



## Former Springer Student Is Top Tennithon Ace

USING THE stick-to-it tenacity learned in the Springer classroom, MARK PFAU, '83, played tennis for 14 hours at the Camargo Club and raised more than \$2,500 for Children's Hospital, during the Tennithon sponsored by Kindervelt in February. More than 900 children played tennis for 14 hours at tennis clubs around the city for Children's Hospital Medical Center. As top earner in the fundraising event, Mark also earned an all-day and overnight visit to the Bengals' training camp at Wilmington and a week at one of the

Bollettieri Tennis Camps, including transportation and \$75 spending money. He will have a choice of camps in Florida, Massachusetts, or Wisconsin. In addition, Mark has earned a slot as honorary water boy at the ATPs. Sponsors recruited by the Tennis players pledge money per hour played.

**Goal: \$100,000**

**To Date: \$78,000**

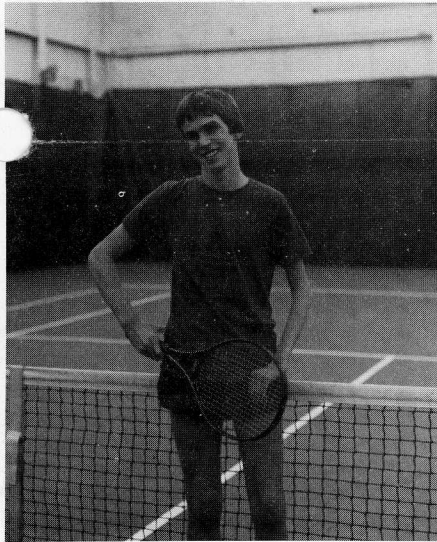
**Need: \$22,000**

**Can we do it?**

**Without a doubt!**

Springer needs your help to make this goal by June 30. Many of you may question the need for an annual operating fund drive. Maybe you've even asked yourselves the question: "Why doesn't that school just raise the tuition to cover all their costs?" Sounds like a logical and simple solution. Ah, that it were that simple! Special education is costly, because of the number of skilled teachers and the variety of special services our children require. That's what makes us unique at Springer, because we provide those special services, such as speech and language, adaptive physical education, and psychotherapy, within the normal school and learning environment.

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Mark Pfau

## New Director Named to Head Springer

DR. NORITA APLIN, Springer's principal for the past two years, has been named by the Trustees as Executive Director of the Springer Educational Foundation, effective July 1. In announcing the appointment, WILLIAM SCHNEEBECK, president of Springer's Board of Trustees, pointed out that "Mrs. Aplin brings to this position an excellent background, with a doctorate in educational administration and various teaching and administrative experiences in public schools."

Mrs. Aplin expressed her pleasure at having "been chosen by Sr. Marianne and the Board to lead Springer in its continued mission." The past leadership, she said, "has set a standard that I will work to maintain." This example, Mrs. Aplin continued, "is an inspiration, as is the widespread support Springer receives from the community."

## Foundation Funds Project

A \$5,000 GRANT to Springer from the Greater Cincinnati Foundation was announced in March. The grant will support additional playground equipment and a video camera and accessories. The school is looking forward to the addition of a "spinning wheel" to the playground and to the opportunity of seeing ourselves as others see us, when the video camera becomes available through this generous grant.

## We're Coming Up Magnolias

"SECOND TIME AROUND - It's Magnolia Time" at Springer on May 11. The evening will feature elegant dining and exciting silent and oral auctions. An added attraction this year is the raffle, offering three outstanding prizes: a shopping spree at Saks Fifth Avenue, a Hilton Head condo vacation plus \$300, and a five-piece set of American Tourister luggage.

The auction items are exciting as well: a seven-day cruise on the Mississippi Queen, condo vacations, Reds Box with dinner for 16, a hot air balloon ride, jewelry, a Mexican fiesta dinner for 40, and many other donated gifts.

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## Sr. Marianne, Enquirer Woman of the Year

IT WAS ALMOST a foregone conclusion. Once the information was given to the judges at the Enquirer, we knew that they would choose Sister Marianne as one of the ten Women of the Year. The range of her services to the community through membership on the Boards of Mt. St. Joseph College, Good Samaritan Hospital, and Comprehensive Community Child Care, when combined with her 16 years of work at Springer, created an impressive nomination. Sister Marianne began as a teacher with Springer and then became liaison educator, principal, and currently executive director. Her influence upon Springer is a basic and permanent part of the program.

Although personal circumstances prevented her from attending the Enquirer luncheon at the Hyatt Regency on February 8, the students at Springer had their own award ceremony, on March 1, at which each class expressed its impressions of and appreciation for the benefits they received from Sister Marianne and from Springer. As a six-year old stated, "I knew right away that she loved me."



