

TUTORING

It's Only One Hour.. Twice A Week.. But..

by Tom Hagen

Tutoring in Middletown: What kind of an image does that trigger in your mind? Perhaps it's that of a group of elementary and/or secondary education majors who are getting some experience with "problem children." Maybe you have the idea that the tutors are a bunch of idealistic college students who are ready to change the world.

There may be a little truth to both of these images, but the experience of even one of these tutoring sessions will show that there is something more to it.

It's dark when you arrive at Olmsted Air Force Base at seven o'clock. Already there are about thirty kids running around outside the building, waiting for the doors to be opened. This is Wednesday night, so it is a grade school session (Monday and Wednesdays are for elementary students, while Tuesday and Thursday are secondary students' nights). They are mostly black. As some of the tutors get out of their cars, they are greeted by "hi's" and hugs.

Someone unlocks the doors and there is a wild scramble for the inside. One boy runs for the piano. His dog is following him. An impromptu game of tag is started by a few of the boys and girls. More dash to the tables and chairs with their books.

Kathi LaMonaca is calming her two charges down. One of them, Gay, is crying because Kathi is showing Leslie how to write the alphabet. In a few minutes everything is calmed down again. Kathi remarks that you have to be careful in giving your attention, "If I let one read an extra paragraph, the other one gets upset because she thinks I don't like her as much." Tonight is a little more difficult than usual because she has two extra students to tutor. Their's didn't show up.

Marylin Coriell is tutoring a little boy. He doesn't seem to need much help, but he still likes to come any-

way. It seems that it's quieter than at home. Between arithmetic problems Marylin asks, "How's football going?" Bob says, "O.K."

Erwyn Vertlieb is sitting alone for the moment. His little boy is walking around the room because he got tired of reading. This demonstrates a basic rule that most of the tutors observe: The child has to want to learn, but the teacher must be aware of the short attention span. Things are going slowly with this boy because it's his first time with Erwyn. It's best if you can get the same child each week, so that you can get to know him.

Stan Saltzberg is helping Richard. "The main idea is to win their friendship." I ask Richard what his favorite subject is. He says, "Math." Then with a big smile he says, "I like Stan, too." I guess Stan has succeeded in winning his friendship.

At the other end of the table is Barry Sugarman. He's helping a boy with his reading. "Just try it." He gets it right. Barry tells me that if he can get the child to relate the word in a context he knows, he usually gets it right. There was one instance where a boy learned his numbers by counting the pushups his tutor could do.

It is approaching eight o'clock and the session is over. Darlene Jackaway ushers seven kids into her Volkswagen and takes them home.

As the tutors leave, you realize that there are as many approaches to tutoring as there are kids. They seem pleased with the hope that at least one of the children may have been helped. Some seem worried, however. There aren't enough tutors to give a hand. It may be even more frustrating because they feel that if some people came only once, something could be accomplished, for both the kids and themselves.

Maybe, just maybe, some students will hear about it and come to the next session.

Wimmer To Head Revision Committee

One of the first major tasks that this year's Student Senate will undertake is to re-write the SGA Constitution. A new, re-written Constitution was submitted to the Senate last year, but was never approved by the Senate nor the student body. President Lee Levan, in reporting to the Senate at their meeting on October 28, stated that the proposed Constitution was too complicated and needed to be re-examined. With the approval of the Senate, Levan appointed a new Constitutional Commission, with Junior Senator Terry K. Wimmer appointed as Chairman.

After a meeting with Levan, and Asst. Dean of Student Affairs Jerry South, Wimmer announced the following timetable for Constitutional revision:

A) November 30 — A copy of the revised Constitution will be issued to each residence at Meade Heights, Church and Wrisburg

Halls, and will be available to all commuting students.

B) December 7 and January 11 — Campus meetings to discuss the proposed Constitution.

C) January 13 — Campus referendum to approve or disapprove the proposed Constitution.

"There is a great necessity to totally revise the proposed Constitution", comments Wimmer. "It is much too complicated for a relatively new school such as Capitol. In our initial meetings, the Committee has also discovered that certain articles of the Constitution are questionable as to University policy. As far as the timetable goes, we will be working under extreme pressure to complete the job by the established dates, but the job has to be done. The Senate has been operating with an antiquated Constitution for too long. It's indeed time for a change."

THE COLUMN

SGA Reacts To H.B. 2594

by Terry K. Wimmer

Since coming to Capitol in September, one of the first things I discovered was the amount of apathy and sheer disgust the student body has towards its Student Government. I wasn't surprised, for this same feeling was prevalent at my alumnus, Peirce Junior College in Philadelphia, where I was a member of the Executive Cabinet. I was amazed though to discover how much of the student body feels this way. The feeling is quite vast.

I think that you will find though that there is a change in your SGA, especially in the newly elected Junior Senators. We truly give a damn, and we're going to prove to you that we indeed care, and are willing to work for you. I know, you've all heard words like this before. I'm not making any promises, but you'll see action. That's the primary reason for this column; to show you that the SGA is taking action on issues that directly affect you, the student.

During the past few weeks, many of you have heard about a piece of legislation in the State General Assembly that could affect visitation hours in the dormitories. The legislation, House Bill 2594, states in part "No State funds shall be paid to any college or university, the administration of which permits the living quarters in dormitory to be open to members of the opposite sex." The bill, sponsored by a coalition of Conservative Democrats and Republicans is just another piece of "pork barrel" legislation designed to cut back needed funds to colleges and universities within the Commonwealth,

Believe it or not people, we do have
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