

Plenty to Remember in 1992-'93

News/Politics

The 1992 elections brought new people to government, including Bill Clinton who defeated incumbent president George Bush and Texas billionaire Ross Perot. Clinton, the first "baby boomer" president, won despite getting less than fifty percent of the total vote. Indiana election winners were: Dan Coats (U.S. Senate), Evan Bayh (governor), John Myers (U.S. Representative), and Susan Crosby (state representative).

Young people got involved in the campaigns. The MTV cable channel sponsored a nation-wide "Rock the Vote" campaign to get young voters to turn out. At North Putnam, several seniors worked at polling places.

Other major news events during the year included: a civil war in the former Yugoslavia, UN peacekeeping efforts to feed starving people in Somalia, the 500th anniversary of Columbus' journey to America, and political debates over taxes, family values, and gays in the military.



Kelli Marksberry, Lora Rossok, Debbie Flint, Jennifer Evans, and Julie Parent do their patriotic duty to assist at the voting site at North Putnam Junior-Senior High School.

Sports

The American Olympic basketball team, otherwise known as the "Dream Team," won the gold medal easily in Barcelona, Spain. The team included Magic Johnson, Larry Bird, Michael Jordan and other NBA stars. Bird and Johnson both retired following the Olympics. Others calling it quits in the world of sports were: Richard Petty, Rick Mears, A.J. Foyt, and Mike Singletary.

While some retired, others got rich. Players such as Barry Bonds of the Pittsburgh Pirates, Charles Barkley of the Phoenix Suns, and Steve Young of the San Francisco 49'ers won the MVP award of their respective sports and signed big contracts. The best teams were: Toronto (baseball), Dallas (football), and Chicago (basketball).

Fashion

The grunge look was in. Grunge referred to a general attitude that revealed itself through hairstyles, clothes, and way of communicating. Young people chose this alternative way of dressing after watching MTV.

If you didn't dress with grunge, you might have tried wearing bell-bottom jeans and ruffled shirt sleeves. This throwback to the 1960s didn't catch on too much because it was daring, and it was also expensive. Some did don the garb, though.

It was not uncommon to see guys or girls walk down the halls of North Putnam with earrings or nose rings. This was fashionable as were chains and leather.

Guy's hair styles were much shorter in general. At North Putnam a few guys thought it would be cool to have no hair, so they went bald. Soon, this became an unexplainable trend.

Nationwide, people took their cue from the media and began wearing Malcolm X hats because of the movie by that name. "Just do it" was a motto of Nike shoes that found its way onto shirts and jackets.



By the end of May, the new middle school structure had begun to take shape.

Entertainment

Top TV shows during the year included: Seinfeld, Home Improvement, Beverly Hills 90210, The Simpsons, and 60 Minutes. Perennial favorite Cheers ended after over 200 episodes. The final show was the second highest rated show ever on TV.

In Movies, "Unforgiven" starring Clint Eastwood and Gene Hackman won the Best Picture award. Not to be forgotten was Disney's "Aladdin". It was the highest grossing animated film in history.

Popular singers included Boys II Men, Jon Secada, Michael Bolton, Whitney Houston, and Bon Jovi.

The battle of the late night talk shows heated up and ended with NBC's David Letterman switching to CBS for 30 million dollars.

Superman died in 1993. However, the writers of DC Comics brought him back to life after some minor adjustments to his appearance.