The Explorer

VOLUME 8 No. 8

LASALLE HIGH SCHOOL - SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

DECEMBER 15, 1972

LASALLE WELCOMES GREEK STUDENT

by Celeste Petelle

At this time of year when Christmas and snow are in everyone's mind, it seems very appropriate that Mary Nassika, our new Greek foreign exchange student, should make this comment, "I like America. I love Greece; but I love America when it has snow."

Her American sister, Anne Stratigos said, "Mary is becoming more 'Americanized' by wearing jeans more often, and one of her favorite foods is the Burger King "whopper."

"America is very different from Greece," says Mary. "Everyone rides cars, no one walks."

Comparing America and Greece she observes, "America gives more opportunity for young people to work to get money. But Greece has natural beauty (old buildings like the Parthenon add to beauty), Greece has beautiful sea."

Remarking upon her impressions, she added, "We don't have the problem of drugs. People don't know what are drugs like marijuana or LSD. Here there is a big problem, here most of the kids use something."

"We wear clothing like Americans," continues Mary, "only not so much blue jeans. Girls from high school wear uniforms and the boys don't have long hair."

Among the activities Mary has taken up since she came to America are yoga, gymnastics, and swimming at the YMCA, and she also likes to bowl.

As for American food, Mary says, "I like all American food but a few things--I can't eat egg whites and I have celery and sweet potatoes."

Americans know that Greek pastry is something special. When Mary was asked what she thought of American pastry she replied, "I like American pastry, but I love Greek." She is planning to make a Greek delicacy, spacopita (spinach pie), while she is here.

Mary has a full schedule at LaSalle. Besides taking six solids, she is going to join the dance club.

Mary sums up her new life in this way, "I like LaSalle. The kids are friendly and the teachers I have are very, very good teachers. I love American family, especially my sister Annie--she's wonderful."

FOREIGN TRADITION IN YULETIDE

by Celeste Petelle



Foreign students wish the student body a Merry Christmas. Standing from left to right are Jasna Hrelya, Moses Bruce, and new to LaSalle, Mary Nassika. From Jena Willa, "Froeliche Weihnachlen und ein gules neues jahr."

neues jahr.

Christmas around the world... Is Christmas celebrated in every country? Dose everyone have "Santa Claus?"

"In my country there is not celebrated a real Christmas," says Jasna Hrelija, from Yugoslavia. "We are a socialist country and don't believe in churches and in things like Christmas."

Although they don't celebrate Christmas in Yugoslavia, they still decorate their homes, Christmas trees, streets, and stores.

Celebration centers around New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. On New Year's Eve they wait until midnight, turn off the lights, kiss each other, and wish each other a lot of nice things. Then gfts are opened and the celebrators stay awake until morning.

"You may think it's not fun, but it's really nice," says Jasna.

According to Moses Bruce, Christmas is celebrated the same way in Africa as it is in America. There are programs for the older folks, parties, services, and the exchange of gifts.

Christmas is celebrated during their three months of summer vacation. Schools get out in Liberia between the fifteenth and twentieth of Cecember and stay closed until March. "I don't know how I'll get used to only two weeks Christmas vacation this year," says Moses.

On December 24 the people of Liberia have fireworks. Moses says, "there is no snow, nothing to bother you; the kids participate in fireworks by shooting off fire-

crackers."
"Yes," says Moses, "they even have Black Santa Claus's who dance—very good dancers—and people give them money."

In Switzerland, Christmas begins on the first of December. All the children have a calender with 24 windows opening to beautiful Christmas pietures. Each morning one is opened; on December 6 one might find a picture of Santa

SACCHINI ACCEPTS POSITION

by Barb Dzikowski

Citing one of his major goals as "getting people to respect each other for what they are", Mr. Michael Sacchini is enthusiastically beginning his role as Human Relations Coordinator at LaSalle. Mr. Sacchini is replacing Mr. Richard Hendricks who recently left LaSalle in order to assume the full-time position of liaison officer for the Street Academy. Mr. Sacchini's other major am-

bitions include the desire to "gain student confidence" as well as to develop and maintain an active relationship with the student body.

