



T. V. star Bill Cosby spoke to 600 journalism students at the San Francisco Hilton Hotel.

Mustached Bill Cosby Talks To High School Journalists

by Joyce Krieg

Some six-hundred high school newspaper reporters jammed the Continental Ballroom of the San Francisco Hilton last week to discuss racial problems with one young man.

The man happened to be Bill Cosby.

Teens who wish to help solve racial problems should "get to know all types of people,"

according to Cosby. "The kids must teach the bigoted parents. But don't be a snob about it," he warned.

Cosby, sporting a Groucho Marx mustache, said that he would not use his "black hero" image to try to stop riots. "It's not my problem, man!" he explained.

When asked if he felt the voting age should be lowered to eighteen, Cosby remarked, "Sure! I know some dummies who are fifty years old! I'd rather see an eighteen-year-old say no to Wallace than a fifty-year-old say yes!"

After speaking nearly two hours, Cosby departed with the words, "It was a groove!", leaving six-hundred enlightened students in the ballroom.



Vol. 6 No. 15

Blackford High School, San Jose, Calif.

May 17, 1968

New Administrators Discuss Future Plans

Mr. Harold C. Sonntag and Mr. William Allman, Blackford's new principal and director of education, respectively, conveyed their interest concerning faculty-student relations by participating in a Lance Staff Interview, recently.

The administrators answered numerous questions about future school policies and curriculum.

Commenting on his first impression of Blackford, Mr. Sonntag reported that he was very impressed. The students were "well groomed and well dressed." Mr. Sonntag commented that, on the whole, "young people have good ideas and want to do things better," and even the messy campus is the fault of only 10-15 per cent of the students.

Curriculum changes will revolve largely around a recent study which indicated that Blackford and Leigh will be the largest high schools within the next four or five years. This fact was obtained after considering current elementary

school enrollment and prospective growth, according to Mr. Allman who added that "A" periods would be omitted. Mr. Sonntag indicated that team teaching and new lockers in the boys' locker room probably will be necessary in future years. Some new textbooks have been ordered, and music lessons also will be available next year after school and during study halls.

In the physical education department, an unofficial soccer league will be established during the winter months, if coaching from the faculty can be obtained.

Both Mr. Sonntag and Mr. Allman were previously employed as directors of education at Leigh and Campbell, respectively.



Mr. William Allman (L) and Mr. Sonntag "on the firing line" during a press conference with the Lance.

Blackford Takes Fourth In Annual Auto Contest

What's Inside

Blackford's trouble-shooting team consisting of Wayne Alexander and Lee Chapman were shooting sharp in Plymouth's annual trouble shooting contest with a fourth place over all.

Fixing 24 mechanical problems in 40 minutes was good enough for third, but an idle adjustment being off sent the team back to 4th place.

Fourth was good enough for a trophy apiece for Lee and Wayne with an additional one for Mr. Lowell Like, their coach.

There was a total of 25 schools involved in the con-

test. Some came as far away as Monterey and Union City. But more locally, Homstead took the first place award home with them.

In Blackford's past history the closest ever gotten to fourth was a 5th received several years ago. With the not impressive average of a problem fixed every one and two-thirds minutes.

Sports Wrap-up for 1968 Season	p. 4
We Like Reynolds	p. 4
State Speech Champ	p. 3
May 24 Playday	p. 3
Math "Monster"	p. 3
"Gun Play"	p. 2
Keep Behaving	p. 2
Is Competition Good?	p. 2

Robber of Local Pizza Parlor Nearly Nails B.H.S. Teacher

"Hold it," cried the bandit, the same man held up the pointing a gun at Barney McGuire, physics teacher at Blackford.

Being an unwary patron at the Angle's Pizza Parlor, Mr. McGuire was on his way to the restroom when the bandit thought McGuire was summoning help. After calling for Mr. McGuire to "hold it,"

the gunman shot at him with his .38-cal. revolver. Mr. McGuire ducked into the restroom.

The stick-up man grabbed \$500 and ran out.

The following night, May 3, made the arrest.



Barney McGuire (R.) shakes hands with senior Tom Abraham after their recent "games of cops and robbers."



From the age of three to the age of nineteen you change, but guns don't!

June 12th Is Right Around The Corner

Get off that bridge! Get away from that window! Turn off the gas! All you frustrated seniors still have reasons for living. In the very near future we must prepare for Senior Sneak Day...Play Day...Baccalaureate...After Grad Party! When you stop and think about it you almost hate to leave our blessed halls of abundant education and limited and restricted fun. After four years some of us are ready to go on to bigger and better things.

