

NENE ONLY

student magazine of nene college

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SPECIAL FIRST

EDITION OF

THE 80'S

Happy New Year.

THREATENED WEEKEND CANTEEN CLOSURE

AS STUDENTS WE WILL BE FACED BY CERTAIN ISSUES BOTH LOCAL AND NATIONAL WHICH WILL GREATLY AFFECT US. Essential that we give our Students' Union mandates so that it might best represent our interests and views. As and when each issue arises (eg. Education cuts, the Education Bill and Abortion etc.) we intend to have an EGM to deal with one specific matter only. This way we can keep the meeting as short as possible: hopefully avoiding too much lengthy meeting procedure.

The first issue we must deal with is the college canteen service. Many of you know that the college canteen has been making losses. Governors are persuing the county council policy that the canteen ladies in particular, have made great sacrifices. But it is still expected that the canteen will still make a loss at the end of this financial year.

After attending many committee meetings on this subject it has become apparent to me that I do not know

the views of the majority of students. To overcome this we Sue Jenkins, Gill Spotswood and myself, are designing a questionnaire to assess the type of service we want and might reasonably expect given the current economic conditions.

So when you're "confronted" with a questionnaire please fill it in, even if you only buy bread and milk there. There is no obligation on completing the questionnaire, for you to contract in for meals, so you've nothing to lose by filling it in.

The results of this questionnaire will be presented in the form of a motion to an EGM, which will take up approximately 1 of the 168 hours you have in a week. So PLEASE come along.

I believe that a canteen service is an essential asset to both students and college, and would do no good to either of us if we were to lose it. We must take the initiative and say what type of service we might reasonably expect to see so that the Students' Union can persue our interests to the full.

*Special Catering Offer.
See page 2.*

Note Ed:- It is present Government policy to close that which makes a lose, rather than seek ways of making it profitable. If you want the canteen facility to continue you must be prepared to fight. If you yourself don't actually use the canteen don't be self-ish because at least one of your friends probably does.

LEICESTER 109

V

NORTHAMPTON 37

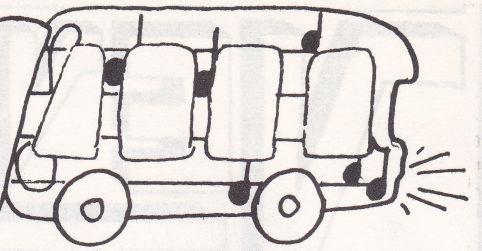
Not an exciting FA Cup result, but that of a poll to decide the venue for the degree giving ceremony.

Since Nene College opened our degree ceremony has been held at Leicester University.

Recently the suggestion has come from the College authorities to ask the S.U. where they feel the event should be held.

At the recent inquorate AGM: there was a proposal to decide the matter there and then. But the 80 people present voted in favour of democratic elections. The result is that the Degree Giving Ceromony will continue in the Pomp and Glory of Leioester University.

DOWNTOWN



If you are like 90% of the students in this College, then you will probably at some time or other want to know how to spend some of the great amount of leisure time available to you. Over the next few weeks we will try to bring to you just a few of the ideas that we have on things to do and places to go in and about Northampton.

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NENE ONLY STAFF

Editors

Susan Johnson
Russell Breen

Coordinator

Marcus McDonald

Typing

Susan Redgrave
Jenny Allen
Heather Stunton

Inking and Artwork

Susan Johnson

Contributors

Graham Connor
John Tuohy
Jenny Allen
Andy Young
John Swallow
Roger Price
Marcus McDonald

ABINGTON PARK

This is the second largest open expanse of grassland in the town centre. The largest is the Racecourse. It is very easy to get to from College since the No 8 bus from the Old Five Bells at the bottom of Boughton Green Road, stops at Abington Park Corner. From town just walk away from the centre along the Wellingboro road and you will come to it. What do you do in the Park? Yes, this is perhaps the biggest problem at this time of the year since it doesn't look too inviting. Still, the trees look quite interesting when covered with frost, so come on all you romanticists and art students get down there and enjoy yourself.

The Park is divided into two halves and is separated by Park Ave South. In the top half of the Park is the Museum and Bird Garden. There is also a church, known to the locals as Church in the Park. This is because it used to be the Parish Church for the Old Deserted Village of Abington. Unfortunately there is only the gateway and the Old Lodge remaining.