Among the many duties associated with this position, Mr. Sacchini is now the Student Government sponsor. Hoping to establish a Student Government that "truly represents the students," he says that he worked with the Student Government last summer at the Red Bud retreat. This provided him the opportunity to become acquainted with members of the Student Government, and he comments that he would like to "develope some communication between the student government and the faculty, administration, and

CLUBS PERFORM

HOLIDAY SERVICES

A play entitled "Adopted by Santa Claus" will be presented by the Drama Club for the residents at Portage Manor and also the Northern Indiana Children's Hospital, on December 22.

The National Honor Society will be contributing gifts to the Family and Children's Center for the children there.



The LaSalle Singers led in this rendition by Wanda Rowlett, enthusiastically entertained the student body at the annual Christmas concert, given Sunday, Thursday, and Wednesday.

WHOOPEE

The Christmas season is once again upon us. and the thing that most of us are looking forward to, above all is the lovely aspect of a two-week Christmas vacation.

Everyone needs a break sometime, and a frequent pastime of LaSalle students the next two weeks will be catching up on badly needed sleep! There is no doubt that everybody in school is weary for vacation, especially the Seniors.

After a while, we all fall into the school "rut" and Christmas vacation is just the remedy for giving us the strength to combat another four grading periods. Of course, many people will be just as busy as when they are in school, but at least they will have a change in schedule to brighten their lives. Some of us will eat too much; others will face the chore of selecting a gift for that one very-together person in our life; alot of us will be pushing our swimming and wrestling teams onto more victories as well as cheering the basketball team onto another Holiday Tournament title.

Bringing everything together, Christmas vacation is a time for taking it easy, doing things with friends, and just simply enjoying the rich rewards of the Christmas season.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Now is the time of year when the Christmas "spirit" dominates our life - that warm feeling experienced when Christmas shopping, sending Christmas cards, or eating warm Yule cookies.

But while walking down a snowy Michigan Street, our minds tend to drift towards the display windows and away from the persistant changing bells of the Salvation Army workers.

There are so many people in this town who will never know the blessings that we take for granted every Christmas. Christmas is the time to turn our thoughts toward these people, and not away from them. This year, make use of your own warm Christmas "spirit" in warming someone else's life, and have a truly "Merry Christmas."

EX LASALLE

by Celeste Petelle

"Urban Administrators in this day and age have to do a lot of listening," stated Gary In Wegenke, "And I'm here to listen."

Mr. Wegenke, who became principal at Hill High School in Lansing Michigan, used to teach math courses at LaSalle.

Mr. Fred Vargo, LaSalle's wrestling coach, remembers Mr. Wegenke as the man who initiated the wrestling program and the remained the head coach. He was also an assistant football coach.

SACCHINI SPEAKS

student body."

"I want to be happy in what I'm doing," continues Mr. Sacchini because life is too short." Among counselor, Mr. Sacchini will not handle disciplinary or curriculum problems, but rather problems that deal with the classroom.

up much popularity with the students. He hopes to maintain this close relationship with the student body throughout his future in the

future, "I'm going to be Mr. Sacchini and I'm not going to try to be anyone else."



CHRISTMAS

by Shirley Waller

The Christmas season with its bright lights, snow, and tradition puts everyone in the Christmas spirit, including the students and faculty of LaSalle. All you have to do is take a jaunt down the halls, occasionally stealing a peek into the classrooms, and you immediately know that Christmas is just around the corner.

This year five enthusiastic, (and obviously talented) senior girls, armed with paint and brushes, painted the windows of the main offices. The result was a colorful display of Christmas scenes.

But the Christmas spirit doesn't end there. For all those studious students who have visited the library these past few weeks, a pleasant Yuletide surprise has greeted their eyes.

BEND--RO by Dave Kolosza

How many times have you heard someone say, "Boy, South Bend sure is a small town. It's so small it will never attract any rock bands."

Thirty Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students were questioned about the rock concerts in South Bend and it seems as though the college people of Notre Dame, Indiana, felt that we have had the best in the music business.

Think back a few years and try to remember some of the earlier concerts in South Bend. Nobody who listens to rock can forget Alice Cooper, who first appeared at Stephan Center and returned a year later for a Thanksgiving concert at the Morris Civic. And while we're on the subject of returning bands, let us not forget 'Yes', the English superstars who appeared and stunned a curious audience last year, and who returned and performed a doubly impressive concert not more than 8 weeks ago.

These are just two bands out of the many that have come to South Bend and returned. A brief list of some bands are Brownsville Station, the best of Boogie and always a crowd stomper, and "Levon" himself, Elton John. Don't forget Canned Heat, Cactus, Black Oak Arkansas, Grand Funk Railroad, Spirit, Bloodrock, Sly and the Family Stone, Chicago, and of course, Johnny Cash and the Tennessee Three.

