

The Ballet-Modern Dance Club has elected its officers for the year of 1943-44. They are: President, Rose Russo; vice president, Helen Capik; secretary, Dora Tiberi; business manager, Caroline Chaty; wardrobe manager, Hope Chapman, and attendance checker, Margaret Hunt. The club is sponsored by Miss Eleanor Keating.

The purpose of the Ballet-Modern Dance Club is to teach those girls who want to learn, the basic principles of dancing. The class is held in the sixth period, and those who are interested have ballet instead of their regular gym work. Two of the major activities of the club are preparing the two numbers it presents for Sports Nite.

*Trenton Times,
October 11, 1943*

GIRLS' CORNER

Skimming over the woodens, the skaters are executing their fancy steps under the direction of Miss Margaret Smock, "Gym" instructor. Lk This year's group is divided into nine sections, each with its own leader. President Betty Hahn, and treasurer Gladys Parker, together with the other members of the group, already are looking through rose-colored glasses in anticipation of Sports Nite.

* * *

The spirit of Sports Nite has already arrived this year, and feminine sophomores have chosen their favorite teams.

During each girl's gymnasium period, the sophomore was assembled with the other members of her junior high school and chosen to become a member of either the Red team or the Black team. From each junior school, half the girls became Black team members while the remaining half joined the Red team.

* * *

Junior and senior girls wanting to run for heads of committees of their respective teams expressed their desire by signing up for a particular committee. The same committees will prevail as in previous years, perhaps with several additions.

Voting by junior and senior girls for committee heads will take place after the Christmas holidays.

Spectator, December 17, 1943

The Central High School Band has been divided into Black and Red team bands. Albert Coculo, leader of the Trenton High Swing Band, will conduct the Black team band, while Thomas Williams will lead the Red team band in the annual Sports Nite program.

Members of the Black band are: John Goslin, Richard Harrison, Paul Rhodes, Joseph Boggie, trumpets; Milton Lieber, baritone; Charles Ludecke, Harry Dickson, horns; Jack Malkin, Ray Greco, Jerry Rednor, trombones; Lou D'Angelo, bass and guitar; Alex Soliesz, tuba; Warren Vaughn, piano; Joe Scannella, Jim Fessler, Lloyd Klatzkin, saxophones.

Hammet Buchanan, Richard Dickson, Leon Higginbotham, Michael Adams, Reno Paglione and Peter Cerrenzio play the clarinet, while Edward Horner plays the flute; Frank Sapiro, Anthony Denito, Jack Marren, the drums, and Fred Zauner, the bells. Officers are Louis D'Angelo, assistant conductor; Harry Dickson, librarian; Milton Lieber, assistant librarian; Leon Higginbotham, seating, and John Gusz, twirler.

Red band members are: Joe Scannella, Steward Kephart and Gino Mule, trumpets; Robert Lecke, Henry Simon, Wilfred Andrews, Algie MacDonald, saxophones; Marvin Habas, Richard Fueher, John Bradley, Charles Tuesday, Richard Skurla, James Jiles, Richard Vanisko, clarinets.

Richard Unsworth and Albert Bazzel play the tubas; Charles Rittman, Milton Funari and Sandy Pompei, the drums; Dan Petrino, the horn; Steven Kalepos, the baritone; Daniel Pulone, Ernest Radvany, the trombone; Ralph De Margio, the oboe, and Alton Sutnick, the bells. Officers are Richard Unsworth, assistant leader; Alex Labas, Milton Funari, librarians; Henry Simon, Joseph Scannella, uniform sergeants; Carl Bartlett, Richard Vinisko, Ernest Radvany, stand committee; Charles Tuesday, Algie MacDonald, Daniel Pulone, secretaries, and Carl Bartlett and Alex Labas, twirlers.

Trenton Times,
December 22, 1943

Tenth Sports Nite Revue Features Past Successes

"Anniversary Review" will be the theme of the tenth annual Sports Nite to be presented at Trenton High on March 29, 30 and 31. In the nine previous years of competition, the Black team has won for five years, while the Red team has won for four years.

Former Captains Present

This extravaganza, which includes a large part of the physical preparedness program for girls in its numbers will be a review of those nine years of rivalry between the two teams. Most of the dances, games, races and other events will be popular repeat numbers from previous years with a modern twist.

Climaxing the program will be the appearance of the captains of both the Red and the black teams and the mistresses of ceremony from past Sports Nites.

Ballet will be led by Marian Oliphant and the Prelude will be led by Helen Capik. Elaine Reed is the head of skating.

The Black team committee heads are as follows: marching, Connie Reed; rhythmics, Georgianna Michalcik; tap, Hannah Adelstein; victory exercises, Louise Hutchinson; songs and cheers, Thelma Farrell; theme song, Kaye Richter; music, Doris Pulone; properties, Marion Johnston; decorations, Jean Hunter; publicity, Graces Perrick; costumes, Evelyn Cichetti; games and races, Dolly Farnell.