In the lower Park there is a large boating lake, but unfortunately the Council stopped hiring boats out a few years ago after a serious accident. Still, you can always take some college sandwiches and try to sink the odd duck or two.

Also in the lower Park is the setting for the Nene College Open. This normally takes place during the Easter Term and is open to everyone. Most people use it as an excuse for skiving exams.

SPECIAL CATERING OFFER.

Massive efforts have been made to reconcile College Catering Losses over the last few months but regrettably the target has not yet been reached.

In a renewed effort to do so the College Management are now making an offer to Staff or Students to enter a Contract for midday meals Mon-Fri with a 15% reduction (at present is 10%) in an effort to attract trade. Cost Mon Jan 21st to last day of term for a three course meal is now £34.42

This is an experiment and can only be introduced if there are sufficient number showing interest.

ANTI ABORTION

If anybody is interested in forming an anti-abortion group in College, with a view to getting this accepted as Nene College S.U. policy:- can they please give their name to Tom Moran in the Union Office.

Why not pop down on Sunday after a couple of pints and see if you can get round in less than the present record of 25 (Bri Mac 79) The par for the nine holes is 27, but some of the greens are so uneven you will be lucky to get round at all. 35 seems about average for most male students. There are also a number of tennis courts and bowling greens which are good for a laugh. So if you've never hurled a wood...get your balls bowls polished during the cold weather and give it a try.

editorial.

Who are the Park Council

We are nine students who in October you elected to deal with any problems or complaints you have about College, your Union, your course. We have the largest vote in governing affairs of your S.U. We have the representatives on all student committees and academic committees in Nene College. Believe it or not our influence goes as far as Dr Ogilvy and all controlling bodies of college.

Contact us this week

We need your problems, complaints and worries, without them our purpose and your Union cease to be functional on all but handelling coffee bar money and official red tape.

To help us to help you from Monday 14th January-18th January in lunch period. You will be able to see two or more Park Councillors in the J.C.R. We want you to come to see us with your problems or anything else concerning us.

If you feel you cannot come to us with your problems in the J.C.R, we can be found through the pigeon holes or union office for a private consultation (in strictest confidence). Please help us not to waste our time by contacting us this week

The Park Councillors are:-

1st yr Alan Yarrell(Rockingham)
2nd yr Andy Young(non-resident)
1st yr Susan Johnson(Dryden)
2nd yr Susan Ashwin(non-resident)
2nd yr Diana Jagers(non-resident)
1st yr Graham Connor(Rockingham)
3rd yr Maggie Cronin (non-resident)
2nd yr Fiona Smith (non-resident)
3rd yr Kath Yates(Dryden)

N.U.S. Secretary's Report

I will not bore you now with all that happened at this year's NUS National Conference but I shall inform you that on Thursday Jan.

17th. at 12.30pm. in the Drama Theatre. Steve Scrivens, Gillian Lucy, Viv Rush and myself will recount to you our horrible tale. We will be joined by Pete Silkin, the National Executive member responsible for our area.

As you may have heard, NUS has planned days of action to coincide with the final reading of the Corrie Bill and one against the education cuts. This General Meeting will give you an opportunity to question a National Executive member on this proposed action.

Other issues that will be raised at this meeting are the proposed N.U.S. subscriptions increases (Are we getting our money's worth?) the introduction of a new NUS conference and it's importance to our college, and the effect of a Third World War on Chelsea's chances of doing the double!

Social Committee out

By the time you read this, the nominations for the new social committee will have closed. Those of you who have very short memories it was decided at the A.G.M last term that the social committee would be elected as of this term. Social events this year have come in for a lot of criticism so now is your chance to do something about it.

Each candidate has produced a manifesto which is posted on the student general notice - all you have to do is read it.

A lot of people have stressed the involvement in your union and the fact that you only get out what you put in ...etc...etc. One way to do this is to vote for your committee members and ensure that the social committee do the job that they were elected for.

JENNY ALLEN

Cambodia

CONFLICT between Cambodia and Vietnam is traditional. But more than traditional hostilities are fuelling the present violence. Cambodia has been sucked into the network of super power rivalries.

Until 1970 Prince Sihanouk had managed to preserve his country's neutrality. He let the North Vietnamese use his border area for re-supplying their troops in the south; at the same time he suppressed his own left-wing opposition.