Yes South Bend, may be small, but you're 140,000 strong. The people have brought famous entertainers here, from Jethre Tull to the Lettermen. It's up to us to keep the best in "the musical entertainment world" coming to South Bend.

Notre Dame had some dandy concerts lined up for the next semester. Among the rumors are The Who and Emerson, Lake and Palmer.

So remember the words of Brownsville Station when they said at their last concert---"We've been away from South Bend too

NEW POST TEACHER IN

There was racial tension in some South Bendschools before Wegenke left in 1968. Now he is facing this problem at Hill High School

Refering to past disturbances at his new school, Wegneke pointed out, "There isn't just one segment that attends Hill."

"There are a number of people form different racial, religious, economic, and ethnic backgrounds there," he commented. 'I hope we can create a school or community where all different youngsters can get along and learn to respect the rights and values of others."

Wegenke began his professional career in 1961 as a junior math teacher in South Bend. Later he taught at LaSalle and another senior high school and found the time also to coach cross country, football, and wrestling teams.

The new south side school, focal point for community criticisim when it closed its doors for almost a week last April, had initailly opened in September.

Mr. Vargo, who still corresponds with Wegenke, remarked on some of the problems that are being encountered by Wegenke and his teaching staff of a hundred. They are attempting to implement the new modular scheduling system (which consist of subjects scheduled into multiples of 20 minutes). This enables the students, for the first time, to plan their own educational programs.

Whether Mr. Wegenke can solve the problems at Hill remains to be seen, but his apparent enthusiam and commitment make him a candidate for this difficult task.

According to Miss Geraldine Hatt, who also knew Mr. Wegneke while he was here, he is an adovcate of individual instruction and other

innocative teaching methods. He is one of those urban educators who are committed to making sustem work and willing to be held accountable for their ac-

Also, Wegenke is a firm believer in sharing decision-making process with all involved "stockholders"-- parents, students, and teachers.

'We need to look at kids today as individuals and move from here Mr. Wegenke remarked. "I honestly feel students should have a voice in the educational process."

Mr. Hafner, who worked with Wegenke until 1968, said, "Mr. Wegenke is a person any institution or school system should wel-come and be proud of."

ne Explorer

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OPEN FORUM

Rap center, community involvement and referral service, is starting its training session January 15, 1973. Day and night session applications will be accepted by phone at 289-7986 or in person at 309 N. William (South Bend). Volunteers are needed to man the center's listening and walk in

the center's listening and walk-in services. Training will be in psychology, role-playing, referrals, procedures, and the law.

Dear friends of the School Paper "Explorer":

I'd like to congratulate all of you for the nice activity you're developing this year as I heard from friends that I have at LaSalle. Also, I'd like to thank you for the nice article "Jackson Hosts Second Samudio" that you've published this year, and which I got it from my friend Jill Zmudzinski.

Keep up working as well as you're doing now, and not very far we'll be the best school of the "Have a very nice Christmas and a very happy New Year." Those are my wishes for all the Lions of LaSalle High School, in these traditional holidays.

Lions Go! always for VICTORY!

Love you all from Paraguay Christina Samudio

cont'd from p. 1

the other responsibilities connected with this position, he will work with community groups, serve as a cafeteria supervisor, and also assume some counseling duties. However, in his role as

During his teaching career at Salle, Mr. Sacchini has built

Concerning student suggestions on improving any phase of the scnool program, he remarks that "I'm open for suggestions!"

"I've told kids that you always have to be yourself," continues Mr. Sacchini, reflecting on his new

SCENE

There's a new Christmas tration being started this year, and involves the Junior class. As & ome of you remember, last year's unior class bought a green artifial Christmas tree. It has been ecided that this tree will be assed down each year to the ew junior class. The sight for ne tree this year is the old caferia. Those students having Ainch were fortunate enough to e it being decorated under the skillful" hands of a few juniors. was also under these skillful ands that the brave little tree ook a big tumble, resulting in queals, gasps, guffaws, and lots f laughter and handclapping. All dding to the merriment and ancipation of the holiday season.



