with a record of six wins and ten losses in the State League and three wins out of eight in the Metropolitan League. The team received a plaque for its outstanding work in the State League.

In the semi-finals the negative team, consisting of Joan Coulton and Elaine Hartje, won over Allen Park. Judy Meyer and Art Gneiser, the affirmative team, lost to Hamtramck, thus eliminating ROHS from the finals, however. The team was reorganized last year.





(L. to r.) First row: Gordon Ruscoe, Joan Coulton, Roy Pringle, Beverly Terry, Jane Lauer, and Norman Larson. 2nd row: Greg Hunt, Jean Nutter, Sally Maloney, Merrill Carson, Nancy Couper, and Karen Kaiser. 3rd row:

Pat Wilder, Sheila McCalden, Chuck Matthews, Dennis Rogers, Gordon Sheill, and Pat Glass. 4th row: Gail Vanderbeck, Carol Unger, Janet Harley, Lynn Buri, Nancy Stubrich, and Walter Allan.



Senate officers and sponsors are (l. to r.) Roy Pringle, president, Beverly Terry, vice-president, Norman Larson, treasurer, Mrs. Young, sponsor, Gordon Ruscoe, parliamentarian, and Joan Coulton, secretary.



Senior senators in discussion are (l. to r.) Gordon Ruscoe, Walter Allan, Roy Pringle, Bev Terry and Greg Hunt.

SENATE

Under the leadership of Roy Pringle, president, the Senate, ROHS' governing body, accomplished much this semester.

Through Senate's efforts, ROHS adopted a Korean war orphan, Cho Tae Sun, and has corresponded with him. Chairman of this committee was Joan Coulton.

In March, Student Senate conducted a poll to determine whether the student body wanted to sponsor another war orphan, or to have an exchange student. As a result of this poll, ROHS will receive an exchange student next semester.

A first hour honor study hall under the direction of Pat Wilder and Pat Glass was another Senate-sponsored project.

As a Christmas project, a committee, under the direction of Nancy Couper, sent small useful articles to Northville Hospital.

On April 20, ROHS was host to more than 80 students representing the Border Cities League schools. The publicity committee of Senate, with chairman Gordon Ruscoe, planned and directed this visitation day.

Chairman Gordon Sheill and his building and grounds committee were responsible for the installation of the loud speakers in the cafeteria so that the juke box may be heard at the noon hours.

Other committee chairmen for this semester were: Jane Lauer, directory of seniors, Merrill Carson, re-organization, and Beverly Terry, elections.



The Acorn staff (l. to r.) first row: Sarah Weiner, Pete Walters, Sondra Perkins, Ruth Mittelstadt, Jane Sherwood, and Josie Johnson. 2nd row: Judy Hall, Joan Feige, Becky Mosen, Beverly Chrysler, Sheila Haskin, Sandra Demerchant, Joan McIntosh, and Joan Kaatz. 3rd row: Fred Nahabedian, Barney Collier, Leo Bores, Dale Franz, Angie Goggin, Judy Granger, Betty Fries, Virginia Voigt, and Gayl Martin.

ACORN STAFF

Co-Editors . . . Ruth Mittelstadt, Sondra Perkins
 News Editor Josie Johnson
 Feature Editor Jane Sherwood
 Sports Editor Pete Walters
 Copy Editor Sarah Weiner
 Business Manager Judy Patton
 Exchange Editor Sheila Haskin
 Circulation Manager Gayl Martin
 Photographers Leo Bores, Dale Franz
 Reporters Jerri Albertson, Barney Collier, Beverly Chrysler, Sandra Demerchant, Joan Feige, Betty Fries, Angie Goggin, Judy Granger, Judy Hall, Joan Kaatz, Joan McIntosh, Becky Mosen, Fred Nahabedian, Carolyn Preish, Virginia Voigt.
 Sponsor I. A. Rosen



Discussing Acorn ads are Sarah Weiner and Judy Patton.