In 1969 Cambodia was producing more than enough rice to feed itself. This was soon ended.

In March 1969 the Americans launched a massive aerial invasion of Cambodia with giant B52 bombers. The ostensible purpose of this was to destroy all possible refugees for the Vietnamese.

Under pressure from the Khmer Rouge resistance movement, and criticism from his own government for allowing help to the Vietnamese and for not helping the Americans enough, Sihanouk was deposed. Lon Nol, his premier became the new leader. Lon Nol was the head of the pro-American faction; American and South Vietnamese troops quickly moved into Cambodian territory.

Caught between the American bombing and the South Vietnamese troops the peasantry deserted their fertile fields and fled to the towns, especially Phnom Penh. This grew from 300,000 to 2 million in five years.

As it got bigger, food production got smaller. By 1975 the economy was totally shattered, corruption widespread and the country was totally dependent on American resources.

The Khmer Rouge, now with ex-persecutor Sihanouk as their leader, and backed by the North Vietnamese, waged an increasingly successful military campaign against Lon Nol. In 1975 they won and occupied the capital.

The fighting was over. The Khmer Rouge take over was welcomed. Even though they did not have a long history of popular support, American bombing had swung the population to their side.

Up to this point disagreements between the Khmer Rouge and the Vietnamese had been relatively minor. But now the war was over differences quickly emerged.

The Vietnamese were eager for joint development; the Cambodian leadership was committed to an independent nationalist reconstruction.

In taking control of Cambodia the new rulers put into practice the theories they had been living with for many years. A Stalinism adopted from the French Communist party of the 1950's, and a fundamental and austere Maoism.

The harsh and disciplined policies put into practice by the early Khmer Rouge must be seen in the light of inheriting: a devastated agricultural system, cities bulging with people driven there by the bombing, and famine staring the country in the face. Decisive steps were needed.

Early reports of Khmer Rouge control suggests that effective action was being taken to organise the country's human resources to meet its very human needs. Along with the Khmer Rouge's severe economic plans came their vision of the, 'New Society'. A society rid of traditional family life and dispensing with all vestiges of Western culture. It was a rigorous attempt at a new start.

In the early period it might be accurate to say that an inroad was being made on the inherited devastation. But as time passed the ferocity of the Khmer Rouge under Pol Pot became more apparent than any social progress made.

"ORGANISATION"

The 'Organisation' as the government was known, made the journey from being harsh to being brutal. Floods, failed harvests and the extinction of aid, compounded the wretchedness.

Pol Pot was responsible for the operation of death centres. How many were killed in this way is as yet unclear; hundreds, possibly thousands. The Organisation's economic plans failed to meet the nation's needs.

A rice surplus was for a time achieved through a strict domestic rationing. The collapse of this production and distribution system resulted in many thousands more dying through starvation and disease.

CONDITIONS

In these appalling conditions, the Vietnamese invaded Cambodia as much to stop the border shelling by Khmer forces as to oust Pol Pot. At this stage Vietnam's motives are not clear but at a minimum, as with Tanzania's invasion of Uganda, the barbarities have been brought to an end.

The Cambodians received the Vietnamese as liberators not aggressors. The new government of Heng Samrin has allowed the people to return to their families and traditional areas and joined forces with the Vietnamese in pursuing the remnants of the Pol Pot army in the Thailand border region.

Aid principally from the Vietnamese and the USSR is being moved in along with some recent consignments from United Nations agencies. Un-tied aid is a priority now and in the future

Can socialism be blamed

CRITICS of the left will quote the nightmare of Pol Pot's Cambodia as an indictment of socialism.

How true is this?

True, Pol Pot emerged with popular support, voicing socialist slogans. True he despised Western capitalism and intellectual elitism. But these are just elements of socialism, not the full recipe. Representation of the people was missing, as was concern for minorities. Absent, too, was the ideal of liberty.

Cambodia was misled into believing in Pol Pot's "socialism" when emerging, traumatised, from the wreckage of U.S. bombing. An over-reaction — just as Hitler was an over-reaction to despair in 1920s Germany.

And socialism is no more the culprit in Cambodia today than it was then in Germany.



Sarun's story...

THIS is the story of Hok Sarun, a peasant refugee from the village of Kencho.

