

March 8-14, 1970

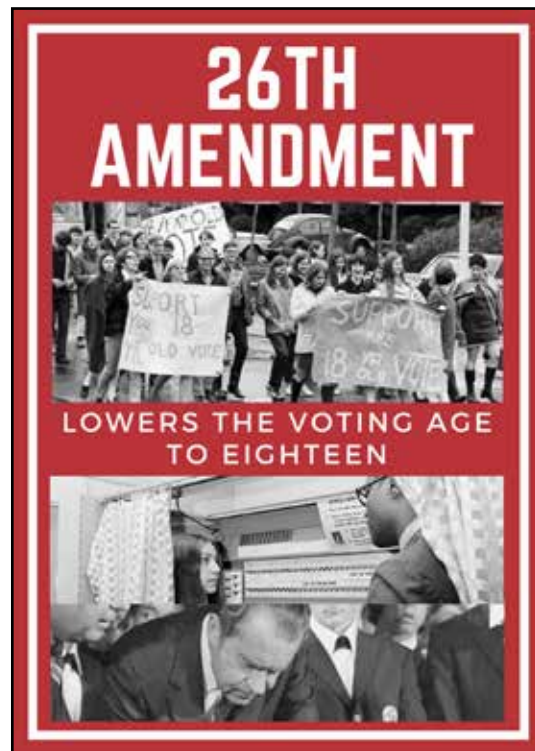
By Tom Bodle

As the second week of March, 1970 arrived, all things turned academic. It was the end of the third quarter. Students were preparing for quarter finals and end of term assignments. Whether it was students cramming for Mr. Tim Robertson's Calc II test or completing a Physics experiment for Mr. Hank Wroblewski, it was crunch time to finish off the third term. Mr. Jerry Lennon always took away some of the tension before his exams as he quipped, "Remember, I am the tester and you are the testees, now begin!"

Interfering with our minds from studying was the "hot topic" in the nation, the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Yes, beyond Mr. John Tigue's American Government class, something pertinent to our lives piqued our interest. Throughout the 1960's young activists had clamored for a direct voice in the political process. Voting age was 21. As concerns about the Vietnam War, the draft and social issues increased, many pushed for a constitutional amendment granting those 18 and older the right to vote. "Old enough to fight...Old enough to vote" was the mantra of the movement. By the turn of the decade, Congress had passed and the states had ratified the 26th amendment giving 18 year olds the right to vote. President Richard Nixon signed the law into effect on March 12, 1970. As soon to be high school graduates, we were also soon to be voters.

In entertainment, the music scene celebrated the 12th annual Grammy Awards. Notable winners were: Record of the year "Aquarius" by the Fifth Dimension; Pop Female artist Peggy Lee for "Is That All There Is?"; Pop Male vocalist Harry Nilsson for "Everybody's Talkin' At Me"; and Best New Group: Crosby, Stills & Nash.

In professional sports, Major League Baseball was in the midst of spring training. The Cleveland Indians trained at Hi Corbett field in Tucson, Arizona. Manager Alvin Dark hoped to turn around the last place misfortunes of the 1969 season. Allstar "Sudden"





Sam McDowell was welcomed back as the anchor of the Tribe's pitching staff. It was hoped that outfielder Roy "Super Easy" Foster and young talents, catcher Ray Fosse and first baseman Tony Horton, could blast Cleveland out of the cellar. Once again it was the "next year" that the Indians faithful awaited.

In the hallowed halls of St. Joe, the Indoor Track team was preparing for its encounter with state runner-up Glenville. In previous competitions, the team had proven strong in the field and distance events. Competing on the Tarblooders' track, Chuck Moore won his third straight shot put and John Schmidt did the same in the mile. Glenville's speed in the sprints, however, was the discerning factor. The Viking thinclads fell to the Tarblooders 53-34.

At week's end "Funny Girl" would complete its six performance run. Local newspapers highly acclaimed the production, noting the talent of the student performers, the lavish costuming and the overall high quality for a high school production. Overwhelmingly audiences agreed as an estimated 10,000 spectators attended the six showings before the last solo of "People" and the last curtain call was made on March 14th.

A lasting tribute to the musical was created by St. Joe's Film Arts Class. Kesty Kestivicus, Pat O'Dea, John O'Hara, John Ranally and Neil McCormick chose a film project which would give an in depth look at the musical's production. During the dress rehearsal, a camera was set up at mid court to capture the major scenes. Backstage footage was taken of actors and crew preparing for their scenes. Thirdly, filming of the stage from the vantage point of the orchestra pit was done. The team, as part of the project, would edit, compile and format their presentation for class and as a visual testimony to the 1970 musical.