30PHOMORES VISIT BEATTY MEMORIAL

Health Classes Add Joy to Patients' Christmas

Last year, the Health classes of Mr. Murray adopted two mental Mental Health Association. Over Ir. Sacchini, Mr. Stephenson and health patients apiece through the Christmas vacation, these tea-

Ghost Never Gives Up

If you happened to hear noises oming from the auditorium lately. could be one of two things. First could be the tryouts for Green illow, Mr. Cassidy's all-city musid, or it could be the LaSalle igh School Auditorium's Phan-

Phantom! What phantom? very auditorium has one and aSalle is no exception. She stalks ne aisles, thumps backstage and des in the folds of the curtains vaiting silently) to make an apearance.

Ask any long-standing Drama ub member. The story goes, at when LaSalle's auditorium as being built, a curious but reless young lady decided to exploring in the catwalk. Three irk, winding staircases lead to is maze, and as the girl looked own at the sheer drop from e tip of the stairs, she fell ver the stairway rail, hurtling rough space, and landed on the ment below. Her body was ot found until some time later d now her ghost wanders through e auditorium; harmless, but there vertheless.

Unbelievable? Maybe, but things happen. During Robin Hood aper last fall, halfway through

the performance, the lights on the right side of the catwalk began to vibrate.

Explainable? Perhaps. But how do you explain this? In the recent production, Boy Wanted, a flat began to shake as if someone -orsomething - ran its fingernails over the back of it, making a steady eratching noise. The sound was not more than three or four yards away, yet nothing could be seen! As soon as the shock wore off, everybody ran backstage to find all the doors unlocked (they had just been locked an hour before), yet the lights were not on.

These are only two examples. Every time a play is put on, the "ghost" puts in at least one appearance. Shadows in the shape of a head pass over the stage lights, curtains open and close by themselves, the power fails for a minute, footsteps sound, and noises are heard-all with no explanation. Mr. Stover says, "I don't know if it's a phantom or not. It's just that things happen that we can't explain, so we blame it on her!"

So next time you hear or see something unusual in the auditorium, think nothing of it. Just smile, swallow hard, pray, and say, "Hey phantom, is that you? Heh, heh, Then run for your life.

the Christmas vacation, these teachers along with some LaSalle students, went to the Norman Beatty Hospital. There they had a Christmas for the patients by distributing gifts and every so often they would collect money and put in in a Canteen Fund for the patients. "We wrote letters and would have them write back," explains Mr. Sacchini. "It seems like we were really helping them judging from what they wrote back." Two of the six patients that participated in the program have been

This year, on Dec. 5, Mr. Sacchini 44 students, and three chaperones went back to the Norman Beatty Hospital. Mrs. Hamilton, who is with the Mental Health Association, was included as a chaperone. Again they took all kinds of Christmas gifts, candy, tree decorations, a LaSalle Lion poster, and visited patients in the wards. Cookies and cupcakes were also passed out.

When one first goes there, all the patients want attention. All they do is sit around, smoke cigarettes, and watch television.

The hospital grounds look like those of a college campus. The only fence on the whold grounds is around the ward for the criminally insane. Those who have committed crimes are kept in maximum security. Otherwise, they are free. There are not many violent patients that have to be locked up.

None have been released since last year. One lady was supposed to be released, but because of fear of the outside world, she wasn't. She was one of the many patients writing letters back to Mr. Sacchini and the students. The following is a poem she wrote to the students and chaperones to show her appreciation for what they are doing:

Precious as a Pearl Every boy and girl Ladies and gentlemen Golden hearts within How loving, how giving Bringing on their own, thriving By helping others to thrive.

Foreign Traditions

(continued from page 1)

Claus, or on the twenty-fourth a picture of Mary and Jesus Christ.

On December 6, St. Nicholas comes with his golden book to visit all the good children with chocolate, nuts, mandrins, and candies. Sometimes with him come white angels or a man dressed in black clothes and carrying a rod to frighten all disobedient children: whichever of these two accompanies St. Nicholas depends on tradition.

"The colored lights and evergreens are really beautiful in the white snow," says Jane Willa. "Some families even have evergreen trees in their gardens."

Jane says, "We don't open our presents on Christmas morning like it is the custom here. We receive our presents at night on the twentyfourth and open them around seven, eight, or nine o'clock."

You get what you give, Made me happier to live In this earth, gave me rebirth From sadness and gloom Make my cheeks bloom My mouth to smile With love to God above.

She and a lot of other patients are all writing back expressing their own words of gratitude.