Chapman Leads Red Tap

The Red team leaders are as follows marching, Catherine Kawka; rhythmics, Caroline Chaty; tap, Hope Chapman; victory exercises, Shirley Kirby; songs and cheers, Lucy Naples; theme song, Helen Amato; music, Pearl Ermi; properties, Charlotte Klein; decorations, Allette James; publicity, Joan Taylor; costumes, Florence Harris; games and races, Mary Miloszar.

Black team period captains and lieutenants are as follows, the captain being mentioned first; period 1, Marjorie Smith, Carol Davis; period 2, Kay Keuper, Ann Phillips; period 3, Joan Egan, Shirley Thackars; period 4, Janet Lewis, Elma Walton; period 5, Ann Voscek, Virginia Manning; and period 6, Lorraine Stephan, Jean Swartz.

The Red team period captains and lieutenants are as follows; period 1, Carol Muschert, Madeline Salup; period 2, Janice Stout, Alma Mitrocsak; period 3, Clementine Schindewolf, Lorraine Bunker; period 4, Doris Coutier, Louise Palmer; period 5, Gladys Richner, Ruth Salup; and period 6, Marion Stover, Jane Steffy.

Spectator, January 14, 1944

Dates Are Fixed For Sports Nite

Annual Presentation At
Trenton High School
March 29, 30, 31

The 10th annual Sports Nite will be presented by the girls of Trenton High School on March 29, 30, and 31. The theme this year is "Anniversary Review," and popular numbers from previous years will be repeated. An outstanding feature will be the appearance of former Red and Black team captains and mistresses of ceremony.

The non-competitive numbers—bellets, prelude and skating—will be led by Mariane Oliphant, Helen Capik, and Elaine Reed, respectively.

The Black Team committee heads are as follows: Marching, Connie Reed; rhythms, Georgiana Michalcik; victory exercises, Louise Hutchinson; tap, Hannah Adelstein; decorations, Jean Hunter; theme song, Kaye Richter; songs and cheers, Theima Farrell; music, Doris Pulone; publicity, Frances Pedrick; properties, Marion Johnston; costumes, Evelyn Cichetti; games and races, Dolly Farnell.

The Red Team leaders are: Marching, Katherine Kawka; rhythms, Caroline Chaty; victory exercises, Shirley Kirby; tap, Hope Chapman; decorations, Allette James; theme song, Helen Amato; songs and cheers, Lucy Naples; publicity, Joan Taylor; properties, Charlotte Klein; costumes, Florence Harris; games and races, Mary Miloszar; music, Pearl Erni.

Black team period captain and lieutenants are: Period 1, Marjorie Smith, Carol Davis; period 2, Kay Keuper, Ann Phillips; period 3, Joan Egan, Shirley Thackara; period 4, Janet Lewis, Elma Walton; period 5, Ann Voscek, Virginia Manning, and period 6, Lorraine Stephen, Jean Swartz.

The Red team period captains and lieutenants are: Period 1, Carol Muschert, Madeline Salup; period 2, Janice Stout, Alma Mitrocsak; period 3, Clemantine Schindewolf, Lorraine Bunker; period 4, Doris Coutier, Louise Palmer; period 5, Gladys Richner, Ruth Salup, and period 6, Marion Stover, Jane Steffy.

Trenton Times,
January 31, 1944

Sports Nite Prelude Features 'Memories'

Miss Eleanor Keating has announced the leads for the Ballet and Prelude, two non-competitive numbers in Trenton High's tenth annual Sports Nite.

The theme for prelude, which will feature Helen Capik, head of prelude, and Hope Chapman, will be "Memories." The ballet will take the form of a little girl's birthday party. Marion Oliphant, head of ballet, will portray the little girl and will be assisted by Margaret Colacello, Hope Chapman, Helen Capik, Joanne Ullrich, Audry Klein, Barbara Muir and Carolyn Chaty.

Spectator, February 11, 1944

Applesauce

by Cracky

Recently, the girls made out slips to show which Sport Nite activities they were participating in order to avoid a little high-brow class cutting. Maybe Fred Drewes was pre-occupied when, during a typing class he said, "I want to see all the girls' slips," but he ought to know by this time that most of them are pink.

