

# the raider

# RECORD

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March 1987

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## Students Compete in Math Counts Competition

On February 14, eight Kimmons eighth grade students traveled to the University of Arkansas to compete in the Math Counts competition. Stephanie Howard placed third and Michael Beck came in sixth out of 168 participants. Then Stephanie Howard and Michael Beck teamed up with Becky Caudle and Terri Oswald and came in fifth in the team competition. Stephanie Howard also came in third in the oral examination. Along with the four team members, four alternates went to compete in the competition. They were Jeanna Noess, Wayne Lunsford, John Britt, and Monica Thompson. Linda Riley, seventh and advanced eighth grade math teacher, was the team's coach.

Math Counts is a chapter, state, and national mathematics competition for grades seven and eight, sponsored by the American Society of Professional Engineers and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The competition consists of two timed individual rounds, one team round, and an oral examination for the top four scorers of the individual rounds.

The top three teams and top three individuals advance on to Little Rock. Stephanie Howard is the only Kimmons student to advance on to Little Rock.

## CITIZENS OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY:

Seventh grade: Ryan Ray, Holly Taylor  
 Eighth grade: Michael Ta, Meredith Massey  
 Ninth grade: Jimmy Christian, Patriece Gray

## Choir Receives Awards

The results are in from the the Annual West Central Regional Spring Choral Festival held at Northside on March 7. According to choir director Mr. Jay Niederbrach, the choirs "did a fine job." The Chamber Ensemble received two excellents and one superior rating, and the Male Chorus received one excellent and two superiors. The Beginning Girls received three superiors, and the Advanced Girls received three superiors. When speaking of the choirs, Mr. Niederbrach said that he was "elated and really happy."

## From Mr. Bardrick's Desk

William Von Eric Domer was born in Ludwigsburg, Germany on the second day of August in 1971. His death came over a recent weekend. Eric was an eighth grader at our school.

Perhaps there are degrees of sadness or maybe the death of a youthful person is greater than the demise of someone aged. But regardless, Eric's death is a most sorrowful event and we join in an effort to comfort those who are bereaved.

None of us know how long we have to live, and balanced against eternity, each life is very short and very delicate. One day a person is here, the next day gone.

One poet put it this way:

Brief.  
 Brief as water falling, is life;  
 and brief as a flower falling,  
 or a leaf.  
 Brief as th taking or the giving,  
 of breath,  
 Brief.

Over four hundred years ago, John Donne lived in a village where it is customary to ring the bells of the village church when word was received of the death of someone in the community. People, hearing the ringing of the bells, would come to the church and inquire as to the identity of the deceased. Donne explained that when the bells tolled, whether you knew the person or not, that you should mourn their passing. He further explained that everyone is a part of mankind and that anytime any person dies, mankind is reduced. And the death of anyone is a part of you dying. He wrote, "Any man's death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind. Therefore, never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

Eric was a good student. He had a 3.00 grade average, was in our advanced math class, played in the orchestra, and participated in athletics. This death of Eric Domer has diminished us all. His presence will be missed but his memory can inspire others to strive to do their best, just as Eric did.





## "FROM THE HIP"

by Jennifer Threadgill

"Stormy" Weathers was a great nickname for the aspiring young attorney who starred in the movie played by Judd Nelson, was stormy and strange not only in the courtroom but also, everywhere else! Ever since Robin Weathers was a child, he wanted to become a famous attorney-one who would be remembered. He was determined to get there one way or another. When he wasn't influencing the jury by banging on desks and making a fool out of the chief of police, he was getting attention from the press by having fights in the courts with the the prosecuting attorney. He would do anything to win the case, and he did just that. Although when the dilemma of defending a man guilty of murder, he made the man confess in court. Even Stormy Weathers had a conscience.

This was an excellent movie. Go see it! Judd Nelson was cute, and funny. His fans will love him, again.



## HAVE A HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

### GOLD Found on the Kimmons Campus

by Joseph Pullen

On February 24-25 gold was found on the Kimmons campus. This treasure is not the gold that you are probably thinking about, but another kind of gold. This gold is as rare and even more valuable than diamonds. The gold I'm referring to is a rule, the golden rule-brotherly love.

