

Movie review

# Confusion of flashbacks evident in 'Pawnbroker'

by Lorna Viken

Flashbacks provide the momentum in *The Pawnbroker*, a story of a Jewish man who lives with the memory of Nazi Germany in New York's Harlem.

In "The Pawnbroker" Rod Steiger effectively portrays the main character, whose emotions were ripped from him when the Nazis prostituted his wife and murdered his children 25 years ago.

Although he lives with the family of his late wife's sister and operates a busy Harlem pawnshop, Sol Nazerman is one of the "walking dead," his mind isolated from present society. His honor was destroyed in a concentration camp when he survived and the rest of his family perished.

He says he doesn't believe in God or mankind, yet he can't stop believing in his God to begin disbelieving. Faith is all he has left simply because that is what marks him.

Incidents cause him to reflect upon his life prior to and during his existence in the Nazi concentration camp. Parallels between the forced life of Nazi Germany and the chosen way of life in Harlem are brought to the screen.

Writer Edward Wallent and Director Sidney Lement emphasize apathy, immorality, hatred, madness and loneliness in society twenty-five years ago and today.

Photographic wizardry contributes to the complexity of the storyline and the apprehension of the audience. Spotlights are on the events and characters themselves in the black and white picture. However, distractions by the muddled sequence of scenes focus more attention on emotions and the abstract issues.

Brock Peters plays the Harlem boss using the pawnbroker's shop as a front for his illicit and illegal activities. Jamie Sanchez is Ortiz, Nazerman's employee and closest associate. Each character acts out his role as a Harlem citizen and as a Nazi detriment.

## Orchestra chosen to visit Montana to perform at national conference

The orchestra, under the direction of Eugene Kaza, has been selected to perform at the Twentieth Biennial convention of the Northwest division of the Music Educators national conference in Missoula, Montana.

Selected from 75 applicants, the orchestra is one of six to perform at the conference. All of the 75 orchestras to perform were judged from a tape recording of one of their concerts.

The selection performed at the Parent-Teacher Association Back-to-School night in October was recorded and sent in to be judged.

For the conference in March the entire orchestra has to be in

Montana. "From now on the money received from concerts will go into the Orchestra-to-Missoula fund," stated Mr. Kaza. They expect to take the train.

## Students compare fish sealed in jars for biology class

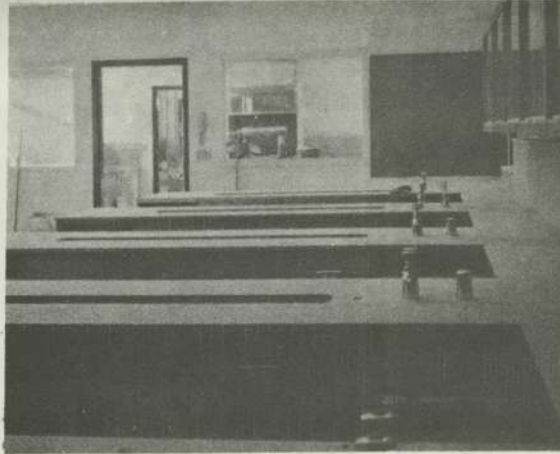
A tightly covered jar containing water, seaweed, some sand, a few snails, and a lone goldfish. Life imprisonment or solitary punishment?

No! On November 4, students in Mrs. Mary Mott's biology class sealed two goldfish in separate jars to observe a living example of ecology—the relationship between organisms and their environment.

A world in which organisms can exist alone is termed a microcosm. Here, plants provide food and oxygen for the fish which in turn gives off carbon dioxide to the plants. The snails survive on organic wastes, thus keeping the water clear.

After both jars had been sealed for a week, one was opened and left to be compared to the other jar. Evaporation of water and cloudiness were the only differences noted in the opened jar.

The experiment has been continued for a total of five weeks and will be left until after the holidays. When asked about the project, Mrs. Mott commented, "I think something students can watch day to day is more effective than something they can see only once."



Science wing use nears . . .  
By December 23 construction of the new

science wing will be completed. Lab facilities in the central laboratory will accommodate 48 students.

## Cafeteria food cost rises after holiday

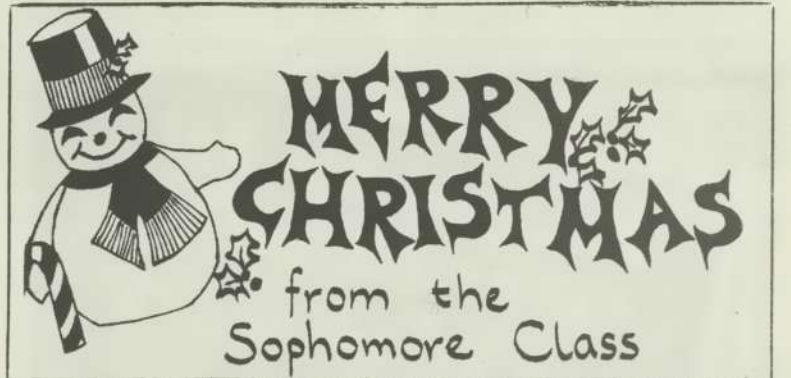
Starting after the holiday season students can expect a rise in cafeteria prices due to rising costs of food and other expenses.

Recently passed by the school board, the new resolution states that "increases in the cost of food, labor, and other expenses in the school cafeterias, as well as a reduction of available surplus commodities, necessitate increases in the prices charged for meals and certain food items."

The following prices will be effective starting January 3:

	Old	New Increase	Prices
Student plate lunch	.05c	.40c	
Adult plate lunch	...10c	.50c	
Pie, per piece	.....05c	.15c	
Crab Louie	.....05c	.30c	
Sandwiches (except peanut butter)	.....05c	.20c	
Hot foods (casserole dishes with meat)	...05c	Various	

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