

The Viking Newsletter

DREUX AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL



Guidance Director Nancy Shawley talks with senior Pat Massengale about possible choices for college.

THE DREUX GUIDANCE PROGRAM

For some students, the Guidance Program at Dreux begins even before official enrollment in the school. Last Spring, there was an open house for students from Laon, Fontainebleau, and Evreux. They were taken on a tour of the school and the dormitories. They were also given a brief introduction to the courses that would be available to them.

Many students make use of the facilities of the Guidance Department when they select their courses. If a student knows

where he wishes to go to college, he can check college entrance requirements in the Guidance Library. This library contains a fairly complete collection of current college catalogs, a file of occupational information, pamphlets on trade schools, business schools, and information about military careers.

Every student has a conference with Miss Shawley, the Director of Guidance, to plan his courses for the following year. In selecting his courses, the student considers his educational and vocational plans as well as his achievement record in previous courses and his scores on standardized tests. Students are encouraged to take a wide variety of academic subjects if they are capable of doing so. This gives them the broad, general education which most colleges demand. It also permits them to change their career or educational goals more easily if they wish to do so.

For the student who does not plan to attend college or who wishes to take additional electives, there are courses in Art, Shop, Music, Home Economics, and Business Education.

Students take a variety of standardized tests during their years in high school. This year the general testing program was limited to juniors and seniors, although some individual tests were given to underclassmen. Almost all juniors took the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test in October. The scores obtained by these juniors are used to predict the scores which they will obtain on the Senior College Boards. These test scores are widely used in planning for college entrance. All students

who took the tests have been given a copy of their scores and a booklet interpreting these scores. This spring most of the juniors took the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Those who earned very high scores may be eligible for scholarships. All students will be informed of their test results. This test is particularly suited for guidance purposes because it identifies areas of academic strength and/or weakness.

A few juniors and most seniors take either the College Entrance Examination Board Tests or the American College Test. These are required for admission to a large number of colleges. All test results are made available to the student and interpreted for him.

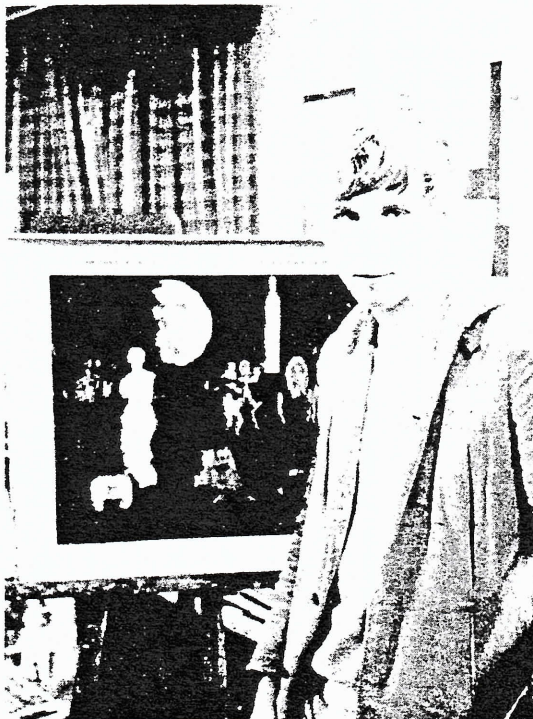
Many students go to the Guidance Office for assistance in college selection or planning, to inquire about scholarship aid, for information about military service, for information about vocational and business school, and for assistance with personal problems.

Parents play a major role in determining the student's post-high school plans. This often presents a problem for the 7 day students at Dreux. Mail can be very slow and some decisions must be made early in the year. For this reason, it would be very helpful if parents of 7 day students would discuss future plans during the Easter or summer vacations.

The Guidance Director can provide information and assistance, but final decisions are up to the student and his parents.