Co-Editors of the Acorn, Ruth Mittelstadt and Sondra Perkins.



(L. to r.) are Acorn reporters Dale Franz, Pete Walters, Leo Bores, Jane Sherwood and Josie Johnson.

INFORMAL



How big is a rapier, Sherry?



Oh, for Mom's home cooking!



Expecting something?



Things are really crowded.

Out of the jungle.

Toot—Toot!

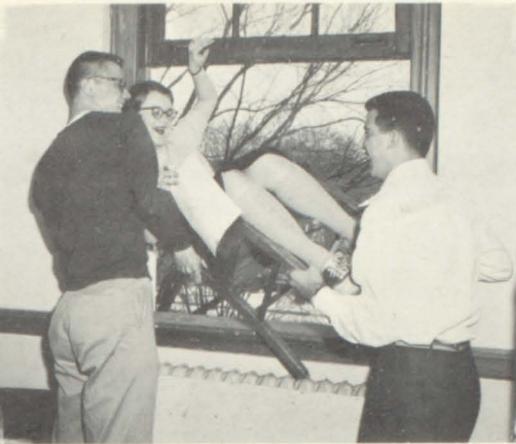
Did you hear what happened?

Studying hard, Judy??





"Mr. Wiese will call for you as soon as possible."



"Help!"

SNAPS



What can we say?



"This is a crooner?"

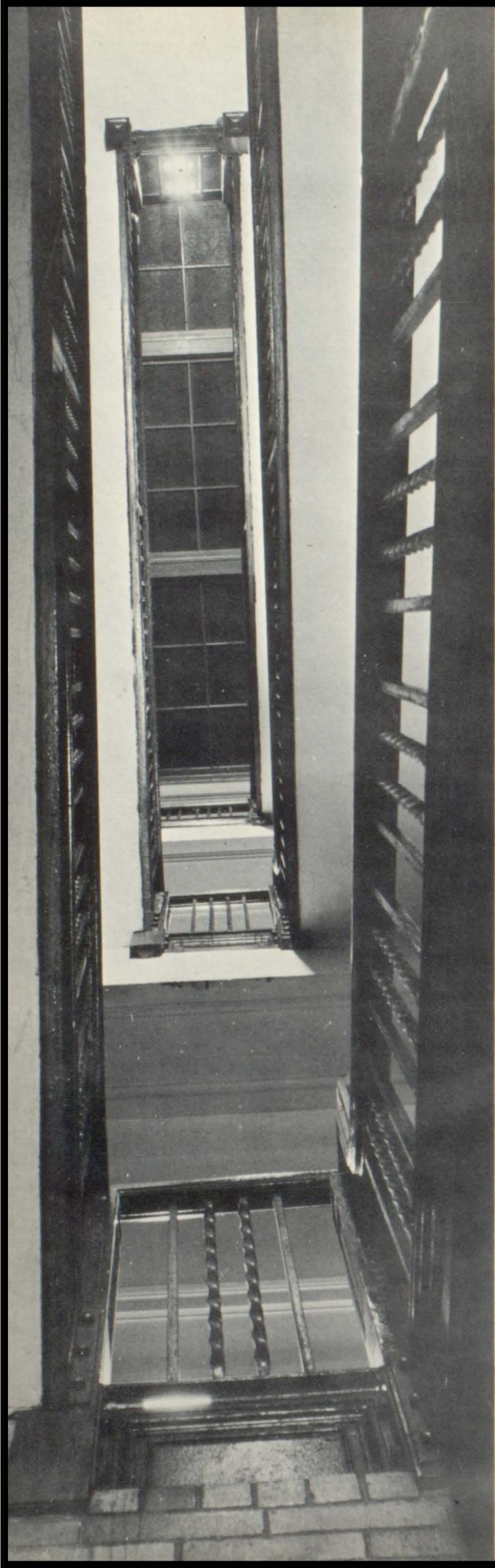
"Might as well relax on duty."

"Watch me go."

"We don't take wooden nickels."