Spectator,
February 11, 1944

Sports Nite Dance At T. H. S. Tonight

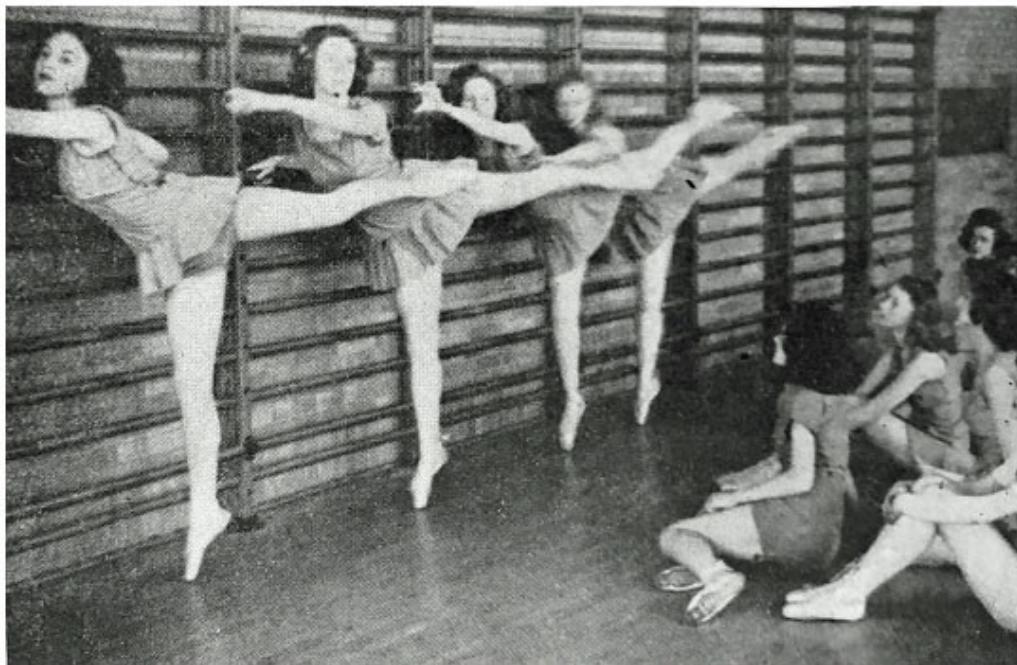
Girls of Trenton Central High School will hold their annual Red and Black Team Sports Nite Dance tonight in the High School gymnasium, with the women of the physical education department acting as chaperones. Proceeds will be used to defray the cost of the costumes and scenery for the coming revue.

The girls of both teams will compete for the credit given to the team which sells the highest number of tickets. Music will be furnished by the Trenton High Swing Band. Additional entertainment will also be supplied by both teams.

Jane Fabian has been chosen for mistress of ceremonies; Jane Steffy for Miss Trenton High; Marjorie Smith for Miss America. The captains are Ann Adams, Red Team, and Gloria Hill, Black Team. The dance committees are as follows: entertainment, Red, Allette James, Kay Kawka; Black, Dolly Farnell, Kay Richter; refreshment, Red, Clementine Schindewolf, Lorraine Bunker; Black, Virginia Manning, Elma Walton; publicity, Red, Joan Taylor; Black, Frannie Pedrick; tickets, Red, Carol Muschert. Mary Miloszer, Lorraine Bunker, Doris Coutier, Gladys Richner, Marion Stover and Ann Adams; Black, Marjorie Smith, Kay Keuper, Shirley Thackara, Joan Egan, Janet Lewis, Ann Voscek, Lorraine Stephen and Gloria Hill.

Trenton Times,
February 21, 1944

Practice Makes Perfect



No, that's not the Ballet Rouse. It's Miss Keating's sixth period modern dancing group practicing for Sports Nite. The movement they are performing is on "arabesque." In the usual order they are Joanne Ulrick, Jean Biggs, Barbara Muir and Helen Kateuse.

Trenton Times, February 25, 1944

Radio Show Presents Sports Nite Leaders

Trenton High will broadcast its third radio show on Wednesday, March 22, at 8:35pm over station WTTM. Stan Levy will again be the student director and Erasmo Ciccolella will be the faculty adviser.

A play called "Pick-Up-One" written by Patty Harman, will be enacted. Following the play Gloria Hill, Anne Adams and Jane Fabian, who are the leading figures in Sports Nite, will be introduced in the regular interview which is held on each program.

Two small choruses of girls from the Red and Black teams will sing some of their songs which will be used in Sports Nite.

Humor will be written and directed by Fritz Lamont, Jack Holcombe and John Kopera. The swing band, under the co-direction of Al Cocolo and Tommy Williams, leaders of the Black and Red bands, will furnish the music.

Pat Hartman, Jean Lenox and Nancy Wood will edit the script, with Francis Mather in charge of the sale of tickets. Tickets may be purchased for the show in C108.

Spectator, February 25, 1944

Mistress Of Ceremonies Position Finally Awarded To Jane Fabian

After one of the closest votes for the position since its inception, Jane Fabian received the long-awaited and coveted role of mistress of ceremonies in Trenton High's tenth annual Sports Nite. Miss America will be Margie Smith and Jane Steffy will represent Miss Trenton High. The flag bearers, Wacs and Waves, have yet to be chosen.