SIMMONS TAKES 1st and 2nd PRIZE, JOANNINI
3rd IN SECOND ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW

At the Second Annual Student Art Show, held the second week of March in the Teen Club, the student body presented a ~~large~~ mosaic, made by the students in Mr. Eller's art classes, to Colonel Riddling, the Base Commander. The mosaic now hangs in the lounge of the Service Center. The Teen Club was transformed into an Art Gallery after a day of hard work by Mr. Eller and his classes. As each student entered the show that night, he was given a ballot on which to mark the numbers of his three favorite paintings. When the ballots were tabulated, senior Doug Simmons had won 1st and 2nd Prize and sophomore Frank Joannini 3rd Prize.



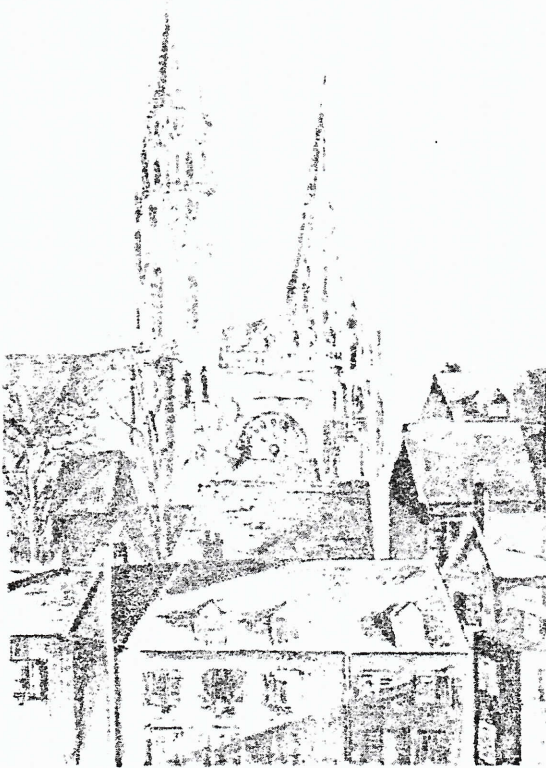
Senior Doug Simmons stands beside his painting which won 1st Prize in Student Art Show

Colonel Riddling, after touring the show, received the mosaic and gave a short speech of acceptance on behalf of the base in which he said he was both amazed and gratified by the talent which he saw in the paintings.

Miss Mary Mendel's Home Economic classes supplied cookies, sandwiches and punch.

After the student show, many of the works were entered in the Base Show, sponsored by Mr. Lee Turkett, Arts & Crafts Director, and Mrs. Irma

Horne, Base Recreation Director. The Base Show was divided into six categories: Oil Painting, Needlework, Ceramics, Sculpture, Drawing, and Watercolors.



Watercolor of the Cathedral at Chartres--Winner of 2nd Prize in the Student Art Show for Doug Simmons

Student winners in the Base Show included Doug Simmons, 1st & 2nd Prize in Oils, 2nd Prize in Watercolors, Mark Annicelli, 1st Prize in Sculpture, 1st & 3rd Prize in Ceramics, Judi Moreland, 1st & 2nd Prize in Needlework, 2nd Prize in Drawing, Cassie Connors, 1st Prize in Drawing, Marsha Riddling, 3rd Prize in Sculpture, 3rd Prize in Drawing, Terry Whitlock, 1st Prize in Watercolors, and Fred Russell, 3rd Prize in Oils.

The winning works of these students will be entered in the Senior Youth Category of the 4th Annual USAFE Arts & Crafts Contest, District B, at Chambley, France in May.

District B includes France, Italy, Spain, and Libya.

SENIOR SAFARI

Our seniors are a hardy bunch, but no one really expected five of them, plus sophomore Eric Rasmussen, to take the long talked of Safari to the Sahara--that is, no one expected them to do it until they waved good-bye and boarded the bus for Fontainebleau, the first step of a journey which would take them deep into the Algerian desert. Below is an account of the trip by Norval Rasmussen, President of Dorm II and one of the originators of the idea of the trip.



The camping grounds on April 10th. No Coca Cola signs here, No billboards for The Last Chance Saloon, only sand, sand, more sand and the bleached bones of camels.