"Around your partner and do-se-do."





Suicide leap
in reverse.



Don't look too
anxious.



Note from
Wayne?



Trapped!



Oh, Eddie, you
dance divinely!



Do you live to eat, or eat to live?

CANDID CAMERA CAPERS



Is it a plane?
Is it a bird?
No, it's the
June Oak!



I'll just be a
minute. . .
(Sure you will,
Jane.)

Got a tummy-
ache, Pat?
Try Tums.



Aw, quit josh-
ing me.





Count your pennies—instead of sheep.



Sides splitting laughter.



Letters from Lorraine??

Oh, you don't mean that!

O
F
F
G
U
A
R
D

This is how it's done.

And your number, please—record room, that is.





"Did you see what we got?"

Ring around the rosy?

A
R
O
U
N
D

R
O
U
N
D



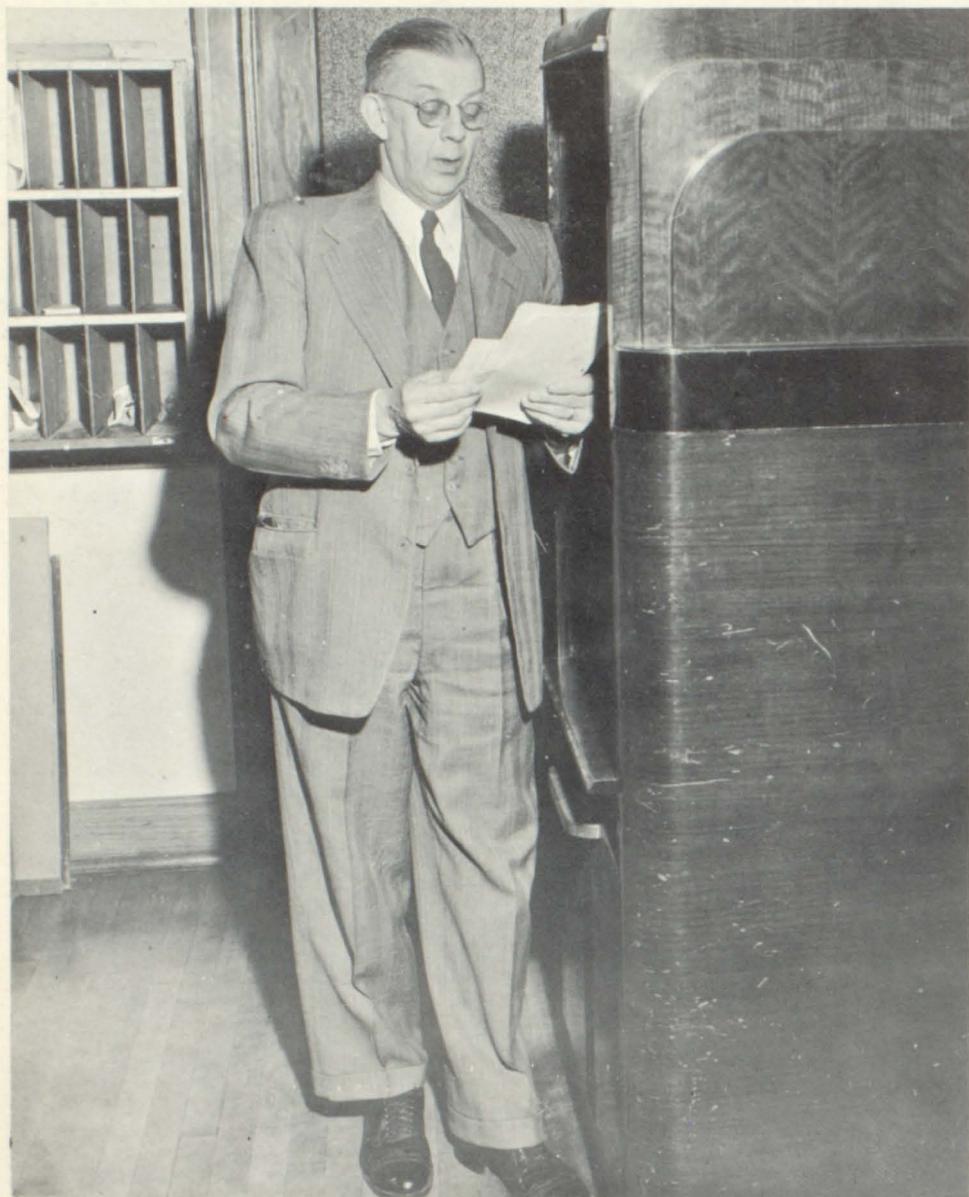
"Hey, that's mine!"