When the war ended in 1975 the Khmer Rouge took control of Kencho.

They called a meeting and took down everyone's names, dividing them into three groups: the wealthy and government officials, the middle peasants and workers, and the poor. They checked the truth with neighbours and other villagers.

EXECUTED

Two weeks later four entire families of the 'rich' group were executed; so was the abbot of a local monastery.

Everything in the village was communalised. Three locals were appointed as village officials. Their privileges included larger food rations.

In August a mobile work group or 'chalat' was formed. Sarun and one of his sisters were obliged to join it, and his youngest sister was taken away from her parents and sent to join a children's group.

Sarun's work group was sent to build a dam for which there seemed to be no conceivable purpose — there was no water source in the area. During the building many workers died from starvation and exhaustion. Protesters were executed.

Sarun was then sent to another chalats where his work was adjusting and maintaining the level of water in the rice fields. He worked from 3 or 4 a.m. until noon, when there was a brief break for rice porridge. Work then continued until 5 or 6 p.m.

Once or twice, sometimes even three times a

week, meetings were held after work lasting about an hour. These were about the importance of work and obeying the organisation (angkar).

In early 1977 conditions got worse. Inadequate food rations were reduced to eight cans of rice for ten people a day. Men and women worked separately; no singing or laughter was allowed.

Everyone was assigned a portion of earth to move in a day; sometimes workers had to keep going until midnight to fulfil their quota.

In 1977 a new group of male and female cadres arrived. They began a fresh series of arrests and executions for anyone in any way connected with the Lon Nol regime.

Even those who had been with the soldiers for just one day disappeared. The chalats leader was also killed. People who were too sick to work were sometimes fed — sometimes not.

BASHED

In June of July 1978 a further group of cadres arrived and arrested the previous cadres. There were further huge numbers of indiscriminate deaths; even at the worksite people were frequently bashed to death.

One evening five of Sarun's friends were killed in this way. Sarun anticipated that he would be next, and that night deliberately slept some distance from his mosquito net.

The soldiers came for him, but could not find him.

After travelling through the jungle for five nights and six days he escaped into Thailand. Following his escape his sister was executed.

LIFE IN RUINS

ESTMATES as to how many people died in Cambodia under the regime of Pol Pot vary wildly. Some say that as much as a third of population have already died.

Whatever the truth, it is clear that many did die, from executions, from enforced migration, or from undernourishment. Observers have found whole sections of the countryside empty of people.

Some families, where they still exist, have been reduced to what one observer has called a "stone age existence". The Heng Samrin government has requested emergency supplies for up to two and a half million people.

Those people who have been found, by the roadsides or on the verge of death in makeshift hospitals, are traumatised. It is clear to a number of outsiders that the Cambodians have suffered a national disaster which has affected the will as well as the body.

Medical observers have stated that one in three pregnancies ends in miscarriage while as many as 50% of women may have stopped menstruating.

Until recently the Vietnamese have been the only lifeline. When they overthrew the Khmer Rouge last January, one of the first things the Vietnamese did was to build an emergency hospital at Kompong Speu, supply a doctor and as much medicine as they could spare.

Vietnam's Foreign Minister, Nguyen Co Thach, interviewed by John Pilger in Hanoi, said:

"We welcome all humanitarian aid. At present we have to share one grain of salt between two poor peoples. We don't have two grains of salt, and we ourselves have a famine coming!"

"Up to the last month", Pilger continues, "Vietnam had sent to Cambodia 10,000 tons of rice seed,

20,000 tons of rice, 9,000 tons of fuel and 5,000 tons of consumer goods, such as condensed milk".

The Heng Samrin government controls the towns and the major roads and most of the countryside. It has made a start at some semblance of reconstruction.

The surviving teachers and trained people are being searched for, encouraged to come out into the open, and told that they have nothing to fear.

Families, if they are able to, are allowed to reunite. People are being freely allowed to return to their own towns, villages and land.

But this very return to 'normality' means that much of the land is not being cultivated. Production has stopped in many places. Elsewhere, people are managing as best they can with their bare hands, growing rice and vegetables.

But there is little doubt that the government is weak and is dependent on the support of the Vietnamese.

The association of the Heng Samrin government with the Vietnamese has provided the rationale for the failure of the West to provide the aid which is so desperately needed.