Adams, Hill Are Team Captains

In step with anniversary revue, both the Red and Black teams, under the leadership of captains Ann Adams and Gloria Hill, respectively, are presenting numbers used in recent years modernized with a "44 twist. Donning the guise of bakers the Blacks will celebrate the occasion with "Head in the Clouds" as their theme song. The Red anniversary marchers will also present their theme, "The Penguin Song."

The Black forces have chosen for their rhythmics the hoop dance which was presented by the first Black team in 1935. The modern touch is added as the girls keep time to the melodious "Surrey With the Fringe on Top." Adopting "Hiawatha" from 1941, the Reds are presenting an Indian dance. Armed with lassos and lariats the femmes will present roundup tap to the tune of "I'm an Old Cowhand." Black tap will feature Raggedy Ann to the appropriate "Paper Doll."

Exercises Feature Review

Both Red and Black victory exercise this year will be a combined review of the novelty and victory exercises of previous performances.

Red team "Anniversary Memories" will consist of four dances; China Aides, Old King Cole, Robin Hood, and Nurses All, to the swinging rhythm of "Marching Along Together."

The Black team "Wheel of Years" features the always colorful stunts: Tweedle-Dees, Wizard of Oz and Wacs, from Fit for '43. "Semper Paratus," the Coast Guard fight song, has been selected as the march.

The usual scooter races will lead the list of the various competitive games and races for both teams.

Spectator, February 25, 1944

Girls Prepare Tenth Show

Red, Black Team rivals Compete In Three Numbers In Anniversary Review

Raising the curtain on Trenton High's tenth annual Sports Nite "Anniversary Revue," the Red and Black teams will present a combined, colorful flag group, composed of thirty hand-picked senior girls who will execute a smart-stepping formation carrying flags of the various nations.

Peeking in at the so-called official family, mistress of ceremonies, Jane Fabian, will officiate, as Gloria Hill pilots the Black team, and Ann Adams directs the Red team. Backing the Black team as their flag-bearer is Jean Grimshaw, with Ann Phillips and Vivian Newbon as the color guard. The Red team flag-bearer is Marie Sanders, with the color guard consisting of Clementine Schinderwolf and Lorraine Matlack.

Margie Smith Miss America

Miss America will be portrayed by Margie Smith, with her color guard, Amy Smith and Marion Stover. Jane Steffy has been chosen Miss Trenton High with Constance Foster and Dolores Martin as color guard. In addition to the brisk competition between the two teams, the prelude, "Memories," will set the stage for the non-competitive numbers in the "Anniversary Revue" in the abstract, featuring scarfs.

Birthday Party on Bill

Don't look now, but a surprise birthday party is on the docket for all three nights of Sports Nite. The non-competitive ballet is celebrating its fifth birthday with Marion Oliphant as the birthday girl.

Dressed in appropriate costumes for each of the five years of skating the skaters are presenting "Rollar Rhythm Revue."

Climaxing this annual fray, the usual finale consisting of the heads of committees, period captains and lieutenants and the official family may be lengthened to permit the appearance of all the past mistresses of ceremonies and the Red and Black team captains.

Spectator, February 25, 1944

Sports Nite Aide



Hope Chapman

Chairman of the Red team
rhythmicics for Trenton High
School's 10th annual Sports Nite
competition March 29, 30 and
31.

Trenton Times,
March 8, 1944

School Ticket Black Market? Answer's No!

Report Involving Sports Night Rush Meets Prompt Denial

Trenton school authorities today dismissed as an unfounded rumor a report that blocks of 50 or more tickets for "sports night" at Central High School March 29, 30 and 31 were being sold to teachers and pupils, preventing others and their parents from obtaining them.

Associated with the untrue report, Dr. Paul R. Spencer, the high school principal, said, was an erroneous story in circulation that a "black market" in tickets had been started by one student. The tickets, priced at 85 cents for the reserved section of the gymnasium, were reportedly being sold for \$1.50.

The rumor, he said, apparently grew out of an effort of one pupil to purchase a group of 60 tickets. This was the "pool" of requests of a number of the pupil's classmates, who adopted the plan to save themselves time. The authorities, Dr. Spencer added, declined to sell the tickets in this manner and required each student to present an individual request.

The reserved section has been sold out, but about 200 general admission seats in other parts of the gymnasium will go on sale Monday, the high school official said. These sell at 55 cents. It was pointed out that sports night has increased in popularity since its inception 10 years ago, when small audiences of parents and student attended.

Trenton Times,
March 9, 1944

HIGH SCHOOL TICKETS

To the Editor of the Times:

Sir—As the mother of a pupil in Trenton Central High School, I wish to protest against the present unfair method used in selling the tickets for "Sports Night."

