

Seniors Chuck Drange, Rich Thurlow, Barb Metzger, Ann Hauerwas, Donna Shields, junior Bob Meek and a rapidly deteriorating Whamo super ball were present at a recent Blueprint press conference. All, with the exception of the super ball, were there informally to discuss boundaries and limitations of the student council.

The interview began with Drange bellowing "When the hell is this interview gonna start? You're wasting my time!" as he played catch with Thurlow with his pitted super ball.

Eventually the room settled down and the interview began. A tape recorder was used to insure accurate quotations.

Meek was asked if the council should have boundaries.

"I don't see that the school has these limits," said Meek. "It's part of the community. Education is one of the basic parts of the community and Ramsey serves that purpose."

At this point, the P.A. rasped and interrupted Meeks chain of thought. He was ruffled.

"You can't separate it from the community. . . I mean, it's -- well, I've heard things such as Student Welfare be referred to as . . . the awards . . ."

Meek paused and searched for a word.

"What do you call that thing when you put out all the little sports awards . . . the trophy case! That was the big thing last year. But there aren't that many . . . I don't think that we've had very many actual school things brought up to us. If you want to talk about trophy cases and things on that line . . . curriculum, I consider is a part of the council's thing - just as I would consider endorsing a candidate for the school board elections."

Meek added that he believed that the student

council should endorse candidates as purely the student council and not as an accurate representation of the student body. He further said that, nevertheless, it is the obligation of the student council to keep the students informed on the candidates' positions.

Drange, sitting in a swivel chair with his feet atop a desk, addressed himself to the subject of the endorsement of school board candidates.

"Well, I feel that if that's what the Council wants, then that's what it should have. Really," he said.

Drange was then asked about his role as president in defining the bounds of the Student Council.

"In defining the bounds of the Student Council?" Drange mused as he rocked in his chair, "It goes as the students want," he said, reinforcing his previous position.

He put his feet down for emphasis. "They're going to have to travel as far as they want to, he continued, "I mean, if they want to go outside the school in terms of the school board, Biafra, things like that - - they should go out. If they want to stay in, they've got to stay in."

At this point, Thurlow stopped bouncing his super ball and chimed in.

"The way our council is set up, you have to

look at each case individually because that is the way each case is brought upon."

All of the chairmen nodded in approval. "Well so far as that goes, you might as well apply that to every case," interrupted Meek in an effort to clarify matters, "So you have no inner or outer limits. You know, you can't say that some things are part of the council and should always be there."

Thurlow attempted to comment but Meek continued. He settled back on the radiator and continued to play with the super ball.

"And I think it might be a point too that since, obviously, there have been some people that say that outside the school - wherever that actually is . . . such things were never talked about when we gave to United Fund year after year," Meek continued, "Now, I don't know what somebody else's opinion is but I always felt that United Fund - from the definition I have of some of the people of the school is like inside the walls - and United Fund would be outside - and why did we never - you know - I never heard of this definition - that it had to be done in every case when we were dealing with the United Fund."

Meek continued on. Thurlow left early. Metzger and Hauerwas commented occasionally. Drange and Shields sat quietly. And the tape ran out.

... and a superball

by
Mark Johnson
and
Grant Blank

Councils

Places differ, problems alike

by Ann Flanagan
Blueprint Staff Writer

Student Councils around the St. Paul and the suburbs differ in many ways from each other while having many of the same problems.

In some schools, representatives are elected from an entire class (sophomore, junior, senior). Thus at Moundsview, there are eight representatives per class combining to make the council of 24. In a situation such as this reports following each meeting are made over the public address system.

Harding which is on modular scheduling has a member number of special problems caused by their scheduling. This year no elections were held for student council at all. People who wish to work on the student council simple signed up. For this reason they have 80 members on the general assembly. "Our main goal this year," said Barb Leithauser, President of the Harding Council, "is to get an open campus." She explained that many students have a great deal of free time and want to be able to leave the school grounds. Barb said that in dealing with the problem, "Our administration can be hard to get through to." She says the way they handle the problem is to write out all their ideas when they make proposals to the administration.

Greg Dose, President at Moundsview, wants that Student Council to take "more interest in educational aspects of school." At Moundsview the council is also in charge of the social calendar, so that takes up a great deal of time. Greg feels that their council is making steps forward, however. Though he feels that they don't have a great deal of power, he says, "We are no longer a puppet government." The principal's right to veto council decisions has been written out of the student council constitution there.

At Highland, President Sue Machacek explained that their council works through committees much like those at Ramsey. Current bus problems at that school have kept their Human Relations committee busy.

Mike Donnelly, vice-president at Cretin, feels that their Council has done many worth while things. They have changed hair rulings (hair can now be longer), established a demerit system, started with honor passes, and set up student and faculty meetings.

Ann Davern, Our Lady of Peace President, feels that because they are a private school they have fewer of the problems other councils have. "We work mainly for social things," Ann explained. The Our Lady of Peace Council had its first year last year and worked

mainly on raising school enthusiasm and getting speakers for the school.

"We are interested in better advantages for the student," said Lois Richardson, president of Mechanic Arts, "besides just six classes a day." Lois said that they are working for more special things such as dances.

Most schools have little trouble being vetoed by advisors or administration. As Lois Richardson said, "We compromise." Because of this most of the Presidents felt they were eventually able to accomplish what they wanted.

-A PRIVATE OPINION-

Council must deal with education

by Jeff Holman
Blueprint Editor

The purpose of the Student Council is the same as the purpose of Ramsey High School. Both are concerned with serving students. Both are institutions of education.

Education . . . which isn't only homework and term papers and filmstrips, it is everything that happens to us. We are learning something every minute at Ramsey. In some classes, we are learning subject matter. In others, we are learning how to talk to each other. In others, we are learning to be bored.

Perhaps the Student Council does not have enough power, and should be given more. But first, it ought to examine the students needs and its own potentials. The school paper is the voice of Ramsey students; the council has certain power to act for them.

Students need to learn that they are important people with individuality. Principal Curtis Johnson is right when he says, "People, this is your school." Students are the reason the institution exists.

But many students do not feel this is their school. This may be because school is not meeting their needs. And students will only feel it is their student council if the Council meets their needs.

Mini-courses, a council project, are "free, open, and belong to students." But every course should belong to students. The council must expand its word on curriculum and increase communication within the school.

Last year's council-sponsored all-day forum was a good start toward an exchange of ideas. Maybe we need to take a week off this year to talk about what this school is all about.

We set the scene,
the choice is yours.

Imported Antique Bronze



Plenty of Italian zip in this new strap-and-buckle slip-on. Unlined for lightweight easy-going. Shaped toe. And see how the new antique bronze leather works with your whole wardrobe. \$19.95

Every style on open display.

FLORSHEIM SHOE SHOP

★ **FLORSHEIM
SHOE SHOP** ★
ROSEDALE CENTER