Intent on building up their relationship with China, they have continued to back Pol Pot and to play power politics at the expense of the children of Cambodia.

How relief has been denied

At the last meeting the United Nations called to discuss Cambodia, the British delegation, following the lead of the USA, voted with the other Western nations and China for the continued recognition of Pol Pot.

This inauspicious piece of news meant death for many further thousands of Cambodians.

Without United Nations recognition the agencies best equipped to supply relief — the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Red Cross are hamstrung.

Up to October the amount of assistance they had been able to put into Cambodia was minuscule.

More Cambodians, people the foreign policy makers had never met, ceased to exist.

Only the USSR and Vietnam have provided any substantial aid. We may question their motives, but they are saving lives.

Relief plans announced by the Red Cross and UNICEF, and the Soviet/Vietnamese assistance have taken the worst edge off the famine. But the situation is still desperate.

The British government has announced £4 million of relief to Cambodia. The sum is pitifully low.

Coupled with non-recognition of the Heng Samrin government, it amounts to a callous disregard for the fate of the dying Cambodians. Over the next two years aid of the order of £20 million pounds is needed from Britain.

It is up to the people of Britain to insist that their government provides it, and makes it effective by recognising Heng Samrin.

Connor's Corner...

Sue Johnson, editor of some obscure magazine called Nene Only mentioned today that "If I had a continental quilt I would never need a man". Kirkby were last seen having a collection to buy her one.

Happy birthday John Tuohy on Tuesday 15th.

Happy birthday to the now infamous Big Nick last Sat.

Big Nick for his birthday was given a penis enlarger from Rockingham hall. As soon as he recieved it he tried it out in front of 50 spectators. He has already been approached about film rights of this "monumentous" event.

Was Big Nick the mystery stalker at the revue, or was someone elses visage concealed under that brown paper bag.

On the subject of Big Nick rumour has it that on a recent visit to a certain Dean, the afor mentioned Dean stated that he could tell Nick the colour of his underpants on four different occasions.
What ever turns you on. Ed

After 3 members of 1st year started an engagment trend during last term, rumour has it that the trend has continued in the form of Andy Young and Jill Spence. If true this news is sure to disappoint mountain goats everywhere.

Last night our ever popular Social Sec, Ali McGregor was seen getting inebriated at the bar after his 28 day period of banishment. Nene Only staff managed to precure the disaplinary letter received by Mr McGregor as shown below.

The incident occured after Ali (no relation to Mahamid) smashed a pint mug at Aidens feet because he couldn't get a drink at 1.00am on the Snowball.

Remember if McGregor hasn't upset you, you're probably dead.



Ali: The problem is doc, if I don't upset somebody during the day I go home and take out my pent up frustrations on my teddy, and he won't talk to me any more. I'd be OK if they'd let me book AC/DC.

NENE COLLEGE

MOULTON PARK, NORTHAMPTON NN2 7AL

From Miss W Smith

Ref. Secretary to the Bar Management Committee

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To Alistair Macgregor

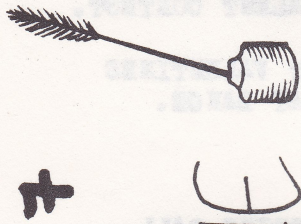
Ref.

(Date) 11 12 79

c.c. Dr Ogilvie
Student Union
Aiden Piper

Following complaints from both the bar staff and members of the Bar Management Committee concerning your behaviour in the bar on Friday 7 December, I have to inform you that as from today - 11 December - you are barred from using the bar facilities for 28 days.

W. Smith



Letters

CLOSED SPORTS HALL

Dear Ed.

Please could you try to explain why it is, that although we have a good Sports Hall, we cannot use it at weekends. To me this sounds totally mad.

B.Short.

Although we have a good Sports Hall we cannot use it during times outside the present for two main reasons.

Firstly, the Sports Hall floor was very costly and as such must be protected as far as is practically possible. Can you imagine what might happen if it was open at weekends. People would soon start to abuse the privilege and wear shoes apart from those approved by the College.

Secondly, there are problems with insurance. As you may well be aware, much of the P.E. equipment in the Sports Hall is potentially dangerous and as such, if anyone injur-

ed themselves outside the permitted course hours, then the College would be wholly responsible.

One solution is:- If you wish to use the Sports Hall between 2pm and 4.30pm on Saturdays then you must see if you can find a mains course PE student who is prepared to supervise for the session and then approach Mr Wragg.

