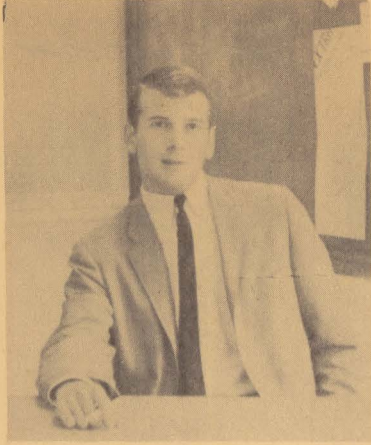




Miss Roberts



Mr. Wetta



Miss Ducey

Photos by Dempster

Student teachers join school faculty

"The kids are so understanding", commented Miss Kati Roberts, one of the three new student teachers who are visiting Webster High.

"And so cooperative", added Miss Mary Ellen Ducey. She and Miss Roberts are seniors at Webster College.

Mr. Frank J. Wetta is the third temporary member of the faculty.

The three new teachers entered Webster the latter part of September and will stay until the end of the first semester.

Miss Roberts, from Dayton, Ohio, is a history major and wanted to teach since grade school. Finding a great interest in the vast world of history, she wishes to pass her knowledge and enthusiasm to others. Miss Roberts thoroughly enjoys teaching because she finds it thrilling and stimulating. She also enjoys singing, music, and drama. After graduation Miss Roberts will either teach high school or join the Peace Corps.

Miss Ducey, of Hardin, Illinois, is pursuing a career of teaching English, an occupation she too has considered since grade school. She attributes her desire to teach to her being a real "ham" at heart. Miss Ducey, whose varied interests include reading, singing, and bowling, also holds two titles: President of Residents at Webster College and Secretary of Student Government.

Council committee plans hootenanny

It's easy to spot an ethnic guitar player or folk song addict. He stumbles about with glazed eyes mumbling mystic incantations that sound vaguely like "Hang down your head, Tom . . ." and "g string, second frat."

These dedicated souls and anyone else who wants to find out what the cult is all about will have their chance as Webster High hooters get together for a hootenanny.

The Student Council sponsored folk song program will feature high school talent and will have a format like that of the Hootenanny television show.

Judy Denckhoff, who is co-chairman of the project with Rosamonde Zinzer, added that a 15 cent admission fee will go to the foreign exchange fund.

Frustrated folk singers, this is your chance!

Smiling, the practice teacher said she admires her students for their interest, understanding, cooperativeness, and school spirit.

"Teaching is one of the most creative arts in the world", stated Mr. Wetta, of San Francisco, a senior at St. Louis University majoring in history. He didn't decide to teach as a profession until he entered college. Mr. Wetta is interested in the Peace Corps, and enjoys playing the guitar, his specialty being folk music. Having graduated from Vianney, he says this is his first experience in a public school. So far Mr. Wetta's only major catastrophe took place his first day at Webster in the form of an unannounced fire drill.

Miss Ducey, Miss Roberts, and Mr. Wetta will have a brief, busy stay at Webster High. Miss Ducey's supervisor, Mrs. M. Fredricksen, Miss Roberts's supervisor, Mr. M. Shelton, and Mr. Wetta's supervisor, Mr. L. Hoffmann are responsible for instructing the student teachers in classroom procedures and techniques.



by Carolyn Vesper,

Well now Friendly Reader (Notice that Thackeray and Dickens do a lot of this ingratiating rapport-type stuff - - it makes people feel closer to the author, kind of just-between - you - and - me - ish), this month finds us nearer and ever nearer Halloween, so dear Reader (don't you feel absolutely included ?) I shall give some timely tips about the big occasion.

Perhaps most important is dress. Yes. It is necessary to show up at various functions attired in the proper fashion. Be original. Some people who just aren't With It will undoubtedly appear in authentic Louis XIV outfits or not-too-clever Cleopatra -barging -down-the-Nile costumes. A thousand times no! You, O best beloved, should exhibit the wit, style, and maturity characteristic to your nature by wearing the fashion flash of the year - - a sheet! With eye-holes.

What to do. Well there are the usual suggestions - - stringing up the nearest John Bircher, trampling your grandmother while singing the Marseilles, burning down any school that's handy--but these are so commonplace that they are barely worth mentioning. The really great things, my favorite perusers of great literature, are much more unusual. The daring sport of trick-or-treat has come into its own. Bobbing for apples, formerly denounced as unhealthy, is once again a sport of the more adventurous Jet Set.

Come to think of it, all you Friendly Readers might not even want any timely tips. Sigh.

Editorial . . .

Mention the word "honor" to any teenager—he'll probably smile tolerantly. This year approximately 90% of the students at Webster signed the Honor Code—chances are, many of those who signed smiled as they did so.