"Say, Ron, look at that babe over there!"

Four heads are better than one.

Discussing politics?





P.

A.

"Good morning, and your attention please!" is the familiar record hour greeting of Mr. Wiese.

Judy Glasser and Howard Pagel lend an ear to Mr. Wiese's pronouncements.

Study hall teacher Miss Less tells Gloria Dawkins, "Pay Attention!!"





Finding better things to do during PA announcements are Maxine Best, Nancy Sanchez, Linda Reynolds, and Dennis Adams.

"Your attention, please . . ." were familiar words around ROHS classrooms at the beginning of third and ninth hours every day. Upon hearing three little bells and the above words, students became comparatively quiet long enough to hear PA announcements given by Mr. Wiese, assistant principal.

Since the new schedule went into effect with the elimination of homerooms, the PA became the only means by which students learned about school activities.

Of course, rooms weren't perfectly quiet, because there were students who invariably had to sharpen their pencils or do last minute homework during this brief pause. But without the announcements, seniors would have been unable to find out when those all-

Mary Louise Kauppila and Bob McCall are wondering whether to believe what they heard or not.



Joan Clark and Grant Heid show two different reactions to PA announcements.

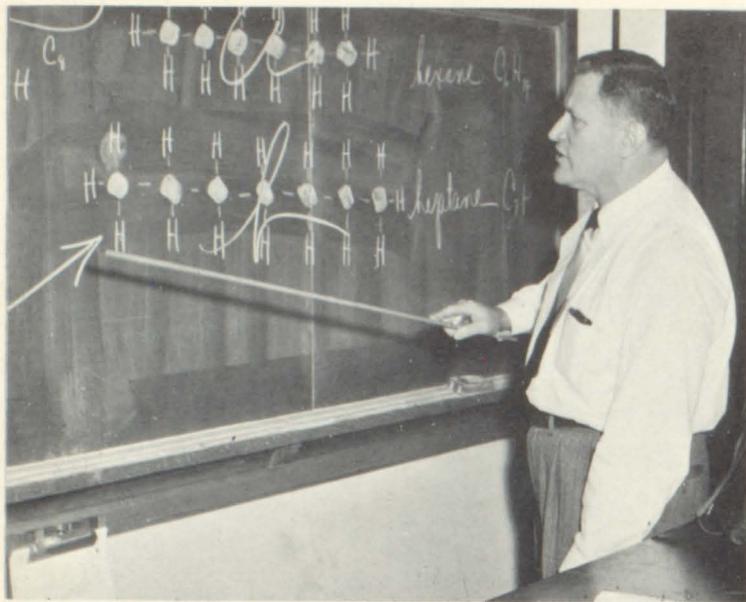
important senior meetings were and teachers wouldn't know how to fill out the various cards and sheets found in their boxes.

At times, besides being informative, PA proved as entertaining as some TV programs. During the Oak sales, members of the staff, whose musical ability was sometimes questioned, but who didn't care anyway, sang popular songs with special lyrics to encourage sales. Some teachers have played jokes on their colleagues by using the PA to make an announcement in a certain room.

Since its installation in 1938, the PA has become a habit for ROHS students, and without it the school wouldn't seem the same.