Just a warning: Since graduation is right around the corner, some of us Seniors seem to get a little jumpy. It's never too late to pull some booboo and not only get yourself kicked out of the graduation ceremony, but possibly out of school. Be Careful! You've been here four years waiting for June 12, 1968. Don't Blow It!!!!

A Tribute To Mr. Loewus

We wish to take advantage of this small but meaningful space, to show our gratitude and admiration to that humble "Father of Journalism," Mr. Frunk A. Locust, alias, Mr. Loewus.

Mr. Loewus has proved to be a great friend and teacher to all. Along with his talent for making learning an interesting instead of boring procedure. Mr. Loewus has taken on the task of being advisor of the Lance! Obviously without his help and understanding, such a paper could and would never be printed.

We students wish to thank Mr. Loewus in hopes that he will realize the wonderful student-teacher relationship he has let us become familiar with. We only hope that he realizes it enough to continue using the same methods in the future, so all students may some year know that all teachers aren't stereo-typed with hearts made of stone. Duh!!!!

"Let Me Tell You A Story" It's About A Boy Named John

By Peggy Self (Public Speaking Eulogy)

When John was three, his parents gave him a water pistol. He'd shoot it at his friends, the neighbor's cat and even at his dog! Whenever he'd do that, he'd laugh and laugh. He really loved that water pistol.

When John was five, his parents gave him a cap gun and two boxes of caps. Sometimes John would go up behind his father and shoot him. Would he get mad!

When John was eight, his parents gave him a set of 49 Army men, two tanks, four bazookas and six machine guns. John would set it up in the house and even outside, playing with it for hours at a time.

"When John was 11, his parents gave him a scale model rifle. He and his friends would go into the creek near John's house and play Army. They had so much fun!

When John was 13, his parents gave him a B.B. gun. He'd go into the orchard and shoot at trees, birds and even at cats. He loved to shoot things.

When John was 19, his parents didn't give him anything. They didn't have a chance, Uncle Sam got there first. Uncle Sam gave him a real rifle with real bullets!

He got to play in a real Army and shoot real people. John loved to shoot people. He'd sit in his foxhole and shoot anyone who went by, then he'd nick his rifle, one nick for one dead person. He had so many nicks!

One day, John even got to be a nick on one of Uncle Sam's rifles.

by Joyce Krieg
"Forever we'll be loyal, fighting on for Blackford High!" So run the last two lines of Blackford's fight song. How many of you have ever really fought for Blackford? "Everyone has! Our spirit is better than ever!" you're probably thinking.

On the surface, Blackford appears spirited. The cheering at rallies is deafening. Spirit Week was a complete

success.

Now stop and think for a minute. The students who yell at rallies, who clean up the campus, and think they are promoting spirit are not fighting for Blackford at all. In nearly every case, these students are only fighting for their class. Who cares what happens to Blackford as long as the class of, say, '71 or '68 comes out ahead, seems to be the attitude of quite a few so-called spirited Braves.

Should Blackford abolish all class competitive-type contests? In the opinion of the Lance, the answer is yes. Contests such as P.T.A. membership sales and corridor decorating only pull classes farther apart. These competitions could be run between inter-class organizations, such as Debs vs. Y-Teens, or Key Club vs. Interact. In that way, students would be fighting on and all for a united Blackford High.



I Wanna Be Free, I Wanna Be Free, I Wanna Be Free, I Wanna Be Free, I Wanna Be Free, I Wanna Be Free!

Suggested 'Theme' Song For The Class Of 1968!

By Debble & Jackie

I wanna be free like the bluebirds flying by me...Like the waves out on the blue sea...If your love has to tie me don't try me say goodbye...I wanna be free...Don't say you love me say you like me...But when I need you beside me stay close enough to guide me, confide in me...I wanna hold

your hand walk along the sand...Laughing in the sun always having fun...Doing all those things without any strings to tie me down...I wanna be free...Like the warm September wind babe...Say you'll always be my friend babe... We can make it to the end babe... Again babe...I've gotta say...I Wanna Be Free...

We think "I Wanna be Free" by the Monkees should be the theme song for the Blackford High School's graduating class of 1968.

Many seniors will be walking the path of life thinking these words as they are searching for the truth.

Will you be among those walking this path?

LANCE STAFF

- Advisor Mr. Frank Loewus
- Editorial Board Martha Griffin, Joyce Krieg, Rick Lee
- Page 1 Editors Rick Knowles, Ted Gentry
- Page 2 Editors Debble Embody, Jacqueline Keywood
- Page 3 Editor Mike Rock
- Sports Bob Stewart
- Photography Photo Commission
- Photo Editor Jim Sitter
- News Bob Kull
- Reporters; Lowell Abramson, Kathy Bush, Carla Campbell, Trudy Hirschfeld, Linda Hodam, Sherry Keresey, Lynette Koehn, Bob Kull, Jim Olsen, Mike Rock, Matt Shaw, Bob Sorrells, Roger Stover, Kent Williams.