The students had a fine attr towards going on the trip. Mr. Sacchini added, "I thought the LaSalle students really did a fine job of mixing in with the patients." These students worked just as well with a black patient as they did a white patient. Having no family or money, the only clothing they have is what people donate. What the patients need is contact with the outside world and the students know it. This year 300 dollars was collected for the Canteen Fund and other needs. LaSalle students donated \$107, gifts and clothing out of their pockets.

These students have learned more about mental health by working with the people than they would be reading books. These students are working for a goal. They have worked really well. So many students wanted to go that names had to be drawn out of a hat.

Before you start joking and refer one of your friends or somebody to Westville or Logan Center, think of how hard the patients and everyone associated with them would take it.

On New Year's Eve the family comes together for the whole holy day. They drink warm wine around eleven thirty; at twelve o'clock they sit together, talk, listen to music, or dance.

Up until a few years ago a special round loaf of bread was baked on January 6 (the day celebrating the King's visit to the Christ Child) and a king was hidden in his bread would get a little gold

It was also a custom on this day for the children in the primary grades to act out little Christmas plays for all the people.
"In Greece," says Mary Nassika

Santa Claus brings gifts on Decemher 25.

On the twenty-fourth it is a custom for the kids to go around to all the houses and sing a Christmas song about Christ; the people give them money.

Their Christmas is celebrated for three days. December 25 begins with a four o'clock a.m. service which ends around eight o'clock. They go home and eat chicken or turkey (something Greek); there is a big meal the whole day.

On New Year's Day the kids go around and sing about Santa Claus and the new year, and once again are given money.

People go to church, there is much orchestra music, singing, and playing.

A meat pie (vasilopieta), eaten only once a year, every New Year, has a gold coin, or lira, hidden in it when it is cooked. Whoever finds the gold coin has good luck for the new year.

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IDEAS

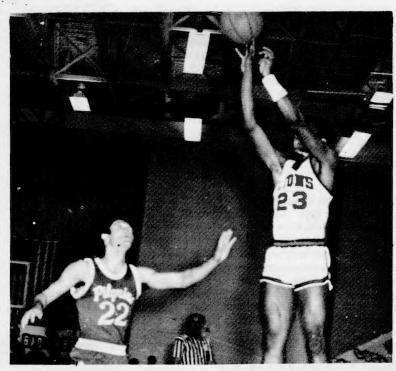
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LIONS READY FOR YULE TOURNEY



Robert Warren gently releases a shot as a Plymouth defender LaSalle lost the thriller, 58-57.

OFF THE MAT, by Larry Gooden BUT STILL IN SPORT

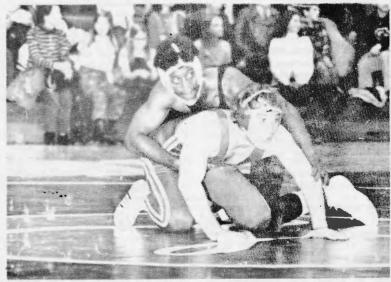
If you see a tall lumbering figure in the halls of LaSalle, who looks like a refuge from a Tarzan movie, you will know this is none other than Bernard Hill, LaSalle's star wrestler. Bernie, who is very easy going is one of the most dedicated wrestlers and atheletes at LaSalle. He has compiled an amazing career record. He has won 50 matches, and lost 3 times! Bernie has won two Penn invitational crowns, one Portage tourney crown, two conference titles, two sectional titles, two regional championships, and two state runnerup titles. He is the only athlete from LaSalle ever to come so close to winning a state championship title.

Bernie can't wrestle this year because of eligibility. A ruling

by the Indiana High School Athletic Association says you can't compete if you are 19 years of age. Despite this, Bernie manages to lend his talents to the team by helping to instruct prospects in wrestling.

As last season's co-captain, Bernard led the team to a conference and sectional championships. When asked about his philosophy of wrestling, Hill chuckled and said "It's all in the mind." "If you believe you're a winner, then you come out a winner."

Bernie's modest attitude and his willingness to help others has brought him many friends. His easy going manner adds to his popularity.



Luvell McLeod readies to outmaneuver his opponent. LaSalle lost the meet last Tuesday to Riley. The loss was the first after an impressive season start.

by John Van Laere

A very much respected and known face will be added to LaSalle's basketball squad as Hawk returns tomorrow night. Senior Jim Nowicki will be on the court as the other court has given Jim the right to play and will let Hawk add to the Lion's chances of winning another Holiday Tournament

Divided by 8 days and a victory the Lions recently suffered two well-played one point losses. The Lions destroyed Logansport, 75-54, Dec. 2, while dropping to Adams 62-61 and Plymouth 58-57.