As you all know, Eric Domer has recently passed away. He was a member of the school orchestra, football and track team, and was in the advanced math class. He is remembered best for his ability to to always give 110%.

The student body was asked to give a voluntary donation to the Domer family, and students and faculty gave a gift of over \$400. This was one kind of gold found. The other was left by Eric. His gift to us was that if you live your best and give 110%, then you may expect 110%.

All this proves that even though we have lost one of our best, Eric lives on through our school spirit and the shining of the gold.

Do you have anything you want us to publish? Send it to D-103!

## "ARE WE BEHIND"

by Michael Beck

Do you think the United States is falling behind other countries in education? Before you answer this, look at the facts.

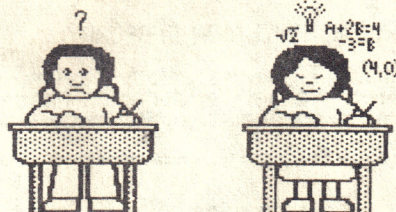
As reported by the January 19, 1987 issue of U.S. news, in the Soviet Union students regularly study physics and algebra for five years, chemistry and biology for four years, and calculus for two years. Teenagers in the United States usually don't even take a year of either physics or chemistry, and only six-percent study calculus.

In the United States, students usually do not take algebra until the ninth grade. But in Japan, all students study algebra in the seventh grade.

In a CBS news report, it was said that some are saying that a Japanese high school diploma is the equivalent to an American bachelor's degree.

Japan's population may be about half as big as ours, but the number of engineers Japan produces is nine percent more than what the United States produces, and most of the people who get Ph.D.'s in engineering in the United States are from other countries.

These are just a few examples. So clearly we are behind. But what can we do? For one thing, the students must start trying harder. Almost one fourth of America's teenagers drop out of school before they get their high school diploma. This is compared to nine out of ten Japanese students who get their high school diploma. Until American students work harder, educational standards are going to keep dwindling. This is because the educational standards can only rise if the American students raise them.



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## The Clock Has Started!

Those words are uttered at every manned liftoff of a space vehicle; it was first heard in 1961 when America's first astronaut, Alan B. Shepard, lifted off in his Mercury capsule to begin an era of exploration that seems to have died with one single, unfortunate mishap, caused entirely by a string of completely human errors. But it is not a question of trying to forget the space shuttle disaster and the crew on it - it is a question of continuing the space program. Let's start with an example, a real example:

The year is 1967 - twenty years ago. The place is Cape Canaveral, Florida. The time - almost sunset.

There is a huge rocket on the launch pad - it's called the Saturn IB, and it is to be ridden by an Apollo space capsule manned by three astronauts - Gus Grissom (himself a Mercury veteran), Ed White II (a veteran of previous flight Gemini 4, in which he became the first American to walk in space), and Roger Chaffee, a rookie astronaut.

None of them will ever see the stars again - shortly before sunset, the Apollo spacecraft, on its last pre-flight test, is pressurized with a 100% oxygen atmosphere. But soon after the pressurization is completed, an electrical spark ignites a blazing fire which consumes all the oxygen - and the three astronauts - in less than half a minute.

Yet, in early 1968, three other astronauts (Schirra, Eisele, and Cunningham) leave the earth in a slightly modified Apollo capsule and the flight is successful...it is half a year after the Apollo 1 fire. Then, about a year later, Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin are standing on the moon's surface.

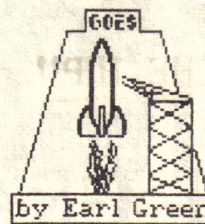
Why has the American space program come to a grinding halt? The only launch since January 28, 1986 was the launch of the weather satellite GOES-8 on February 26, 1987. More than a year afterward! But why have people not flown again?

Comparisons: NASA flew 19 flights into space before their first real fatality - NASA's shuttles flew 24 missions before the Challenger accident.

But a third, more demanding thing must happen as well...this will happen again. In August 1985, NASA officials were interviewed for a television documentary about the Apollo space program. One flight director, when asked about the Apollo 1 flight, said it was "one of the most tragic events I have ever witnessed" but he also said that "it will happen again eventually...it is up to the public accept it when it happens because as long as there are space flights, there will be space accidents."

To add to this prophecy, let me close with a thought: what do you do when you hear about a plane crash on TV?

"Awww, that's too bad."



