

use of a film chain, an especially constructed projector. If you do not have such expensive equipment, you can still videotape pre-filmed material by projecting it on a white poster board or a translucent shower curtain which has been recycled as a rear screen projection system.

If you have a silent film, or a film whose sound track is of little importance, show the film on a projector with a variable speed control. Most projectors run at 24 frames per second, and the television camera scans at 30 frames per second, so there is a lag that must be compensated for; otherwise, you will get horizontal lines on the finished video product. After you have transferred the film or slides to videotape, you can add your own soundtrack. It is interesting to change the mood or idea of the film by experimenting with different sound tracks.

Finally, there is the matter of publicity. We use hand-made posters placed throughout the school, the public address system, and our own home-made internal radio system.

### SOME POSSIBILITIES

While the content, format, frequency, and style of your video magazine will properly reflect your own particular school and interests, here are some suggestions to help get you started:

1) People observation: visual documentation of the daily activities of a school personality, with his or her permission. (You will find that people are usually suspicious of the hidden camera approach and the invasion of privacy.) "A Day in the Life of. . ."

2) A special report on the senses: what it's like to be blind, or deaf, etc. Try walking around the school blindfolded for a couple of hours. Your adventures can be videotaped. You will need a guide for this exercise, for safety's sake.

3) Make a short 8mm. or 16mm. film about hands, noses, walking, etc. Add an appropriate sound track, and transfer the final results to videotape.

4) Prepare a slide/sound essay on fashions, drug abuse, student rights, etc.

5) Update and revise a radio play for television.

6) Create television commercials for the school store, the yearbook, etc.

7) Select one of your favorite poems, short stories, or songs, and dramatize it for television.

8) Using an 8mm. or 16mm. camera with a close-up lens, film the panels of a re-arranged comic strip. Write a new dialogue, make a videotape of the film, using a voice-overlay to add the fresh dialogue.

9) Prepare a series of short video studies of poster art, graffiti, or editorial cartoons. Add appropriate sound.

10) Prepare a video map of your neighborhood, or the school district.

11) Prepare a newscast, mixing local, state, and national news, by reviewing the parts of a typical

network program: interviews, commercials, editorials, weather, sports, reviews, on-the-spot reports, etc. Sort out differences between hard news and feature reporting. Prepare such props as weather maps, lists of football scores, etc.

12) Prepare a quiz or game show, and videotape it.

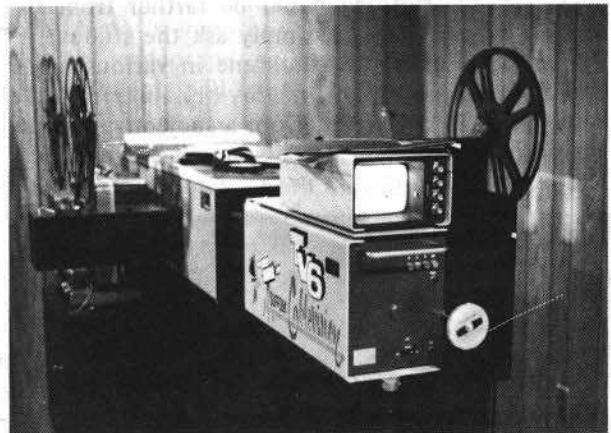
13) Make a video collage. Working in small groups, make 30-second collages. Each collage should consist of no less than ten different shots



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on a related topic: student dress, protest, drug abuse, etc. Possible sources for video collages are off-the-air recordings, posters, road signs, bumper stickers, role-playing situations, and real life.

14) Video feedback art: for this exercise, you need a television camera (half-inch portable), a



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videotape recording deck, and a television monitor. Connect the tape recorder to the monitor via the RF adapter. Turn the camera upside down. Aim the camera (which is connected to the tape recorder by the camera cable) into the television monitor screen. Adjust the monitor to high contrast. Move the camera to a distance of about 3 feet from the monitor. In a situation analogous to sound feedback, a number of abstract patterns will begin to form. By slowly moving the zoom lens and changing the F-stop, the abstract patterns will grow and change. Practice leads to control of the pat-