Teachers and pupils are allowed to buy as many as 50 tickets which they give away or sell to friends and colleagues. In fact, I am told that one pupil this year is reselling her 50 tickets on a "black market" basis at \$1.50 a ticket.

Last year I was unable to get a ticket at all, and this year the situation is even worse. Many mothers have discussed this matter with me and we agree that something should be done to remedy it.

Why should it not be possible for each child to be allotted two tickets so the parents would be able to attend and any tickets not so used could be sold to the general public?

Another situation many parents do not understand is why, when the graduation is held, the loge seats in the War Memorial Building are reserved for teachers while parents in many cases have to find seats high in the balcony.

Many parents make a decided sacrifice to get their children through high school and it seems only fair that they should have the best opportunity available to observe any outstanding events.

D. H. W.

Trenton Times,
March 9, 1944

**Vivacious Swimmer
Glows With Charm
Bigger and Better**



Gloria Hill

Here she is, folks, the boss of the Black team! The tall beauty with the big smile, Miss Gloria Hill.

With Sports Nite days just around the corner, Hilly takes time out to beam proudly on her fellow students and smile a sweet "hello."

A busy Black, Gloria is a member of Quill and Scroll, Belles Lettres and the Spectator staff. She is president of her homeroom and a member of President's Council.

Gloria's been a prize back stroker on the girls' varsity swimming team for three years, and this lass also finds time to help out as the secretary of the House of Representatives.

Gloria claims she likes anything "Black," especially chocolate ice cream. Her preference is "tall" men, for no special reason, and she thrives on competition.

Gloria's favorite tune, "Do Nothing 'Til You Hear From Me," is the key to the Black team's policy, and you can bet those girls really do something when they hear from her!

Spectator, March 10, 1944

**Versatile Cheer Leader
Displays Pep and Vim
All-American Girl**



Ann Adams

"Come on Reds! Come on Blacks!" This is the cry which Ann Adams, captain of the cheerleader squad, yells at every T.H.S. basketball and football game. However, Vivacious Ann's heart is definitely tied up in the Red team, the reason of course, being that Ann is 1944's captain of the Reds.

The Leaders' Corps claims Ann as a member of its organization too.

"Is the Red team going to win this year? Surely!" says Ann.

Affectionately dubbed, "Bonnie" by some pupils because of her habit of hopping around in a lively manner, Ann certainly keeps hopping now with her responsibility as captain. In the middle of her interview she jumped up, "Goodness, I'll be back. I've got to give my team a pep talk."

Several minutes later she bounded back to add that her favorite pastime is collecting records, the hotter the better. "Charlie Barnet sends forth the sweetest hot licks but – Tommy Williams and the Red band are a close second," says Ann.

Spectator, March 10, 1944

Sports Nite Aides



Helen Amato Katherine Kawka

Miss Amato will lead the Red team in their theme song for Trenton High's 10th Annual Sports Night on March 29, 30 and 31. Miss Kawka is head of the Red marching committee.

Trenton Times, March 19, 1944

Kiwanis Preview Of 'Sport Night'

High School Girls Will Entertain Club at Wednesday Luncheon

Members of the Kiwanis Club, at a luncheon session Wednesday in the Stacy-Trent, will witness a preview of "Sport Night" by girls of the Trenton High School.

The program to be presented will consist of the Red Team tap dances and its specialty consisting of 25 girls. The Victory Exercise number consisting of 20 girls will also be given. The Black Team will likewise give its tap dances and its specialty consisting of 25 girls. The Black Team cheerleaders, the Modern Dance Group of 24 girls and a ballet number with 10 girls will fill out the program. The numbers will be accompanied by Warren Vaughn and Rita Altman. The mistress of ceremony is Miss Jane Fabian; the captain of the Red Team, Miss Ann Adams, and the captain of the Black Team, Miss Gloria Hill.

The women in charge and those responsible for these dances will be Miss Eleanor Keating, Mrs. Isabelle Quick, Miss Margaret Smock and Mrs. Ann Griffiths.

Undersheriff A. L. Harbourt, president of Kiwanis, will preside.

Trenton Times,

March 19, 1944

for "SPORTS NITE"

March 28, 29, 30



\$5.45



\$5.95

Girls' Loafers

No matter what team wins, "Red" or "Black," these Fischer Loafers always chalk up a score of "favorite."

Fischer's

80 E. State

Trenton Times,
March 27, 1944

In 'Sports' Night'



Miss Jane Fabian

Who has the neutral position of master of ceremonies for the "Sports Night" program to be presented by the girls of Trenton Central High School Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, at the school gymnasium. Miss Fabian is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Fabian, of 264 Homecrest Avenue.

