

Name Twelve National Merit Finalists



All semi-finalists became finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. All are now awaiting the awarding of the scholarships sometime in April or May. Seated left to right: Larry Mayer, Ronnie MacClellan, Robert Sharp, Alicia Saunders. Standing, left to right: Greg Curtis, Ron Grossman, Craig Lewis, Steve Goodman, Gilbert Fulmer, Rex Thrasher, and John Foard. Not pictured, Nick Keine.

In January of last year, most juniors took the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Early this fall the scores were received, and twelve Southwest students became semi-finalists. These seniors are the following: Greg Curtis, John Foard, Gil Fulmer, Steve Goodman, Ronald Grossman, Nick Keine, Craig Lewis, Ronald MacLennan, Larry Mayer, Alicia Saunders, Bob Sharp and Rex Thrasher. In December these students took the College Board Aptitude Test. Because these twelve were able to maintain the same high standards, they became finalists. Final scholarships are awarded on a basis of need. However, if an outstanding score is achieved by one with no financial need, an honorary scholarship is awarded.

These seniors are now beginning to plan for the future. Greg Curtis will attend Rice Institute, but is undecided what his major will be; John Foard hopes to go to Harvard, Yale, or Stanford, and would like to be a writer; Gil Fulmer's first choice is Rice Institute, and he will probably study either electrical engineering or physics; Steve Goodman is hoping to attend Harvard or Columbia, majoring in physical science, not neglecting a liberal education; Ronald Grossman will attend either K.U. or Northwestern, and study law; Nick Keine will major in electrical engineering at M. I. T. or Rice; Craig Lewis is undecided whether he will attend Northwestern, Rice, or K. C. U., but will study law; Ronald MacLennan will go to college at either Harvard or Oberlin, and will major in physics or mathematics; Larry Mayer will be going to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and mathematics will be his major; Alicia Saunders has been accepted at Smith, and will study English and foreign languages; Bob Sharp will choose either Stanford or Washington University, and major in the physical sciences; Rex Thrasher will study chemistry at Harvard or M. I. T.

This year Southwest has set a school precedent with twelve finalists, as compared with 1961 with eight finalists, and 1960 with only three finalists.

SECOND IN SPEECH FESTIVAL

Southwest high school placed second in the annual University of Kansas City high school speech festival held February 24. Shawnee Mission East won the all-day sweepstakes with 24 schools participating.

Individual winners included Joe Hirsch, extemporaneous speaking; and Steve Woods and Woody Cozad, duet acting.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Mar. 2—Pep Club Big Eight Indoor Track Meet Foreign Exchange Assembly Ping Pong Tournament Sophomore Skating Party
- Mar. 3-4—Big Eight Indoor Track Meet
- Mar. 6—Red Cross Student Council
- Mar. 7—Literary Societies Meet
- Mar. 9—Operetta Assembly Operetta
- Mar. 10—Southwest vs. Central Operetta

Announce Art Winners;

Southwest Places Two

Two Southwest students won gold keys in the Regional Scholastic Art Contest. Brook Sanford, a senior, placed in the photography division with his picture of cheerleader, Sallie Manley. Sue McClelland, a junior, won an award for her Christmas Vespers program cover. As key winners, both Brook and Sue were invited to attend the award presentation held at the Hallmark Card Building on February 21.

Merit award winners from Southwest are the following: David Bean, Roslyn Braeman, Barbara Curtis, Judi Fisler, Gloria Glass, Susan Gramms, Ann Hinkle, Terry Hoyt, Ellen Jenks, Sue McClelland, Sara Price, Emily Rich, and Brook Sanford. Their entries along with close runner-ups were displayed at Emery Bird Thayer.

"Please God, Grant My Wish"

by David Litwack

"Determination" is the byword for Jim Walters, presently a Southwest senior, who knows the meaning of faith and hope better than the majority of his contemporaries. The blond, blue-eyed youth of 75-43 Oak, has been paralyzed over more than seventy-five per cent of his body, and he does not know whether he will ever recover.

It was two and a half long years ago that Jim enjoyed all the activities of a normal sixteen year old boy. At Rockhurst high school he was well known for his athletic ability, being a member of the Rockhurst varsity track team for three years; and he served two semesters as his home room's student council representative. At this time he was also striving to become an Eagle scout as his three brothers before him. He needed only four more merit badges to attain this coveted rank. During the summer of 1959 Jim's uncle, Mr. Ed Joergens of Lenexa, gave him a 1949 Ford. This car, his heart's desire, became his primary concern. He worked hard mowing lawns in order to earn the money for its maintenance.