## GOES Goes Up!

For the first time in over a year, a space payload has successfully reached orbit. As mentioned before, not one satellite has rocketed into orbit without meeting a fiery end since May 1986, when a sister ship was destroyed by its own Delta booster en route to join the weather satellite fleet.

The GOES-VIII satellite (Geostationary Orbit Earth Satellite) has been placed into a special orbit between the earth and the moon at a distance that keeps a satellite above the same point on earth 24 hours a day. GOES-VIII will assist the Hurricane Forecasting Center in Miami, Florida.

## Life as a Video Tape

Editor

by Earl Green

Yea, verily...life in "show biz" can be a real dream (punctuated at irregular intervals by nightmares), and some of us have seen it first hand.

At Rainbow Video Productions, located in Fort Smith, we have fun taking a heavy JVC production camera and a universal video tape recorder out nearly everywhere. It takes at least two to pick up the camera in its case with all of its accessories; it takes more to pick up or even roll the combination recorder-camera tripod-monitor across a bumpy surface.

Then after struggling for 40 minutes (or, frequently, more than 40 minutes) with the errant battery packs,

January, 1987: A real milestone month. We begin working on some music videos that will take, as we find out, the better part of a year.

February, 1987: Fun, fun, fun. More music video production. Our amazing camera man (who I can't criticize too much because he's the boss) accidentally trips on a cord, with only one hand and a shoulder grip between a \$15,000 camera and oblivion. Whew!

March, 1987: More fun to come. Dry ice, as we discover, bothers our senses of smell and the focusing rings. Our experimental bazooka, which is to be used in a take-off of detective shows, goes off...in the living room. Nothing/nobody was injured, save for the wife's pride in the newly painted ceiling and my eardrums.

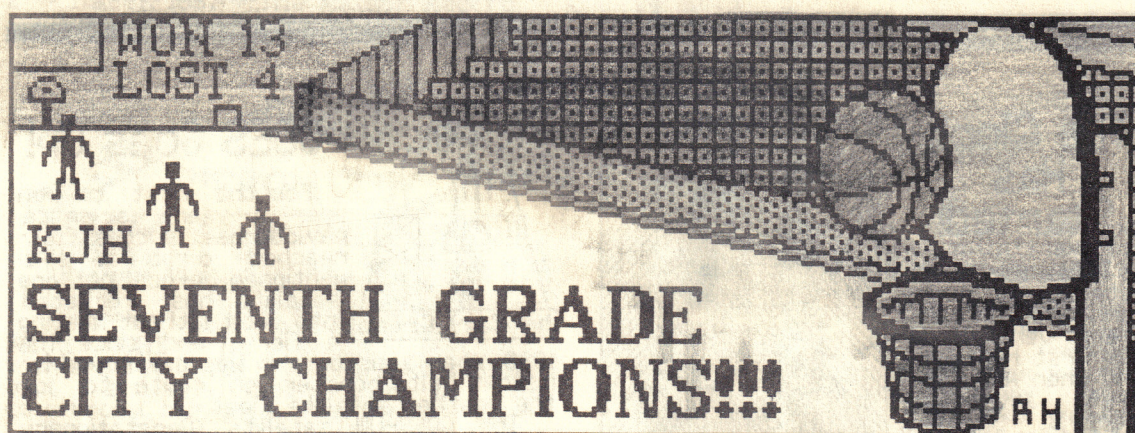
What will happen next? Who knows? But this is where I come in. I am a video tape editor, and my job is to put all this together in something akin to a believable sequence of events.

The catch is this: all the "sights and sounds" have to be in order and if they're not, you'll have people standing in one place one moment, then clear across the street in another one. Tough job, eh what? Tougher yet: go find an editing board and try to figure every button out on your own. Then call me in two years when you're done.

All in all, it's a fun job. But somebody's gotta do it!

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L. to R. back row: A. Mays, D. Arter,  
E. Lee, W. Nelson, T. Amos, J. Walker,  
Coach McCaskill

Middle: K. McClendon, J. Abernathy,  
R. Osburn, E. Jones, M. Stringer,  
K. Cravens

Front: J. Abernathy, W. May, C.  
Jones, E. Williams, M. Norwood,  
W. Satterfield, U. Mays, R. Marshall