## Director's Corner

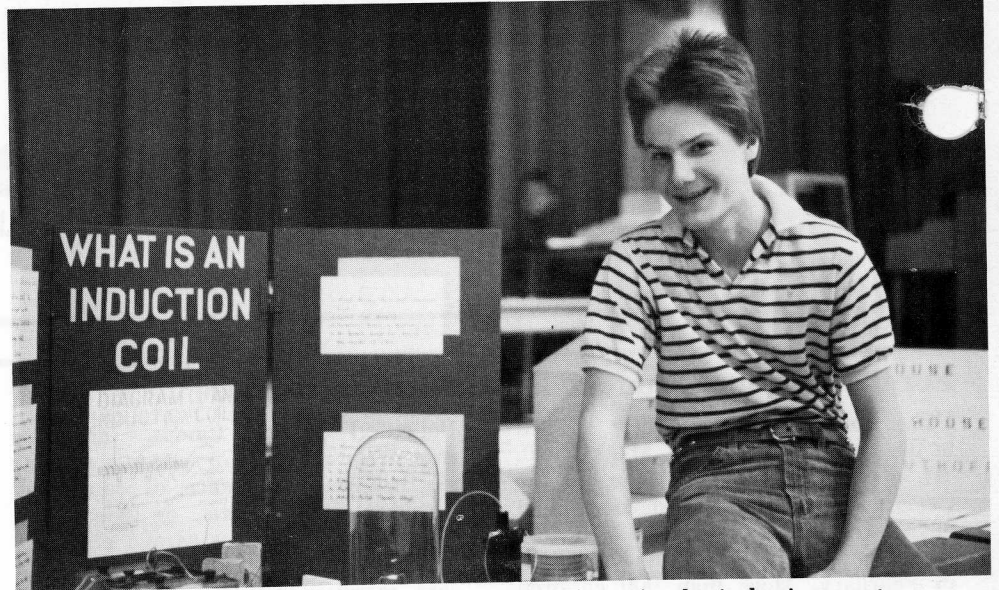
WHERE HAS THE time gone? The date was 1969. My how it seems like only yesterday! I remember receiving a phone call early in the morning from my superior telling me that they would like me to go to the "Springer Institute" that following September. Of course, not being a native Cincinnatian, I at first wondered, "where and what is Springer Institute?" My superior kindly informed me that Springer Institute was on Mt. Adams and it was a school for children who had a variety of educational and social needs. I hesitated for a moment, knowing of course that the decision had already been made for me, and so I graciously accepted this assignment. Little did I know that the "yes" response would lead to a 16-year commitment.

Springer was no different from many other schools then, struggling for its existence amid change and challenges. With the blessings of the Archdiocese, Springer became a non-profit, non-sectarian school for children with learning disabilities, henceforth to be known as the Springer Educational Foundation. A five-year relationship, from 1970-75, existed between Springer and the Hamilton County Board of Education. The staff and administration were provided by Springer, and the classroom funding was provided by the County, with student referrals coming from both agencies. In 1975 a joint decision was made to separate, and Springer, as a private school, again sought and received accreditation from the State as a private, non-graded school.

In 1973, Springer moved to a new location on Summit Road, filling that school to its capacity in 1979, with 80 students. In 1981, the Community said we still needed more room. We responded by purchasing our present campus on Madison Road.

I have been blessed during my tenure at Springer to have been touched by so many, many students, parents, staff, and trustees. The accomplishments that have been achieved at Springer are not achievements realized by one person, but rather by everyone who has in any way participated in the continuance of this institution.

When I began to entertain the idea that it might be time to leave, I spent some time walking through the halls,



*Scott Harvey's physical science entry earned a first place award, as he explained electro-magnetic induction.*



*Gene Saenger and volcano.*

listening to the excited voices as learning was taking place, and walking around the school grounds knowing that in just a little over four years, many changes had already occurred. I knew then that my work had been completed. It was time to let someone else accept the challenges that will undoubtedly lie ahead.

My decision has been made easier by the fact that we are blessed with a truly competent and dedicated educator and administrator in our principal, Dr. Norita Aplin. Her administrative and educational leadership will assure the continuance of our philosophy and mission and Springer's leadership role as a school dedicated to excellence in education.

My commitment to Springer does not end on June 30. It continues as I take my place as a trustee and continue to

## Science is for Doing

ON MARCH 12, Springer's gym was transformed by students into an exciting world of science. The occasion was the annual Science Fair, directed this year by MS. BARBER, MRS. GROENE, MS. NAGEL, and MRS. RHATIGAN. The variety and ingenuity of the display was impressive, and judges had a hard time deciding which were most deserving of honors. Outstanding entries were chosen in primary, intermediate, and upper school division for life science and physical science categories.