Besides myself and my brother Eric, the other brave contestants for the title of Lawrence of Dreux were Pat Connors, Jim Jones, Kirk Elam, and Dave Henderson. We left Fontainebleau at 1330 on April 4th and took the evening train from Paris to Marseilles, arriving in Marseilles the following morning. Most of that morning was spent getting our exit visas and that afternoon was spent visiting the Chateau D'Iff where the Count of

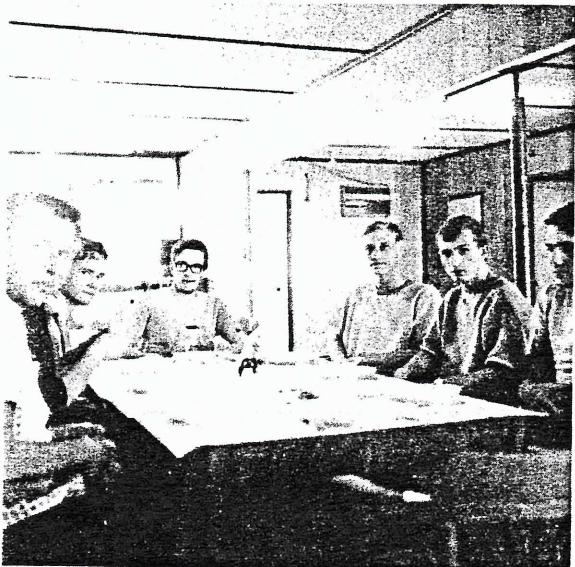
Monte Cristo was kept prisoner.

We boarded the ship, the Ville de Marseilles, at 1630 and stored our luggage in the number 1 hold. The ship sailed at 1800 hours and we soon encountered very rough seas. We also found that we had not chosen the best place to sit because about 85% of the passengers were sea sick and we were on the path to the bathrooms. The trouble was that most people didn't make it all the way to the bathroom before getting sick, they only made it as far as where we were sitting.

We arrived in Algiers about 1600 hours the afternoon of April 6th where we stayed with my family for two days. Then, at 0930 on Friday April 8th, with my father and Mr. William Kitchen of the Embassy in Algiers, we left Algiers for the Roman ruins of Timgad. We were travelling in 3 International Harvester Scouts, and we had borrowed our camping equipment from the USAID mission in Algiers. We didn't make Timgad that night, but we did make it for lunch the next day, visiting the ruins before we ate. We pushed on and, the night of the 9th, we camped on the chotte about 60kms. from El Oued. The chotte is an earth crust formed when the rain dries up. Below it is quicksand. We walked on tiptoes. That evening, Kirk Elam and I went snake hunting. The next day we visited El Oued which has a unique architecture influenced by the Berbers. After El Oued, we entered the desert, 110kms. of nothing but sand until we arrived at Rhourde El Baquel. This is Sinclair Oil Company's largest field, producing 120,000 barrels of oil daily. The director

took us on a tour of the field, and we ended up eating Easter Dinner there (see photo below). That night we camped by the

light of the flares of the oil field.



The 11th, we headed for Ouargla where we filled up on gas for the 235kms trip to El Golea. However, that afternoon, we missed the sign for El Golea and ended up 200kms. north of it. We pitched camp at 1630 and Dave Henderson and I went gazelle hunting. We got lost coming back and didn't find the camp until 2100. Thus we were awarded the honor of washing the dishes for having made everyone worry.

The next morning, heading for Djelfa, we misread the map and went to Laghouat, the 1st of the oasis towns, instead. It was on the way to Laghouat that we saw the road sign, CAPE TOWN 13,000kms.. After visiting Laghouat, we continued on to camp 80kms. from Messaad. The next day we returned to Algiers, badly in need of a good shower.

On Saturday the 16th of April, we boarded the boat at 8:30 am in Algiers, arriving in Marseilles the next day at 1400 by way of Palma, Mallorca. At exactly 10:01am on April 18th we entered the portals of Dreux American High School with 18 days of beard on our faces. Like the pitcher who has had a bad inning, we were sent to the showers by Mr. Tipton and there we parted company with our wonderful beards.