

South High Charts Pioneer Course in Science Research

(Editor's Note: Winding up our current series of articles on what is being taught in the high school classrooms of Torrance is a two-part story on science curriculum. Last week's article told how it was possible for students to complete college-level work in high school. Today's story deals with a specific course which has been pioneered at South High School — science research.)

BY RONNIE SAUNDERS

Aimed at gifted upper-classmen with a bent for science, the science research honors course at South High offers students opportunity to conduct individual research within an academic framework while in high school.

Classes are kept down to 15 students. During the course of the school year each student investigates his particular area of the class project and prepares a thesis which he presents orally before his classmates.

A college-level approach is followed. Under the direction of Richard Davis, teacher, students this year prepared papers and delivered abstracts concerned with math-science problems and college physics. Next year's class may go into the field of nuclear physics, according to Haig Marshlian, vice principal in charge of curriculum. Interest has been expressed in the study of radioactivity.

Other fields of endeavor have included chemistry, biology, geology, astronomy and electronics.

PROGRAM'S PURPOSES

Purpose of the research program, Marshlian explained, is to plant the seeds of investigating original ideas early—in hopes of motivating persons with the potential to make worthwhile contributions to math and science on a professional level.

Upon completing the sci-

ence research program, graduates take advance placement exams when they enroll in college, and often they enter graduate level work in their freshman year. One such student, now in his sophomore year at USC, is in charge of programming a physics course being taught here.

In addition to probing into the experiential, students in science research class have enrolled in the early bird television correspondence course on atomic age physics and have picked up college credit for that simultaneously with credit for their classroom performance.

To gain further knowledge and experience, students in the science research program have visited industrial plants such as Hughes, STL and Magnavox.

Projects the students have researched have dealt with cancer, micro-waves, computers and wind-tunnels.

8 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

What are the specific objectives of the course? As set down by the Torrance Unified School District, they are eightfold:

1. To broaden the student's concepts and strengthen their backgrounds of scientific knowledge.
2. To further develop the students' ability to do independent research work.
3. To teach the student how to use the varied resources of scientific research.
4. To develop the individual's ability to think objectively and critically.
5. To allow each student to progress in science as rapidly as possible.
6. To provide opportunities for students of advanced ability to participate personally in effective science research learning experience.
7. To help students acquire the knowledge of science research methods, procedures, and attitudes necessary to meet the unique requirements of successful college work.
8. To better prepare college bound students to meet the more demanding and increasingly vigorous work to be encountered.

To those who see each Russian achievement in the space race as another reason for asking the worn-out question — "Are we gearing our youngsters properly to take their place in this atomic era?" — we would counter — just look at the facts. They speak for themselves.

RESEARCH BY VA

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GABLE HOUSE BOWL
22501 Hawthorne Blvd.
Torrance
FR 8-2265

Ed Babie Holds Office In Circle K

Elected lieutenant-governor of California's Circle K organization, Ed Babie, El Camino College freshman, attended the president's council Sunday.

Babie was elected to his office at the California-Hawaii-Nevada meeting held April 5 to 7 at Huntington Sheraton Hotel. His district covers the greater Southern California area, UCLA to Ontario, and Fullerton to Long Beach. Twenty-two clubs are represented in his district.

Duties include assisting the governor, organizing service projects, attending division meetings, spreading good will among other clubs, chartering parties and accepting invitations to speak at Kiwanis clubs.

One of Circle K's present local projects is a charity drive. Each of the clubs raises money by various means.

Circle K is already planning leadership seminars for the fall semester.

Circle K's activities broaden opportunities available to students through personal contact with business and professional leaders. It provides a means for the development of initiative and leadership among students not to be found in the regular curriculum.

Babie is a business administration major at El Camino. He plans to attend UCLA School of Business upon graduation.

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PERFECT FOR SALADS
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U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF

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HALF HAMS
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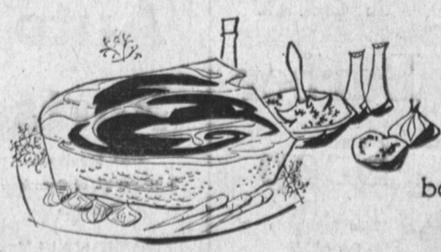
LUER OR FARMER JOHN HAM
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