Some people want to make sure they don't miss a thing, so Don Williamson and Carol Hepfner are getting real close to PA.





Pointing out the fine points of science in general.—Mr. Miller.



Grow, grow, grow!
Mr. Tenhave.



"Merrily we walk along."—Mrs. Hindes, Mr. Strain.



"Sure it is!"—Mr. Morren.



"Peace!"—Mr. Gange.

TEACHERS' TANTRUMS



MR. I. A. ROSEN



MISS EVA MOORE



MISS RUTH COWEN

TIME MARCHES ON

Above are the pictures of three popular faculty members in their childhood many years ago. (The prints were copied from the original Daguerrotypes.) The pictures below are of a more recent vintage and are used for comparison.

Now, it may seem to most students that teachers were never children but that they were manufactured as is and built into the school along with the plaster and the plumbing. As can be seen from the pictures above, that is not altogether true. Here, pictured in the carefree days of their youth, are Miss Cowen, Miss Moore, and Mr. Rosen.

MR. ROSEN



We can't help but notice that there has been little change in the facial characteristics of the three. Miss Moore (here with her brother, the Honorable Arthur E. Moore) retains the warm expression portrayed above.

Miss Cowen still has the pleasant smile and big dark eyes. And then there is Mr. Rosen. He has changed least of all. He folds his hands the same way now as he did above; his hair is still wavy and unkempt, and his mouth is still open.

MISS MOORE



MISS COWEN







As beams of light, we have explored three facets of our prism and have now reached the fourth one — the one representing seniors.

This last facet marks the end of the influence of the prism on our individual beams, but it is an influence that we will never forget.

As seniors, we felt on top and had fun being there. We tried to sell elevator passes to the unsuspecting freshman and sent them to the wrong rooms.

There were senior receptions, held in the evening this year because of schedules, when we showed our parents the school, and there were senior parties with square dances and jitterbugs which all of us attempted, but few did well. Many times we went to open houses or parties at homes of some of our classmates after dances, games or other special events.

After deciding that Mackinac Island via the St. Mary's River would be the destination of our senior trip, we scouted around for roommates. On Memorial Day weekend we joined Ferndale's seniors for three days of relaxation and fun.

SENIORS

We attended senior meetings, cheered our varsity teams on, and somehow managed to do homework in between.

Those planning to go on to college filled out applications, and some took college boards. Many worked in their spare time, and others became active in various school activities.

We ordered senior announcements and name cards soon after the semester started, and in March we made picture appointments at Smarts' Studio. Proofs came back, pictures were ordered, and soon we were busy giving them to those who flattered us by asking for them.

In April cap and gown measurements were taken, and before we realized it, Convocation had arrived. Baccalaureate, Class Night, and Commencement itself followed within a week.

This is the last time we, as beams of light, will travel through our prism. Some of us will start again as we enter college; others will go directly to work; and some will join the armed forces. But all of us know how important our high school prism has been, and we will never forget our happy experiences in it.

NANCY ADAMS



BILL ALCINI

CHARLENE ALLEN

TOM ALLISON

DONNA ALPERT

MARTIN AMUNDSON

MICHAEL APOSTALL

KENT ARMSTRONG

JAY BAILEY

JANET BAIR

ROBERT BAKER

JACK BALLARD

BARB BALTZLY

JERRY BARNES

FRED MESTER
President





ED BARTZ



LARRY BAUGHAN

MARGARET BEARESS



IVA MARIE BEAUDIN

JEANETTE BEDSON

JUDITH BEGGS



ROBERT BETZ

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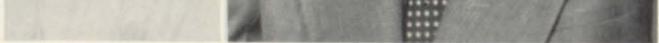


