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structure of the program. We knew our purpose was not to train a few students to be media experts but rather to make video accessible to a large number of students and let them become familiar with its possibilities, so that they could use it creatively both in and out of the classroom.

Open Video Workshop

One fact that has gradually emerged is that there is not as much to teach about video as there is to learn. Or to put it another way, learning for the most part is a self-discovering process. On the basis of this we have evolved an open learning situation, known as the Video Workshop. This is held twice a week for both day and night students.

The Workshop is open to all 250 students in TSP. There are no rules about attendance, and no signing up in advance – you just come if you want to, and you work at your own pace. The workshop sessions are held in a multi-purpose studio, which also serves as a rather makeshift student lounge and activity center. Some students attend the workshop because they want to use video in their projects, others have no such plans but just want to see how it works, and some are drawn to it simply because they may have been meeting a friend in the lounge while the workshop was in progress. Equipment can be taken out for weekends and is returned for the workshop sessions.

In addition to giving students a chance to shoot, edit, mix, experiment, playback and trip over wires, the workshop provides a forum for exchanging ideas, developing project plans, getting critical input, and obtaining audience reaction to tapes.

Students have used video for a wide variety of projects, ranging from psychodrama to studies of different problems and issues within the city. Having a variety of video equipment has also attracted a lot of interesting people, who either want to see our tapes, show theirs, or use some of our equipment. Setting up informal reciprocal relationships with groups interested in video is something that is starting to happen. Arrangements with neighborhood schools, professional acting troupes, and other institutions engaged in higher education have given our students an opportunity to broaden the scope of their experience.

There's still a lot of work to be done, in overcoming a deep-seated resistance to hardware that seems to exist within many students and faculty members. There is still a lot of learning for us all to do, but with video that seems to be the name of the game.

Student-Centered ETV Broadcasting

ELLEN MILES

It's fortunate that there are many opportunities today for students to actually use videotape and learn about its possibilities. It's unfortunate that most of these experiences have been limited by the fact that when a tape is completed, there is no broadcast possibility.

That's changing! At WNVT - Channel 53, students in the Northern Virginia School Systems are being given the opportunity to produce their own television programs. The twenty minute shows will be aired several times each week during school program hours. A total of 24 productions are being fi-

nanced through the cooperative efforts of the nine participating school districts.

The participants for these programs are from 7th to 12th grade classes. Their objective is to appeal to a 5th - 8th grade language arts audience. A broad spectrum of topics are being considered for the programs. Some possible topics coming up are: ESP—Powers of the Mind as Communication; Non-Verbal Communication or Body Language; and two shows back to back on how to produce a one act play and, following it, a student produced one act play.