

Spirit Takes Off

The sense of excitement was overwhelming as you walked into the gym on Friday during the pep rally. Tension grew and the crowd got continually louder and rowdier as students awaited the big moment. "If I may have your attention," said Steve Imhoff as he attempted to control the crowd, "the winner is . . . the juniors." Cheers, streamers, balloons, and horns could be seen and heard coming from the junior section of the gym.

Why? The juniors cheer to support their teams and their class pride, but there was another reason this year - the spirit stick. Assistant Principal Gail Rose said a spirit committee was established to deal with the lack of class spirit. Teacher and former student Steve Imhoff said the only thing ever done at pep rallies to encourage spirit in his days was the V-I-C-T-O-R-Y cheer competition. So the spirit committee decided to focus on encouraging class spirit and decided that an award would be the perfect solution. Industrial arts teacher, Tom Beschler was asked to design and make a spirit stick for this purpose. The spirit stick was awarded to the class that demonstrated the most spirit at the pep rallies.

As a matter of fact, it did not seem to surprise many other juniors either. Betsy Bass said, "Our class started the spirit in junior high when we

went to the Middletown basketball championships. We've been really spirited ever since. And all the classes below us are spirited because of what we started."

This year was an exceptionally spirited one for juniors in Sycamore's history. For example, this was the first time that the seniors had ever been defeated in the Homecoming float competition. The juniors claimed that position, setting the trend for the remainder of the year. As a result of a group effort, Stephanie Beck, Michelle Fallat, Stephanie Hertzman, Chrissy Honsacker, Carolyn Malagon, Betsy Rosel, and Alison Rothman had this to say: "The juniors started spirit at this school when we beat the seniors in the float competition. The other classes attempted to follow suit, but let's face it . . . that's impossible!"

But some were not as excited about the presentation of a spirit stick to coax school spirit. "I think it's a good idea, but people only do things to get the spirit stick. They should show that much spirit all the time," remarked Kristen Laska.

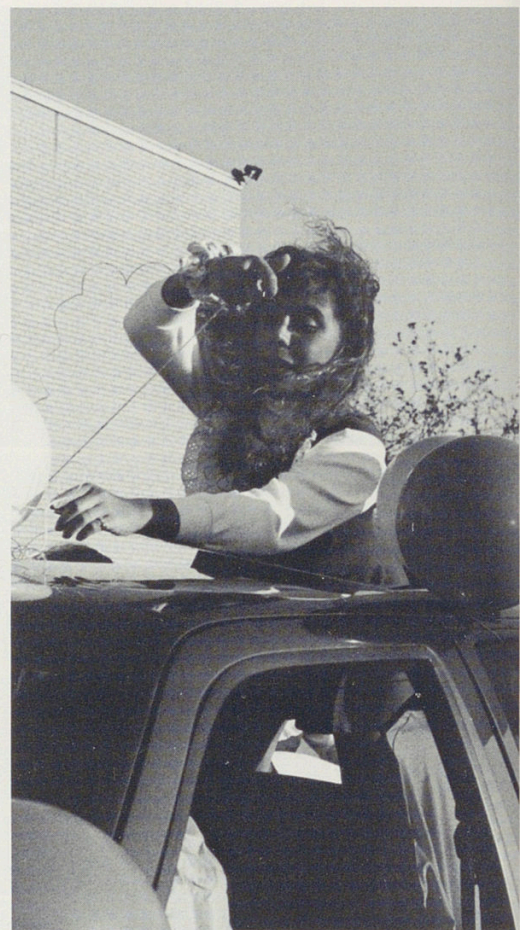
Phil Davis said, "Spirit should come from the heart - not from the stick."

Still, the fact remains that the juniors managed to win the spirit stick more than any other class this year. And according to the juniors, this trend will continue until graduation. As Jay Skie put it, "After all, the best is yet to come."

by Kara Baxter

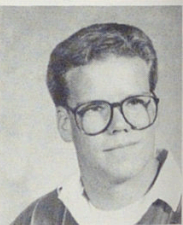
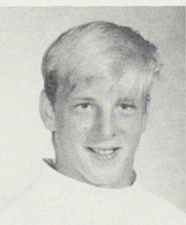
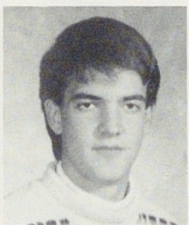
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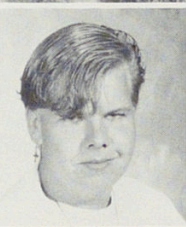


At the homecoming parade, Mallory Minson assists in finishing the junior Flyerette float. The class of '92's abundant amount of spirit helped them win the class float contest.

Patrick Whalen
Michael Whatley
Luther Whitehead
Erik Wickert
Julie Wilhelm
Jeannette Willhoite
Lee Williams



Nanci Williams
Amy Willinger
Pam Willinger
Danny Wilson
Shawn Wiseman
Brian Wofford
Adam Yoffe



Janet Yoon
Brian Young
David Young
Seana Zaidi
David Zakem
Alon Zamir
Mark Zavaglia