May 24 Set As Play Day

An extra dress down day! Yes, that's the prize to the winning class of this year's Play Day. The winning class will receive one additional dress down day.

May 24 is the big date set for Blackfordites to really get out and show their spirit. This year there are several new events planned like a swimming inertube relay, and a swimming relay with clothes.

Students will receive cards, choose three activities, and receive one event for the first hour and two events for the second hour.

All students will attend the first four periods of the day, with fifth and sixth periods being used for the activities, but ALL students may dress down for the full day. Dressing down is defined as sport clothes, NOT grubbies. If no one takes advantage of the privileges, this "extra dress down day" will be established as a tradition.



Jim Jacob and his trophy for first place in state speech contest.



A Blackford First Jim Jacob Returns 1968 State Champion

For the first time in Blackford's history a member of the Speech and Debate Commission qualified for semi-finals in the State Speech and Debate Tournament. Jim Jacob was chosen state champion in the Senate at the annual speech tournament held May 3 and 4 at Stanford University.

Jim won his trophy in a Student Congress similar to State and National Congresses. Rules of Parliamentary Procedure are used in passing resolutions drawn up by high school students.

The only other member of the Speech and Debate Commission at State Tournament was

Dennis Conroy in Dramatic Interpretation, with "Diary of a Madman." Dennis wasn't able to qualify for semi-finals

Advisor Lee Cunningham is pleased with the response received in her two years at Blackford. This time Blackford has gone from an unknown school to fifth place in the district.

SMOKE SIGNALS

Well, gang, it's that time of year again. For those not "in the know", tonight will be the Junior Sock Hop, the theme of which is King Arthur's Dungeon. Celebrities from as far away as Milpitas are reported to be planning to attend. Music will be provided by "Al Viso and the Swamp Cranes" at the gala affair. Parents will accompany the couples to the cafeteria door at 9 p.m. and pick them up at midnight. The Taco Bell, McDonald's, Mc & Eds, and the Doggie Diner are reported to be flooded with dinner reservations from our juniors. Peanut butter sandwiches and Kool-aid will be served at the dance. (I'm just kidding, juniors!)

Alumnae: Stephanie Morris (67) is a freshman at SJS... Dale Leslie (66) is studying religion at State... Jerry Hermansen (66) is a West Valley student... Rick Hanson (66) is studying at Stanford... Cheryl Walter (67) is studying nursing at San Jose Hospital.

The Lance presents a can of "Snakey" Lysol Room Deodorizer to Chris Plasecki in recognition of her brilliant (gag) work in making the green room unfit for human habitation.

Students Build Marvel



"The Framis Functioning Super-Oscillating Thing-a-majig" is now showing in Mr. Ron Bender's Room 39. What is it? A harmonograph, working on the pendulum principle.

It's a tripod structure used to make designs on paper, using the swinging pendulum to move a platform with a pen resting on a paper sheet. The harmonograph never repeats itself on any one line or design, says Mr. Bender. It was built by his third period general math class. The teacher, who picked up the idea at a Sacramento math conference last month, invites everyone to observe the fascinating harmonograph.

This harmonograph can be seen in Mr. Bender's room 39 beginning next week.

Are Year End 'Final Exams' Of Real Value To Students?

By Lynette Koehn

For a number of years it has been the school's and district's policy to have a year end final. It is the opinion of myself as well as many others that these finals are of no real value to the students. The majority of the teachers compose a test covering the entire year's work. With the average student having to take four of five finals, it is an impossibility for adequate preparation to be made. How is it possible for a student to prepare for a test covering the entire year? This is the question I would like to ask of the adminis-

tration. As the time for the final nears, most students begin to worry, wondering how they can take a test of this type and still pass the year. They realize they are at a loss as far as knowing what to study because of the wide range of material being covered. By the time the test comes, the students are so confused with thousands of facts crammed into their heads that when the test is handed to them they draw a big fat blank--do poorly on the test--and go home exhausted!

Assembles Poll Student Council

The dress opinionaire distributed to all classes last week by the student council drew a considerable amount of faculty and student comments. Following are a few student comments overheard.

"I believe too many people are concerned with our appearance rather than our education". "Girls have a choice whether to have long hair or short, why not boys?" "They are always complaining about short skirts, so why can't we wear long skirts?" "I feel that the only important code that should exist consists of one word; cleanliness!" "Most students feel that the administration shouldn't be concerned with dress standards because school is only for learning. But I would like you to note that dressing according to certain standards is an important part of learning."



