

Student Journalists Win Three Top Awards on Successive Days

Three major awards were announced in three consecutive days by El Camino Publications as the Warhoop, weekly newspaper, became the recipient this week of one state and two national honors.

Climaxing the series of awards was notification that the Warhoop was named one of five outstanding college and university publications throughout the nation. Selection of the five newspapers was announced by the American Newspaper Publishers Assn., convening in New York.

SHARING HONORS with El

Camino College were publications of the University of Minnesota, the University of San Francisco, the University of Miami, and the University of Wyoming. All were named Pacemaker publications in judging which was conducted for the first time in recognition of journalism instructional programs.

With the announcement of national winners, ANPA President Mark Ferece commented, "One of the most urgent tasks facing newspaper executives is the recruitment of talented, creative young people to fill the growing number of good

jobs of all kinds in the newspaper business. The ANPA and its members want to recognize the excellent work being done by high school and college publications and to encourage the students on their staffs to become deeply interested in careers in the newspaper business.

"WHEN AN outstanding job is done by a staff member or through team effort, the daily newspapers of the U.S. and Canada want to honor those achievements," Ferece concluded.

College representatives will

receive their awards in Chicago on Nov. 29, coincident with the annual convention of the Associated Collegiate Press.

ARRIVAL OF a Silver Medal trophy, presented the Warhoop following competition in conjunction with California State Fair and Exposition, preceded by one day the announcement of the Associated Collegiate Press in Minneapolis that the Warhoop had been awarded its 15th consecutive All-American Award.

In March the college publication was given first place for General Excellence among jun-

ior college newspapers in Newspaper Day ceremonies on the campus of the University of Southern California.

DURING THE following week, eight individual trophies for outstanding writing and photography were won by ECC Journalism students at the annual convention of the Journalism Assn. of Junior Colleges in San Diego.

Regarding the All-American rating judges noted that the paper covers the field "with outstanding alertness" and added "wish other papers would do as well." Speaking of creativity, the judges wrote, "You are in a class by yourself."

STAFF MEMBERS sharing

Lonors were Sandy Burks, Torrance, editor-in-chief; Vicki Reed, Morningside Park, news editor; Pat Cairns, Hermosa Beach, assistant news editor; Jack Franklin, Torrance, and Gregg Peterson, Morningside Park, feature editors; Jim Isadore, Hawthorne, and Sandy Williams, Redondo Beach, sports editors; Rosalie Murray, Torrance, copy editor; Joe Bonanno, Gardena, advertising manager; Earlene Hilburn, Torrance, business manager; Keith Day, Manhattan Beach, circulation manager and reporters Louis Bishop, Redondo Beach; Jerry Daquila, Hawthorne; Tom Deats, Torrance; Richard Delahanty, Redondo Beach; Jerry Eiland, Torrance;

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THE TORRANCE HERALD

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Play Slated By Saxons

May 10th, 11th, and 12th are the dates set for North High's latest production, "THE HEIR-ESS." This highly dramatic style.

play will be presented in arena. Ticket sales started last week and according to R. E. Van Tassel, director, only a limited number of seating is available. Curtain time is set for 8 p.m. Price of tickets: \$1 for adults, 75c for students with A.S.B. Card, and 50 cents for children under 12.

"This is a show the entire family will enjoy, so come out to North High school May 10th, 11th, or 12th, and see some great entertainment," Van Tassel said.

Tom Hoff, Inglewood; Barbara Hunting, Torrance; Norman Iwahn, Redondo Beach; Winston Kavanaugh, Hawthorne; Jack Minzey, Hawthorne; Wayne Overbeck, Manhattan Beach, and David Parson, Torrance.

Adviser of the college publication is W. A. Kamrath, Redondo Beach.

Hahn Answers Objections to His Plan for Single Municipal Court

Objections which some outlying cities and communities have against consolidation of Los Angeles County's 23 municipal court districts into a single municipal court district are completely unfounded and are based on a misunderstanding of the consolidation plan, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn declared yesterday after reviewing a report prepared by Assistant Chief Administrative Officer John R. Leach on the principal objections being voiced.