The following awards were made. *Physical Science.* SCOTT HARVEY, JEFF PUTHOFF and JIM SCHRIMPF, and CHAR-

dedicate myself to assure a thriving and challenging institution where children can search out and reach for their dreams — to seek that which they thought was unreachable.

*Sr. Marianne*

## Orton Society Meeting Held at Springer

SPRINGER WAS HOST to the Ohio Valley branch of the Orton Dyslexia Society on March 30, when the Society joined with the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities to present a program on Post-Secondary Opportunities for Dyslexic and Learning Disabled Students.

The six hour program included presentations by Harriet W. Sheridan, Dean of Brown University and Cornelius H. Bull, Executive Director of the Center for Interim Studies.



Corey Buck explains the universe.

LIE DEHNE and DREW SCHIMPF (Upper School); JOHN FRANK, JAMIE AULTZ, and JAY DORNHEGGEN and COREY BUCK (Intermediate Department); BOBBY ENDORF, DREW LICHTENBERG, and J. G. HAMILTON and DAVID BLAU (Primary). *Life Science*. MAUREEN STROGAN, MATT RYDER and DAN WHITT, and JIM DUGGAN and KEVIN O'BRIEN (Upper School); ROBBY KRAMER and TOM HOLLAND (Intermediate Department); JAMIE HAYWARD, BRIAN HEIBERT, and KIPPER KUMMERLE (Primary). *General Science*. MIKE BERNARDINO, JOHN PLAGGE and STEVE NOWAK, and THURSTON HELTON and GARY BURNSIDE (Upper School).

## What After Springer?

NOW WHAT? For those students about to move on from Springer to other schools, *What After Springer?* is an attempt to provide information that will help with the transition to a new environment with new challenges. *What After Springer?* is organized by NANCY IKE, liaison educator, and this year was held on March 5. Each year, former students are chosen to be on the program for *What After Springer?*, and this year's panel ranged from a third grader to a college graduate. Panel members were ROSS FRESHWATER, '83, seventh grader at Bethany School; JULIE GIRTEN, '72, who is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and a certified learning disabilities tutor at Oak Hills High School; ERIK HEIDT, '80, currently a 9th grader at Purcell-Marian High School, and MARGARET

## Successful Sale

A GIANT FLEA MARKET at Springer on March 16 was declared a success by Joyce Murray, a.k.a. Bargain Betty, as she left the building laden with assorted valuable finds. Offering items collected from parents and friends during the past several months, the Flea Market committee, chaired by BONNIE PLAGGE and CAROL LICHTENBERG, has earned approximately \$750.

MEYER, '84, a third grader at St. Antoninus School.

A special attraction this year was the dramatic production, *Green Eggs and Ham*, an improvisation based on the book by Dr. Seuss and directed by KURTZIE GONZALEZ, with much help from fellow library volunteer BARBARA FREY and teachers CAROL GUSWEILER and KAREN KUFLEWSKI. JOYCE MURRAY filled the post of stage crew. The cast included DAVID BLAU, DAVID ELMA, BRYAN FINN, BARB FREY, JOHN HAMILTON, KIP KUMMERLE, DREW LICHTENBERG, CHRIS MICELI, JEFFREY REICHARD, CARRIE RUNCK, MIKE WENKER, and TOM WINKLER.



## Principal's Corner

UPDATE ON RESEARCH: Dr. Nancy Craighead has completed her first research project with Springer students. In this project, Dr. Craighead, of the University of Cincinnati, looked at the ease and accuracy with which learning disabled students handled figurative language. When they read such phrases as "hot under the collar," do they understand the concept of anger, or do they think of body temperature? She compared our students' responses with those of non-learning-disabled and found good news and bad. The good news was that the students eventually gain understanding of these uses of language. The bad was that it takes them two to four years longer than the average learner, which means that they deal with confusions in print and conversation.

Based upon this research, Dr. Craighead is going to pursue the topic further by researching such questions as: 'Do simple sentences make comprehension easier than compound sentences?'; 'Are there other aspects of language which hinder or promote comprehension?' Research of this nature is of great value in diagnosing and instructing learning disabled children.

## Springer Volunteer Week Is April 22 - 28

THIS IS THE TIME when Springer students and staff show their appreciation for all the hours the volunteers give to the school. Springer's volunteers work countless hours helping out in classrooms, the library, the office, and wherever they may be needed. At the end of the year, the Springer Parent Association will honor the volunteers and staff at a luncheon.