On August 5, 1959, Walters attended a C.Y.C. swimming party held at Sunny Shores beach, Hickman Mills. An excellent swimmer and water skier, he decided to swim the length of the lake and dived in. Almost immediately, Jim lost all feeling and ability to move. Minutes later, unconscious, he was pulled from the lake by a life guard and artificial respiration was administered. It was discovered that his neck had been broken in the dive. He was rushed to St. Mary's hospital where he lay paralyzed until October 29 of the same year.

Elaborate Production Plans Take Form For 'The Vagabond King' on March 9-10



Costumes for THE VAGABOND KING arrived too late for pictures of the cast in this issue. An integral part of any production is the preparation of the sets. In charge of this year's art staff is Ricky Ulrich, right. His assistants are, left to right, Keith Ellison, George Tilton, Judy-ane Nelson, Ginnie Lemmon; kneeling, Jerry Simback, Caryn Nilsson.

The audience will be transported on March 9 and 10 from 20th century missiles and peace conferences, basketball games and formal dances, to the gay life at the court of Louis XI when the Southwest high school music department presents **The Vagabond King**, a musical by Justin McCarthy with music by Rudolph Friml. The story centers about Francois Villon, head of a group of vagabonds who are in Paris to aid Louis in his fight against the Duke of Burgundy. One night in a Paris tavern, Villon reads a poem stating that the king is a fool; and if he were in his place, things would be different. Louis, hearing of this, grants his wish as a cruel jest if Villon can persuade Lady Katherine, a court favorite and the heroine, to marry him. However, if he doesn't succeed he must pay for his day as king with his life.

Double Cast Lead

Jill Edmiston and Ardyce Chinery share the honors as Lady Katherine, whose love Francois Villon is seeking. Tom Cummings and Larry Hill are double cast in

Youth Shows Determination on Slow Road to Recovery



Southwest senior, Jim Walters, enjoys a game of chess with David Litwack, TRAIL reporter, demonstrating the great progress he has made since his accident two and one-half years ago.

After eighty-five days at the hospital, Jim returned home and was put in what had formerly been his sister's bedroom. Time after time he found himself counting the blue ribbons on the pink wallpaper—there were ten ribbons from the window to the corner and fifteen from the corner to the other window—this he well knew. The days stretched into months and he showed little physical improvement.

The bed in which Jim lies can be raised to a ninety degree sitting position. Every twenty seconds a motor beneath it whirs on pumping air into the mattress to massage

his skin. Before him is a page-turning device and a television sits atop his dresser. In the evenings and on Sundays he sits in a wheel chair.

Jim's mother, Mrs. Margaret Walters, is always at his side feeding him, bathing him, and giving him physical therapy which she learned at St. Mary's. Jim's father, Mr. Bert Walters, a rate clerk for Union Pacific, cuts his hair. His parents are also administering vocational therapy in an effort to prepare him for later life.

Jim is constantly being visited by former classmates, friends, and

ticket sales for the production are being handled by Sandi Logan. Seats must be reserved ahead of time for both performances. Admission for this evening of enjoyment is 75c and everyone hopes for a full house both nights when the curtain goes up at 8:00 in the tavern with **The Vagabond King**.

STUDENTS INTERVIEW GOVERNOR ANDERSON

"Education is a field of government where . . . the state government assumes the authority," such was the reply to a question concerning federal aid to education by John Anderson, Governor of the state of Kansas. Governor Anderson was interviewed on Sunday, February 18, by a group of neophyte news reporters at a special news conference sponsored by the KMBC Radio news department. The students, representing various area high school newspapers, fired 15 questions at Governor Anderson within the period of the half hour broadcast. Representing Southwest at this second of a series of such events were Andy Hoffman, Tom Turner, and Bobbie Bassin.

Governor Anderson answered questions concerning many areas of state, national, and personal affairs. Among those asked were questions on the John Birch Society, education, taxes, appointments by the governor, and the European market. Being asked about Federal and state concern over the wheat surplus, Governor Anderson replied, "Kansas produces one-fourth of the wheat in the U. S. . . . (yet) I don't know what might be done to better the problem from the state standpoint. It is the problem of the Federal government."

The previous conference was held with Governor John Dalton of Missouri; the comparison between the two governors and their ideas on local and national issues was of interest to the reporters.