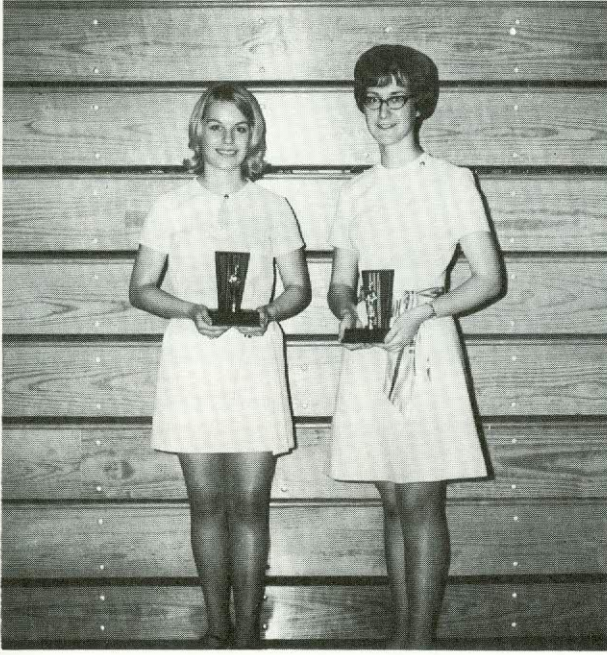


# Commencement: the beginning



Valedictorian for 1969-70 was Donna Fordice. Diane Evans was Salutatorian. They ranked highest in their class.

Friday, May 22, 1970, North Putnam held its first awards day program. This program was held to honor those students who had excelled in extracurricular activities and academic subjects.

Many seniors also received well-deserved scholarships to various colleges throughout the state.

Nervous seniors dressed in white with a cover of "caps and gowns" filed somewhat hesitantly into the gymnasium May 24, 1970 for perhaps one of the never-to-be-forgotten moments of their lives.

The Valedictorian from this 102 member class was Donna Fordice. Diane Evans was the Salutatorian. These two students exemplified the senior class motto: "Knowledge is power; power is success."

Although Commencement was usually thought of as the end of a way of life, the word "commencement" actually means a beginning. These 102 students were truly beginning the search for a life in the world outside the academic classroom.



Mr. Thistlewaite, senior class sponsor, inspected the "troops" during Commencement rehearsal for the seniors.



Senior winners of college scholarships received recognition during Awards Day. Due to academic excellence these students deserved applause.

