

He Couldn't Be Called a Big Man on Campus

Arthur H. Bremer was the kind of student who doesn't make much impression on teachers.

"As a teacher you remember the very good and the very bad students," said Paul V. Peterson, Bremer's economics teacher in the fall of 1968. "He fell in between. If he had caused trouble or been a really outgoing student, I might have remembered him more."

Bremer graduated from South Division High School in January, 1969 — 76th in a class of 161, according to school records. His only recorded activity was sophomore football. His coach, James F. Powers, now coaching in Sheboygan, said Bremer was a third string guard and fullback on the sophomore squad.

"He stuck out the season, unlike most of the boys who don't make the first two teams," Powers said. "He wasn't a quitter."

Would Sit Alone

"He was an introverted boy, didn't seem to have many friends. I would see him sitting alone in study hall occasionally. When you talked to him he would answer courteously, sometimes with a little half smile. You never knew what was going through his head."

He was given numerals for staying out for football all season. Powers said he came to all the practices and seemed to enjoy the game.

William J. Bartholomew, football coach at South, said he liked Bremer and felt sympathy for him because he seemed like a lonely, introverted boy.

But Bartholomew also said the boy was very competitive in sports and seemed to enjoy playing games. He recalled that Bremer had one friend, but he could not remember the friend's name.

Peterson, who left teaching in June, 1969 after 11 years, said he remembered Bremer as a very quiet boy, "very much alone. He did his written work and sort of sat there very quietly," Peterson

said.

Concerned About Grades

"The only instance in which he showed any emotion of any sort was during a discussion on socialism. It was the only time he ever reacted. He was strongly for the concept of socialism and kind of negative on the evils of capitalism.

"His normal mode was to come quietly into class, sit down, and if you said hello, he'd smile. His work was turned in, always satisfactorily. He seemed to be concerned about getting passing grades."

Neither he nor Mrs. Edna

Pffor, a mathematics teacher at South who had Bremer for two semesters of advanced math, could remember any students who were Bremer's friends.

Peterson said teachers usually remembered a few classmates their students were friends with.

"I tried to think of some kids he hung around with," Peterson said, "but I just couldn't come up with anybody."

Mrs. Pffor said he was not the "worst math student, but he wasn't any bright shining light. He did enough to pass the course."

She said he attended class regularly and did his homework but he never volunteered anything and a teach-

er had to "draw everything out of him." His conduct was "beyond reproach," she said.

Not a Troublemaker

"Outside of that, I can't remember who his friends were or anything. I just remember he wasn't a troublemaker."

School officials at Walker Junior High School, which Bremer attended before entering South Division, said he had a B minus average at the school, and that his grades in 9th grade were much better than those in 7th grade. His score on the Iowa Basic Skills achievement test was about one year ahead of his grade level. His IQ was listed

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as 106, which is about average.

Students who were in Bremer's class also remembered him as a loner and a quiet person.

"I never saw him with any one person. He always

seemed to be on his own," said Miss Doreen J. Dorff, who went through junior and senior high with him. "He was kind of strange — he was always grinning about something."

Ingo Coman, who also went through junior and senior high with Bremer, said Bremer often talked to himself.

He'd walk down the corridor, talking to himself, shaking his head and smiling to himself. He was just strange. I never saw him sitting or walking with anyone," said Coman.

Bremer enrolled in the Milwaukee Area Technical College in February, 1969, and took one daytime course in freshman composition. In the fall of 1969, he enrolled in 12 credits in general education, including English, psychology, American institutions. School records show that he withdrew within the first few weeks, with no reason given.

In the fall of 1970, he enrolled in the associate degree program in photography, a two year course, and completed 23 credits, all in photography. For the associate degree, about 40 credits in photography and 20 in liberal arts courses are required.

Elliott Schnackenberg, an instructor in photography at MATC and one of Bremer's teachers last year, described him as a quiet person, "who didn't say much and when spoken to said as little as necessary; he didn't usually hang around to participate in a conversation, if I was trying to get one going."

He said Bremer was a "very conservative, middle of the road person. He wasn't extreme in any way."

Schnackenberg did not recall what kind of photographer he was.

"By my not recalling, I would assume he was not exceptional."

Another teacher, James B. Johannes, dropped Bremer from a course in photographic lighting in the spring of 1971 because of poor attendance.

School officials said he had no discipline record at the school, which meant his conduct was acceptable. He was considered an average student, with generally good attendance.