Trenton Times,

March 27, 1944

Sports Nite Captain



Miss Anne Adams

Captain of the Red Team for Trenton High School's 10th annual Sports Night to be given tonight, Thursday and Friday nights.

Trenton Times,

March 29, 1944

Team Captain



Miss Gloria Hill

Who is captain of the Black team for the "Sports Night" program to be presented by the girls of Trenton Central High School tonight, tomorrow and Friday evenings, in the school gymnasium. Miss Hill, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hill, of 136 Homecrest Avenue, was elected to this position by her teammates last year.

Trenton Times,

March 29, 1944

Tie Marks First Sports Night Show

Red and Black Teams Put On Spirited Performance

The downpour last night failed to dampen enthusiasm as Trenton High School opened its 10th annual girls' Sports Night competition in the school gym before a cheering overflow crowd.

The sophomores performed last night and after it was over the Red and Black teams were deadlocked with six points each.

The Reds, led by Miss Anne Adams, and the Blacks, captained by Miss Gloria Hill, each went through mass precision exercises, dances and cheers and in addition put on several elaborate non-competitive numbers.

The juniors will take over to-night and tomorrow night the annual affair will be brought to a close with the seniors doing their stuff.

Trenton Times,

March 30, 1944

Sports Night Leaders—Reds in Lead



The Red team ran off with the honors last night as the juniors competed in the 10th annual girls' Sports Night at Trenton High School. Another capacity crowd cheered the contestants in the school gym. On the basis of last night's judging, the Red team scored seven points and the Black team four. The combined scores of the two nights showed the Reds leading, 13 to 10. The 1944 winner will be crowned tonight at the final performance when the seniors compete. Pictured are: Seated, Anne Adams (left), Red captain and Gloria Hill, Black skipper; standing, left to right, Thelma Farrall, Black cheer leader; Jane Fabian, mistress of ceremonies, and Lucy Naples, Red cheer leader.

Trenton Times, March 31, 1944

Teams Are Tied At Sports Night

Reds and Blacks Each
Gather 17 Points In
Competition

Breaking all precedents, the 10th renewal of the annual Sports Night revue wound up in a tie on Friday evening, the contending Red and Black teams each collecting a total of 17 points. An estimated crowd of 2,700 filled the Trenton High gymnasium.

The record now shows five wins for the Blacks and four victories for the Red team. Going into the home stretch the Red team held a 17 to 13 lead over the Blacks but the latter team crept to within one point of their rivals by virtue of being awarded three points for cheers, songs and band. Then came the final event the obstacle race. If the Reds could win they would win the show and tie the series. However the Blacks were not to be denied at least a tie and ran away with this race.

The following are the statistics: Marching, won by Black team; team theme songs, won by Red team; tap dance, won by Black team; scooter race, won by Black team; rhythmic novelty, won by Red team; victory exercises, won by Red team; decorations, won by Red team; cheers, won by Black team; band, won by Black team; songs, won by Black team; obstacle race, won by Black team.

Trenton Times,
April 2, 1944

BILL DWYER'S BYGONE DAYS

When pizza was 'tomato pie'

It was a time when young men just out of high school were going right into military service, and, shortly thereafter, into combat.

"I remember," says Pat Frey Delate, "when the boy who sat next to me in English class joined the Navy. Three months later he was on a ship that was torpedoed, and one of the few rescued on a raft. One by one boys had been going to service for three years. Someone was always leaving."

It was a time of bobby socks and saddles, dungarees and plaid shirts, and sometimes sweaters and skirts.

"To dress up," Pat Delate recalls, "you added pearls."

It was a time when everybody rode the bus.

"Everybody in school had a bus pass," Pat recalls, "and downtown Trenton was alive with people. Standing on the corner of State and Broad — that was the place to be. But if somebody in the gang had a car you went out the River Road to Barrett's for hamburger and Coke or across the bridge to Yardley for a hot dog at Dirty Bill's."

It was a time that will be recalled with mixed feelings on Saturday night, October 5, when Trenton High School's class of 1944 gets together for a dinner dance at Angeloni's on the White Horse-Mercerville Road. It will be a time to jitterbug and do the "One O'Clock Jump" to Bob Smith's Lamplighters' sounds of the 40s. (Barry Rednor, class treasurer, 2635 South Broad Street, has the details,

for class members and friends.)

MRS. JOSEPH DELATE of Yardley, who was Pat Frey when she was a Trenton High senior in '44, says that her school was "the best, the most-fun school, and the largest — in fact the only public high school for Trenton as well as Lawrence and Ewing Townships."

Mrs. Delate remembers a lot of other things related to the Class of '44, and here, in her rambling, eccentric style, are some of them:

"We ate tomato pies, not pizza. We drank Brown Cows. We smoked Camels and Chesterfields and, in a new white package, Lucky Strikes; Lucky Strike green had gone to war."