FINALLY, WELDON COLLEGE

Recently there were moves by the local council to close down the Sports Hall in all but lecture time. The proposed action was an attempt to save money on the wages of a Sports Hall attendant.

Action on the issue by the Student Union was so immediate and the backing from the College authorities was so strong that the Council backed down without even a whimper of defiance.

OF HAM AND NENE

Dear Editor, Although the Student's Union offers wide and varied catering facilities please could you explain why the amount of ham in a roll is roughly the size of a ten pence stamp. In other words, are the rolls ham or merely ham flavoured? I think it's about time portion control was investigated.

Yours Sincerely
Paul Williams.

Ed: The amount of ham in a roll is dictated by the costing of goods on the canteen. The S.U. Canteen runs at a break even level: making enough money to cover costs of staff wages, power, food and 1/5th of S.U. admin costs.

At the moment the average ham roll contains 1/3rd of a slice of ham. To increase this amount the price of the ham roll would have to rise. At the moment it is our policy to keep the ham, egg, and cheese rolls at the same price. It is much easier administratively to keep prices equal.

As to your allegation that the size of the ham is about that of a postage stamp. On a recent measurement the average size of S.U. ham was 4ins x 1 1/2ins and quite a lot thicker than a postage stamp.

Galloping Gourmet Strikes Again.

If you're downtown one afternoon and you fancy a bite to eat why not try The Minstrel sandwich bar on the corner of Kettering Road and Talbot Road opposite the advertisement hoardings.

A selection of cheap, unusual sandwiches are available. You design your own sandwiches choosing from a variety of bread, wholemeal, rye, West Indian, or even plain white

filled with suitable savouries to satisfy the most discerning palate. Herbie, the proprietor, has just taken over the premises and his sensibly priced sarnies are sure to catch on so get down there quick, before the place gets too crowded. The Minstrel also does burgers and salads, and is licenced all afternoon so if you fancy a drink with your food you know where to go.

John Tuohy.

If the College use more ham in there rolls it could explain away some of there annual loss of £70,000.

Hope the rest of our canteen services are pleasing to the palate. But do let us know if you have any complaints.

WOTS ON!

STUDENT DISCOUNT

Many of you may have seen advertised in the National Student newspaper an article on student discount and the Countdown scheme. Over recent years it has been policy that the Union approaches leading shops and services in the town in order to try and secure discounts for it's members. As you may well appreciate this is no mean task, trying to get round all the shops that we would like to is impossible. However, we have managed to build up one or two connections with traders in the town. We did try to establish an agreement with the larger department stores such as Boots and Co but were unsuccessful since many of these stores have to abide by the policies set by set by Head Office.

In most of the cases mentioned below, all you will require is a valid Union card. Even if a shop is not mentioned below, it is well worth the time and effort to ask politely if they offer a student discount. Don't forget, even if the shop does offer a discount, be polite after all it is only an added bonus to you the student and not a right.

Shoe Shops.
Foot The Bill.
Wellingborough Road.
This shop offers students a 10% discount on most lines, but the goods are already far cheaper than anywhere else in town.

Clothing. Milletts.

The Drapery, Market Place also Abington Street. This is quite a popular shop for buying jeans and cordsets.

Remember your card for 10% discount. Also, it is well worth remembering that if one branch hasn't got your size try another.

Record Shops.

Spinadisc.

Abington Square.
5-10% except singles.

Harlequin Records.

Peacock Way.
10% on everything except special offers.

Sportswear.

Richard Allen Sports.
The Friary, Gros Centre
10% with N.U.S. card.
Collins Sports.
Gold St, & Kingsthorpe.
10% with N.U.S. card.

THE PHOTO'S SPRING BALL

MARCH 1st 1980

JANUARY 1980.

SAT 12th.....CHILIH.

FRI 18th.....MINI OLYMPICS.

SAT 26th.....BAND NIGHT.

FEBRUARY.

SAT 2nd.....TALENT CONTEST.

THURS 14th.....ST VALENTINES
DAY DANCE.

MARCH.

SAT 1st.....SPRING BALL.
THE PHOTOS.

FRI 7th.....RAG KING AND
QUEEN DISCO.

SAT 8th.....OPEN DAY
CHILIH.