LaSalle defeated Logansport, taking an early advantage, and by half time had a great 19 point lead, 48-29. The Lions won easily with leading scorer Robert Warren pounding in 18 points, followed by David Herron with 13, Gary Moore with 10 and a list of Lions with at least 2 points.

Sad were the hearts Saturday, December 9, as the Lions fell to Adams (or was it to Jim Webb?) The Lions constantly kept close and in the fourth quarter took a lead but the Eagles turned it on as the Lions began to crumble. LaSalle seemed to be beaten and then turned back to attack and tear away a late Adams lead. The final seconds were LaSalle's as they fought back to within one point

of Adams before time ran out. Charles Nailon and Robert Warren lead LaSalle's scoring with 16 points. David Herron added

13 points and Gary Moore chipped

Only one week earlier LaSalle fans were crushed when Plymouth came into the Lions' den and pulled out of the fire a 58-57 vic-

The Lions followed the Pilgrims but grabbed a 5 point lead which fell late in the game. LaSalle had three chances to score with less then 27 seconds to go but the ball wouldn't go through the hoop to give the Lions a wonderful victory.

Junior Charles Nailon hit 70 percent of his shots for 15 points followed closely by senior Robert Warren who put in 14 points. David Herron pulled down 18 rebounds after coming off the bench.

LASALLE SPLASHING AHEAD, 6-0

by Chris Haber

The LaSalle swim team has quickly come to be one of the area's best. Coming off last year's disappointing 4-9 season, coach Eberhard's swimmers have won their first six meets of the season. Led by lettermen co-captains Tom Staszewski, Chris Haber, and Jim Walker, with help from senior letterman Bruce Waggoner, the undefeated tankers have drowned Washington, Elkhart Central, Misawaka, Riley, Elkhart Memorial, and last Friday the Howe Military Academy.

Winning six individual events

and a relay, the swimmers left Howe in their wake by a score of 58-77. Double-winner Chris Haber took the 50 yard freestyle and 100 yard butterfly events and previous double-winner Jim Walker won the 200 yard freestyle. Other winners turning in good performances were Steve Bowen in the diving, Kim Purucker in the 400 yard freestyle, and Randy Huff in the 100 yard breaststroke. The 200 yard medley relay also won, consisting of Bruce Waggener, Chris Haber, Dave White, and previous double-winner Tom Staszewski.

Other swimmers who have placed during the season are Jerry Bunch, Ernie Leyba, Jim Wroblewski, Pat Madigan, Fred, Dave Lusk, and Scott Hires.

The swim team will have a comparitively inactive Christman vacation with practices but no meets. The next home meet will be with a tough LaPorte team on January 2 at 5 p.m. The team would greatly appreciate it if more of the student body would attend the meets to help them keep their unbeaten string alive.

Girls Finish Impressively? 0-11

by Cindy Hauger

Although the girl's volleyball 0-11 season may seem unimpresive, the girls didn't seem to think All of the girls have improved during the past '72 season but they also thought the other teams did too.

The girls played as a unified team like none of the teams in the past years had. In the first of the volleyball sectional, the team played Marian, defending state champs. The spectators commented that this game was the outstanding one of the season.

Varsity captain for the 1972

team was Barb Lakovits. Captain Monica Doyle led her B-team to a 4-7 season.

Receiving awards at the winter sports awards assembly will be: 1st year - Gwen Aldridge, Jeni Maternowski, and Renee Taghon 2nd year - Patti Mazurkiewixz; 3rd year-Pat Burns and Barb Lakovits.

B-team members were Monica Doyle, Mary Csenar, Sally Dawson, Rita Leonard, Vicki Nymberg, and Brenda Wisner.

Substitutes this year were: Varsity - Henry Turner and Anne Zielinski; B-team—Cathy Przestwor, and Ann Wolz.

Skaters' Remaining Schedule

Jan. 3-6:15 St. Joe 11-7:30 Riley ACC 17 - 7:15 Benton HarborH 25 - 9:30 Merrillville ACC 1-8:00 Wawasee P. ACC 7-6:15 Marian 8 - 9:30 Clay ACC 14-7:15 Washington H