"The girls were all writing letters to someone overseas — V-Mail. Or knitting for the Red Cross. Or helping with a Victory Garden. Or lining up to buy stockings. Or playing the jukebox — in the Hamilton Gift Shop or Lucy's near school, or, downtown, at Dal-Mas or Loft's.

"To hear the jukebox at noon, you had to sneak out of school. The best way was through the window of the broom closet at the end of C Building. All was well until that fateful day when some twenty of us were given a helping hand as we came back through the window. The hand belonged to 'Buck' Weaver, head of the hall patrol, and we were all in trouble.

"There were also raids on the gift shop. But 'sually word would go out and the place would be clean by the

time it was raided."

GRADUATION DAY was June 7, 1944, the day after D-Day in Europe. "But," Pat Delate recalls, "it didn't mean that much to us, not with graduation day so big in our lives..."

"College was thought of mostly by the girls. The most the boys could hope for was the V-12 program.

"The big cliche of the day was 'Big deal,' and a BTO was a big-time operator, and girls were luscious, and you gave people the shaft."

"In the summer all roads led to Seaside with blackout curtains on the boardwalk and rumors that a German sub had been sighted.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Those wild kids, the ones who got into fights and tore down goal posts and marched into State and Broad and tied up traffic and raised general hell — what ever happened to them?

"Well," says Pat Delate, "one is a federal judge named Leon Higginbotham. Another is a captain in the Navy — George Shick Jr., whose claim to fame in '44 was being thrown out of a football game for throwing a stink-bomb. No good would ever come of this boy."

"Some others? Mel Groomes is head of the physical ed. department at North Carolina College. Dick Barlow's a judge. Patti Hartman (Zawadski) is an author. Bill Faherty's a bank vice president. Don Lipincott's managing editor of *The Evening Times*. Some of the others

are doctors, priests, ministers, rabbis, lawyers, druggists, women's libbers, grandparents — or casualties of World War Two or Korea..."

THE SCHOOL SCENE: "We were integrated and we didn't even know the word. We met in the front hall or the back hall. When we couldn't sneak out, we danced at noon in the gym.

"The girls lived in dungarees during Sports Nite week. Never went to class. Big deal.

"There was really strong school spirit at all the games. At first there were night football games at Dunn Field. But by our senior year, because of the war, the games were played on Saturday afternoons at the high school field. We lost only one football game that year. In basketball we made the state tournament. With Steve Hritz leading the way, we lost only one soccer game. In Sports Nite competition we had a tie that year. The Red and Black teams of Ann Adams and Gloria Hill had the only tie in history.

"Wes Hopkins (later a top deejay) was the lead in the senior play, 'The Eve of St. Mark.' June LaCarty, Fritz Lamont, Stan Levy and John Ertel had the other big parts.

"We know that the war was near its end. But in '44 we didn't know it. We were touched by the war but we were still teenagers making our own fun — oblivious of it.

"We loved Trenton and we loved Trenton High."

Trenton Times, September 29, 1974

At Trenton High

Fear & Loathing

By ED RAMSEY

It was in the Fall of 1940, or perhaps late in the Summer.

My mother and I were riding in a car driven by an anxious real estate man who hadn't quite found out that the Depression was over. It was, but neither he nor anybody else knew it.

Consequently, he was super-polite as he showed us about Trenton, before showing us transplanted South Jerseyans the home he hoped that we would rent — or if the sky fell — buy.

"This is Central High School," he said grandly as he turned his green Studebaker right from Greenwood into Chambers. "This is where your son will go to high school, ma'am."

"My son will be a freshman," my mother said with a mixture of fear and admiration. Mostly fear, since I was an indifferent scholar who had to be dragged, kicking and scream-

ing, to any kind of school.

I looked at the monstrosity of the place. It went on for miles, low, red-bricked and sinister. It boggled the mind. How would one ever find his classroom? The cafeteria? Most important of all, the exit?

"Big place," I said nonchalantly. I was a student of James Cagney and Humphrey Bogart. I always got straight A's in nonchalance. It was my only evidence of academic promise.

Actually, I had stumbled across a bit of intelligence that my mother didn't have. I had been told by a near-contemporary, a lout one year older than I, that I had to attend ninth grade (my freshman year) in something called a Junior High School. They were numbered for easy identification. Junior 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Junior 3 was said to be the best, but Junior 4 denied it, and had Miss Dunn to prove it.

My mother rented a charming house on Chambers St. near Liberty and I went to Junior 4. To my horror, I loved it and even wound up being principal speaker in the Rose Garden Ceremony. No mean feat.