## Bike Hike

APRIL 28. Circle that date on your calendar and plan to join the Springer bikathon on the Bike Trail at Lunken Airport. TOM and LYNN SAUL and CAESAR and BETTY ELMA are in charge of arrangements. A rain date of May 5 has been scheduled. All present and former students and parents are invited to attend. Prizes are awarded to current students who get the most sponsors or raise the most money. Parents and staff join the students, making this day lots of fun. Don't ride or don't have a bike? Come anyway, as there will be some staff members walking the 6.2-mile trail.

Doctors Donald Weber and Lenora Ganschow from Miami University have begun their research, which will analyze discrete parts of students' tests by computer analysis for patterns and profiles. The long-term goal of this research is that of providing information that will lead to explicit teaching strategies.

Springer is an excellent environment in which to conduct research, as all students in the school have been diagnosed as learning disabled, thus providing what researchers call a pure population. We want to engage in research activities with care, and when projects can benefit us as well as other children, we welcome the opportunity.

We are currently using others' research this year in our Multipass project. This strategy, developed by Dr. Donald Deshler at the University of Kansas, is a learning strategy that enables students to gain the essential information from reading assignments without reading every word. Students with reading problems often lose the meaning of what they are reading because they come upon too many words that they don't know. Multipass gives them a strategy to bypass that problem. Fifteen of our upper school children are enrolled in the project. We will evaluate it at the end of the year, but at this point it appears to have benefited most of the participants.

Our involvement in continuing research helps us learn more about our children's needs and points the way to more effective teaching.

Norita Aplin

## Congratulations

MARILYN GALVIN, master teacher at Springer, was awarded a grant by The Greater Cincinnati Foundation to attend the Ohio Writing Project at Miami University this summer. The teachers selected for awards will be honored by Scripps-Howard and the Cincinnati Post, April 30 at a dinner at the Westin Hotel.

## It's Nice to be Appreciated

SPRINGER FACULTY and staff are very important people every day. So, on February 27, Springer Parents Association made special note of this, with Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day. Each teacher and staff member received a flower, and luncheon was provided by parents. While teachers enjoyed their lunch, parents entertained the students.

## Magnolias continued from page 1

Bill Wilson, auctioneer, will demonstrate his "chatter" talent as he obtains bids for the oral auction.

MRS. MICHAEL CLAUDER and MRS. DAVID TONDOW, chairing the event, have been making preparations, along with committee chairpersons: MRS. ROBERT REGALBUTO, dinner; MRS. ROBERT CONNERS, decorations; MRS. JOSEPH KROPP and MRS. WILLIAM LICHTENBURG, invitations; MRS. STUART HAMILTON, refreshments; MRS. PAUL WENKER, raffle; MRS. RAYMOND BABB and MRS. EUGENE SAENGER, gifts. Coordinating the efforts is Joyce Murray, Development Office.

Honorary chairmen are DR. and MRS. LUIS GONZALEZ and MR. and MRS. BRUCE TITTEL, who helped raise over \$20,000 at last year's "Magnolia" event.

Invitations were mailed early in April. The cost is \$25 per person. Anyone who did not receive an invitation may obtain one by calling Springer, 871-6080.

## Can We? continued from page 1

Springer parents carry the greatest portion of their children's tuition (\$5,325), but in addition, there is an unmet cost of \$1,100 for each student. This year, \$42,000 of expected revenues have been earmarked for scholarships. Sixteen percent of our students need scholarship aid.

Additionally highly trained, dedicated staff and faculty need salaries commensurate with their experience. As a private school, Springer cannot expect to compete with its public counterparts, nevertheless it must continually attempt to raise salary levels, in order to assure retaining its excellent staff.

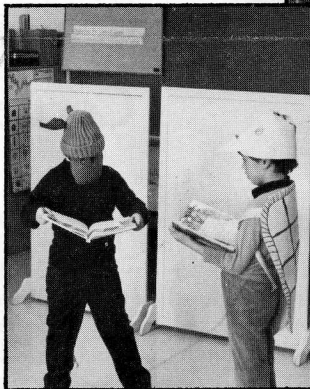
Springer occupies an important place in the Cincinnati Community. To remain strong and useful, it must come back to you for your continued help. The goal is \$100,000.

## Spring-er Scene

Sister Marianne was the subject and object of the celebration of Springer's (and Cincinnati's) Woman of the year (see page 1).



Ceramicist Diane Fishbein helps students make plaques that will decorate Springer's lunchroom. Mrs. Fishbein was Artist in Residence this Spring through a grant from the Ohio Arts Council.



"Turtle and Rabbit," a play presented for parents and faculty by Room 206, featured the following cast: Turtle, Earl Phenix; Rabbit, Shannon Treuheit; Duck, Brian Heibert; Horse, Jenny Diesel; Dog, Janos Clark; Cat, Scott Harris; and Fly, Max Rehring. Announcer was Adam Hyland.

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