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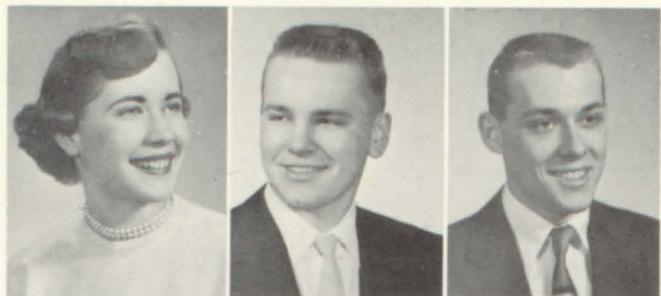
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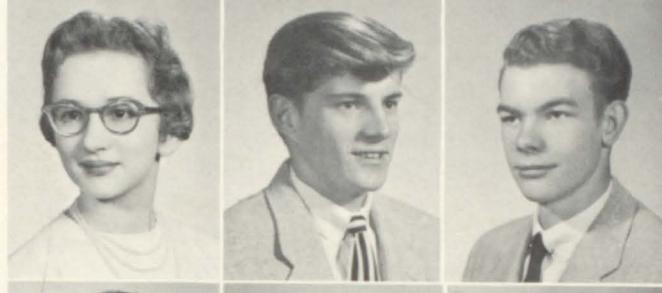


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CLASS FLOWER:

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CLASS MOTTO:

"It matters not how long we live, but how."

VALEDICTORIANS



SHERRY HOOD



GORDON RUSCOE



SARAH WEINER

For the first time in Royal Oak High School history the race for valedictorian has ended in a dead heat. Two girls and one boy have tied for highest achievement in scholastic ability with perfect 4.00 or "A" averages. These exceptional students have not only kept up their perfect string of A's but have actively participated in all phases of school activities. Gordon Ruscoe has served as managing editor of the Acorn, senator and parliamentarian of the Student Senate, and as a part time correspondent for the Royal Oak Tribune. Sherry Hood was president of Girls' Lit., won the D.A.R. Service Award, Betty Crocker Award, was captain of the cheerleaders, and co-chairman of Girls' Lit. and Commencement Dances, to list but a few of her activities. Sarah Weiner served as Border Cities League representative, copy editor of the Acorn, and is the editor of the '55 Oak.

A little lost in the lustre of these three valedictorians is the salutatorian, Walter Allan. He just missed the top himself with an excellent 3.967 average. He was a member of the Pep Club, Spanish Club, and president of the Latin Club.

S A L U T A T O R I A N



WALTER ALLAN



SENIOR



SNAPS

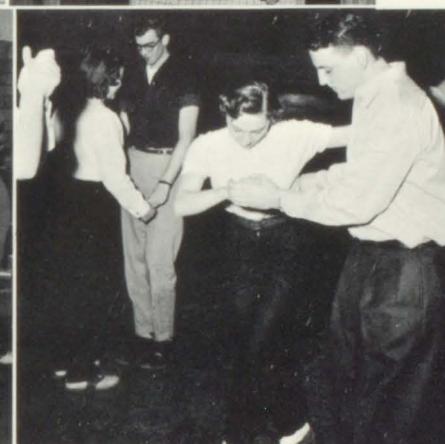


H O R S I N G

From January to June, the 12A's were always on the move busily participating in just about everything ROHS had to offer and a few miscellaneous activities they made up on their own.

They whistled at girls and walked under human bridges at the senior parties, puzzled over homework and exams. Between classes they congregated in the halls to pass on the newest joke or the next day's soc. assignments.





Seniors loved to eat. They did it on hall patrol and while selling tickets for parties. Sometimes the food got stuck on the way down, but who cared?

The Acorn room was a mass of activity from dawn to dusk as the school papers and the Oak were put together.

The candid camera managed to catch the gang at odd moments, but that was part of the fun. After all, they were only horsing around!

AROUND

EPILOGUE

We're all through — commenced. We were individuals in a group. Now we're just individuals — three hundred individuals — drifting apart — living individual lives.

The world is before us — we're told. We've been preparing. Some of the preparation is completed.

High school is no longer a reality — only memories. As we grow and learn and experience, we will think of high school less and less. Memories will dim. The present and future will fill our minds.