The following year I joined the ranV and vile at Trenton Central High School. To say that I hated this place would be inadequate. I loathed it. And it loathed me. I guess I liked the swimming pool, although Al Neuschafer's whack across the bottom with a wet towel every time you displeased him was something I could have lived without. And then there was a great English teacher named Addie E. Weber and, of course, some girls who are remembered to this day.

I was official photographer on Sport Nite (yes, Sport, not Sports and Nite not Night) and took endless pictures. No film in the camera. Just lots of flashes and 200 furious girls — who expected to see their pictures in the Spectator, or whatever it is called.

It went like that for me. I finally found the cafeteria and couldn't stand to eat-in a place that made Bedlam seem like a rest home. Ed Leefeldt (vice principal) caught me with my forged lunch pass a day or two before the end of the school year. He was not amused.

My mother, always a trifle too indulgent, sent me to a private school in Philadelphia to graduate. They didn't care if I graduated or not, as long as they got the tuition. It was a good combination and I managed to walk out with a diploma. They got the tuition.

Years later, I went back to Trenton High and sat down at what now seems to be the tiniest of desks. I took a Civil Service test. It took me a few moments to settle down, to accept the fact that I was back in Trenton High.

Gradually I relaxed. They only give you a short time to complete the written part of a Civil Service test. I would be out of there — shortly.



Trenton High School

Trumpeter recalled by peers as one of the best

By CURT YESKE
Staff Writer

Al Coculo, whose bright and distinctive trumpet sound filled the spacious show rooms of Atlantic City's casinos and just about every ballroom between Trenton, Philadelphia and the Shore for 50 years, is recalled as one of the best in his field by musicians who played alongside him.

Whether it was Frank Sinatra, the Ringling Brothers circus, the Miss America Pageant, Burt Bacharach or a community concert in his hometown, orchestra conductors could feel reassured when they looked down and saw Coculo in the chair for the lead trumpet, say his colleagues.

Coculo, 77, who died suddenly

Monday at his home in Brigantine, will be interred this morning but only after a funeral embellished with the sounds of trumpets played by seven of his colleagues.

In big nightclubs and casinos, the only thing more critical to a star's success than a drummer is the lead trumpeter, who sets the stage for everyone else in the orchestra, much like a concertmaster in a symphony.

"He played with a very rich, strong and secure sound," said William V. Frabizio Jr., professor of music at Arcadia University and a trumpet player who performed off and on with Coculo for 50 years.

"I equate him with the best and most powerful lead trumpet

players in the business such as Bernie Glow and Conrad Gozzo," said Frabizio, a Stockton resident.

"He played for all the stars during his years in Atlantic City from Judy Garland to Sinatra and anyone else who came to town. Before that he was on call for all of the big jobs in Philadelphia and played the old Latin Casino."

Retired trumpeter Bernie DiGiovacchino of Pennington said in the days before air conditioning Coculo's Trenton neighbors were well aware of his practice habits.

"You would walk off of South Broad Street onto Bridge Street and you could hear the sound of his horn all over that neighborhood," recalled DiGiovacchino.

Coculo attended Trenton Central High School during a golden era for music and led one of the competing bands during the sports night program.

In a time when just about every kid with a horn aspired to play in a big swing band, he performed with just about every one of them in the Trenton area including Mickey Palmer and Al Zahler.

DiGiovacchino remembered how he and Coculo ventured to Times Square in New York City to audition as the trumpet section of a big band led by trumpet great Shorty Sherock, who was famous as a soloist for Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey and Gene Krupa.

"We became the trumpet section and played the whole sum-

mer at the Glen Island casino," said DiGiovacchino. Among those who auditioned for Sherock was Doc Severinsen, who later joined the band but was let go for nodding off while on the band stand.

"Al played with authority and he could read anything. Even when we were with Shorty's band, the word got out around New York and the other musicians all thought he was great."

Coculo was not an improviser and never pretended to be. He was a stickler for technique and sound.

One of his quirks was his finicky attitude toward mouthpieces.

"Some people used to kid that it seemed like Al was getting a new mouthpiece a week," said

DiGiovacchino. "We went once to one of the most well-known mouthpiece makers in New York. He made one up especially for Al but on our way out of the shop Al threw it in a trash can. I picked it out and brought it home," laughed DiGiovacchino.

Joe Scanella of Ewing, another lifelong trumpeter and former president of the Trenton musicians' union, agreed with the assessments of Frabizio and DiGiovacchino.

"Absolutely, he was a first-rate player. He played with the best of them in very demanding situations. His sound was always there and he was consistent," Scanella said.

Mike Natali and Dennis Wasko, two other leading brass players at Shore venues, prepared the music for Coculo's service this morning at 10 at St. Thomas Church, Eighth and Brigantine Avenue in Brigantine. Calling hours are 9 a.m. until the memorial Mass at 10 a.m.