From extreme to extreme, tastes vary greatly as shown here.

68' SEASON CLOSES!

Blackford Fares Well At Close of Year

GOLF

Ending the regular season with a 16 1/2-7 1/2 victory over Westmont, Blackford golfers keyed up for the district league finals to be held at Riverside. Representing Blackford are Brad Taylor and seniors Doug Perasso and Rick Wright. If experience counts, these three should fare well as Doug and Rick placed well last year and Brad has established himself as one of the county's best.

The victory over Westmont gave the Braves a record of 5-3 and third place. League chances next year look grim as only Brad Taylor and Ben

Lewis will be returning of the top nine. Hopes lay with the abillities of Coach Glandon as a recruiter.

SWIMMING

Brent Youngblood, one of West Valley's finest swimmers, received second place at the Central Coast Sectionals Saturday in the 100 yard butterfly. Youngblood finished second only to Mark Spitz of Santa Clara, expected to represent the United States in the Olympics this summer. Finishing with a time of 54.3 Youngblood was just one second behind Spitz.

Also qualifying at CCS was sophomore Paul Zeanah, who finished sixth in the 100 individual medly, which includes one lap each of fly, back, breast, and free. Rick Winer nearly qualified, as he placed seventh in diving, requiring a sixth to qualify.

The Varsity finished the season in a tie for third with a record of 6-2. The B's tied for first with Saratoga at 7-1. The C's finished in third place with a record of 6-2. All in all, the season must be tagged as highly successful.

TENNIS

Blackford fared well in the league track finals held Friday at Westmont. Many Brave trackmen represented Blackford with their best seasonal efforts. The varsity discus event was won by Mike Sharpe with a school record toss of 155'8". Steve Neff again broke his two mile school record with a third place 9:57 run.

Mr. Reynolds To Abandon Coach's Post?

Sports Staff Editorial

Is this the last year for Coach Reynolds?

Mr. Ron Reynolds, at the beginning of the season stated that if his team did not finish first, he would get out of baseball.

His team will not finish in first. Blackford, as a matter of fact, has never placed first in varsity baseball.

Why not?

From what we could see, Coach Reynolds admirably did all that could be done as coach. The fact that the Braves have never had a first does not necessarily denote coaching problems.

Coach Reynolds' fine qualities only shine when he blames himself so much as to want out. The Lance Sports Staff can only sympathize and ask Mr. Reynolds to reconsider.

Is this the last year for Coach Reynolds?

We sincerely hope not.

Sports Staff Review

1968- A Big Beginning In Coverage, Participation

The Lance Sports Staff appreciates the fine co-operation that both the faculty and coaching staff have given us this year. We believe that because of this aid, better coverage was presented to you, the reader.

In attempting to fulfill a promise made early in the school year to make up for the San Jose Mercury Sports Staff's "shabby lack of due attention" given to Blackford, our staff has, to the best of its ability, tried to recognize and

cover all sports, fairly and completely.

We have been criticized from time to time for having "played up" a mediocre season.

The Sports Staff denies this.

We believe that this was no ordinary year. Records were broken and Blackford teams finished with winning seasons like never before. And next year looks brighter.

We hope that 1968 will be remembered at Blackford as the beginning of a tradition.



Ben "plays in sand"



Are all swimmers shy?

In the triple-jump, sophomore Bill Meng easily took a third with his personal best of 43'2". Senior Jim Wilhelm captured fourth place in the varsity long jump with a leap of 21'1 1/2". In the "B" division, Dan Andrews ran by everyone to register first place and a new league record of 2:03 for the 880 yard run.

Each of these trackmen have earned the right to participate in the regional track meet at James Lick, Saturday. The



"Now don't drop it!"



"I killed another fly!"

regionals will bring together the best of the West Valley, Mount Hamilton, and Santa Teresa leagues.

TRACK

With matches remaining against Del Mar, Saratoga, and Camden, Blackford's netmen hold a 10-3 record and second place in the 1968 WVAL race.

The play-off with Campbell, the most decisive match of the year, resulted in a 4-3 defeat for the Braves and assurance of Campbell's championship.

Mr. Hal Raley Nets Record Stripped Bass

fish hook, before he was able to land his adversary.

The 42 pound stripped bass was the largest caught in the area during the week of April 29 to May 3. Mr. Raley caught the fish (and a cold?) while

trolling in a boat owned Mrs. Lee Squire, girls physical education instructor, and her husband.

Adding injury to insult, the trophy fish was eagerly consumed at a later date.



WHO CAUGHT WHO? Mr. Hal Raley, after an intense battle, poses with a record stripped bass caught in the San Joaquin River recently.