But sometimes we will look back. Sometimes we will think of high school. Forgotten images will come trickling into our minds...

images of rusty-red bricks . . . green lockers crammed with books and coats . . . worn, marble stairways . . . large paintings hanging on the study hall walls . . . the combination of a lock . . .

pep rallies — cheerleaders — crowds . . . assemblies in the auditorium . . . activity books . . . the A Cappella choir . . . music festivals . . . concerts . . . Atwas plays . . . laughter and applause . . .



football games . . . bright lights . . . the thundering roar of the crowd . . . blue and white jerseys . . . basketball games in a stuffy gym . . .

the band and Mr. Garen . . . magazine drives . . . charts . . . the Student Senate . . . elections . . . campaigning . . . posters . . . banners . . . tags and pins . . .

a long, irregular line spilling from the cafeteria into the hall . . . double dip sundaes dripping with butterscotch . . . faint beats from the juke box . . .

shiny high heels, tight white collars, perspiration, and ten minute speeches . . .

Confederate caps . . . squirt guns . . . white bucks . . . saddles . . . khakis . . . pink shirts . . . charcoal flannels . . . knee socks . . . bermudas . . . Skokkian . . . Sh-Boom . . . the Bunny Hop . . .

a line of cars creeping through the Totem Pole . . . first gear rubber out of Dan's . . . pizza . . . pajama parties . . .

Acorns on Fridays . . . grey pictures . . . ads . . . Looney Tunes . . . Platter Chatter . . .

Oak staff . . . mobiles . . . clothes-hangers . . . typewriters . . . glue . . . groups of people . . .

groups of people . . . and a sea of faces . . . faces of friends . . . faces of strangers . . . faces of teachers . . . laughing, tired, serious, worried, moody . . . endless emotions on faces . . . faces with names . . . faces without names . . .

an endless chain of people and events and places and names and objects . . . endless details . . .

These are ours — to forget — to save — to ignore — to recall. High school is no longer a reality — but a possession — our possession.

— dale franz



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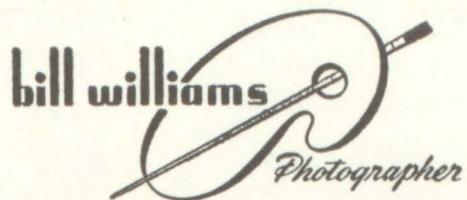
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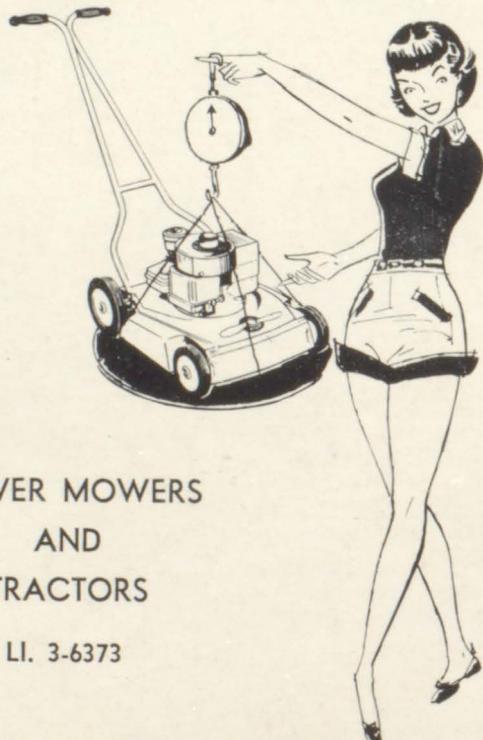
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*"This is not the end. It is not
even the beginning of the end.
But it is, perhaps, the end
of the beginning."*

—Churchill



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K
A
Y

B
A
U
M



From left to right are: Pat Ginter, Barbara Heid, Romelda Waldon,
Claudia Lomerson, Nowana Maynard, Sue MacMillan, and
Geraldine Spanke

BIRMINGHAM