Even though an objective, impartial study of the proposed single court plan reveals that it would save Los Angeles County taxpayers more than \$70 million over the next 19 years, a number of communities opposed the plan because they believe:

- It takes away local autonomy.
- It works hardship in time and money on many police departments because of the transportation of prisoners.
- It works a hardship on citizens who must travel from their locality, many times at great physical effort and expense for court appearances.
- It seems logical that a judge who is familiar with local conditions is better qualified to hear local problems.
- It takes away the convenience for citizens and this is the reason for municipal courts.

LEACH'S analysis of each of these objections is as follows:

1. Takes away local autonomy. If the implication of the above objection is that consolidation of the courts will take local autonomy away from the cities, this would be erroneous. A city does not have any present control over the municipal court system. These courts are a State system of courts, financed by the County, with each judicial district constituting an independent self-governing court unit.

If the implication is that local courts would lose local autonomy, this is true to the extent that the local district would be consolidated with others — thereby forming a large district which would be governed by majority rule of the judges included.

HOWEVER, since the purpose of the Judiciary is to administer equal justice of the law to all concerned, pursuant generally to an interpretation of State-wide statutes and application of State-wide rules of the State Judicial Council — the question of local autonomy becomes rather moot.

Since there would still be a court and a judge in existing locations, there seems to be no reason to believe that such court and judge would be any less amenable to or less conscious of the legitimate interest of the citizens, attorneys, and litigants after consolidation of the courts than was the case before merging of the courts.

2. WORKS A hardship in time and money on many police departments because of the transportation of prisoners. This objection must assume abandonment of existing courts from their present locations. Such abandonment has never been contemplated. On the contrary, all reports on the subject of consolidation have emphatically included the basic principle that all existing courts would be continued for

the convenience of citizens, attorneys, litigants and police departments.

Therefore, local police transportation of prisoners would remain the same as exists today. It has never been contended that arraignments, misdemeanor trials, or felony preliminaries to be removed from local courts as they now exist. Thus, any "red-herring" of greater foundation costs of local city departments is without foundation.

3. WORKS A hardship on citizens who must travel from their locality, many times at great physical effort and expense for court appearances.

This again assumes a general abandonment of court processes at existing locations.

As repeatedly stated, all court locations would remain as is, and continue to hear criminal, small claims, traffic and other so-called short cause actions.

THE ONLY degree of centralization that has been mentioned is to work toward an eventual operation of a master calendar system at one location for the conduct of civil trials. Such a master calendar would expedite administration of justice in the various regions of the County by permitting more trial cases to be calendared daily with some chance of the court being able to handle them on the date they are called. This would be faster justice and a convenience to litigants concerned; justice delayed is justice denied.

4. IT SEEMS logical that a judge familiar with local conditions is better qualified to hear local problems.

On the contrary, the entire premise on which this is based is adverse to the purpose of the administration of justice — namely equal justice before the law on the basis of evidence submitted.

What is the "local problem" the judge would be better qualified to hear? No policy matters are decided by a judge as they are by legislative bodies. The judge renders his decision by evidence and application of the law. The quality of the decision is based on the ability, fearlessness, and fairness of the judge — not his place of residence.

IT SEEMS far more logical to conclude that any intelligent citizen concerned in an individual case of civil action, or finding himself a defendant in a criminal trial, would much prefer to be heard by a capable, fearless, and fair judge — absolutely independent of community pressures, outside controls or extraneous conditions of any type whatever — national or local.

5. TAKES AWAY the convenience from citizens and this is the reason for municipal courts.

This objection to consolidation again presupposes the closing down of courts in the areas where we now find them — a completely erroneous assumption.

Most citizens go to the municipal court because of traffic tickets and small claims. There will always be handled at the existing court locations. The "citizen" defendant in a criminal case is transported by police officer, convenience in terms of travel distance is not a matter of concern to him. However, citizen witnesses will still have available all existing courts.



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