That many signers of the Honor Code have little or no intention of obeying it is pointed up by the very existence of the Guidance Council, whose purpose is to deal with violators of the Code. Violations of all sorts are commonplace—butting in line, running in the halls, entering restricted areas, and smoking in the restrooms, not to mention cheating in the classroom. If this is so, why, then, do students sign the Honor Code?

Honor . . .

It's

no

smiling

matter

Some students sign, of course, because they truly want to live up to the Honor Code. They're brave—they dare to honor honor at a time when the thing to do is smile at it.

Some students don't really think much about it at all. They sign because everybody else is.

Then there is that group of students who sign because it offers them a measure of protection from punishment, and it does, to some extent. Instead of being sent to the Dean of Students for discipline, they are sent to the Guidance Council.

In the past all that was done in Guidance Council was to give offenders a lecture on honor, which didn't really mean much to a student—it's easy to smile right through that honorable lecture with your ears closed.

by Steve Scott

It is possible that the current smiling attitude towards honor stems from too much preaching.

With this in mind, the Guidance Council has been reorganized and will change its methods of operation. No longer will a student be preached to about honor. The Council will simply talk to him about his offense and its possible consequences. And if a student proves to be a consistent violator, the Council has the power this year to assign seventh hours.

Perhaps the changes in the Guidance Council can help bring honor back into style, assuming, of course, that such a thing has ever been in style . . .

Junior spelunkers find happy hunting

Ferdinand Magellan, Charles A. Lindbergh, and Richard E. Byrd were all great and adventurous men. Now comes a new line of courageous souls, Ken Frazier, Scott Crain, and Greg Coates, Webster Juniors. Granted, the boys aren't striving for some miraculous goal, but they are seeking adventure - adventure in a cave located near the Beaumont Scout Reservation at Eureka, Missouri.

Although the boys aren't the first to enter the cave they do hope to be the first ones to find its end. Even the National Spelunking Society hasn't found it.

Ken said that local residents have known about the cave for some time, and that markings within the cave indicate that the first probable exploration was in 1954.

When asked to describe the cave's interior Scott replied - "It's impossible! The only way you could possibly imagine its greatness would be to see it for yourself". But Ken did describe a portion of the cave as being "The Room of a 1000 Tunnels".

The room is perforated with large and small tunnels. Even the entrances of several small tunnels can be seen in the huge ceiling.

Each of these tunnels may hold a secret, and this is where the adventure begins. Within this room the boys hope to find the right tunnel that will either lead to another entrance or continue to greater depths.

School alma mater sung too slowly

by Sue Zinke

The "Webster Alma Mater" is a song that most of us take for granted. We sing it, but few of us know when it was written, why it was written, or even who wrote it. The Webster Echo decided to seek out the facts from the man who wrote the "Alma Mater".

Mr. Alfred L. Booth, class of 1911, is a bright-eyed man with a pleasant smile who has lived in Webster Groves nearly all of his life. He wrote the "Alma Mater" in the winter of 1910 when he was a senior in high school. When asked what inspired him to write a school song, he answered, "I had attended a meeting of the Princeton Alumni Association and heard them sing their Princeton alma mater. It was so stirring that I thought Webster should have its own song with original words and music, so I went home and wrote it".

About the only time Mr. Booth hears the song played any more is when he attends the Turkey Day Game. "I get a kind of detached feeling", he recalls, "when I hear them announce the Webster Alma Mater by Alfred Booth, an alumnus of Webster Groves High School. It's a strange feeling hearing a little piece you created played over and over". Although Mr. Booth enjoys hearing the "Alma Mater", he feels that it is played and sung at too slow a tempo. He meant it to be vigorous and rousing.

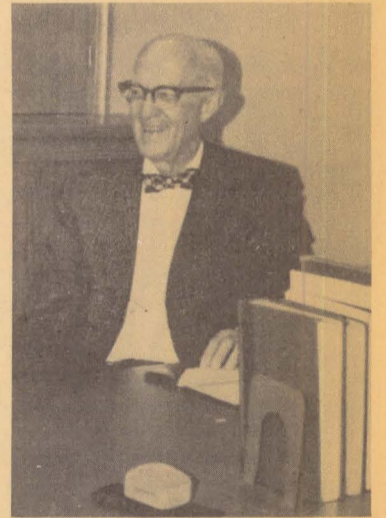


Photo by Hanchett

Mr. Booth

Mr. Booth's musical contributions to the school didn't end with the writing of the "Alma Mater". Because the school lacked a music department, he organized a boy's glee club. He also wrote his class song. He has also been organist for the Christmas Vesper program since it began 30 years ago.

Though he has not made much of his career. Mr. Booth has found it to be a very successful vocation. In college he wrote the music for two musical comedies, with F. Scott Fitzgerald, the noted author furnishing the words. After his college days he devoted himself to more serious music and has written organ music and several anthems, six of which have been published. He currently is organist and choir director of the Webster Groves Presbyterian Church.

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