



P. PERKA
SUPERVISOR

G. ASCOLESE

M. BASTA



J. KOLLMAR

G. KUREK

J. MASON

INSIDE THE ARENA THEATRE

It is the "other" theatre in the High School. No, not the Auditorium, the Arena Theatre. Chances are that you've been there: to view an English Department film among several classes, or to endure the English form of torture, the "Speech Unit."

The idea was born nearly ten years ago when Mr. Douglas Hooper and student members of the Stage Crew literally tore down some walls, added theatrical lighting and sound equipment, and converted Rooms 208, 210, and 211 into a working dramatic theatre. Members of the Drama Club inaugurated the Arena Theatre in 1981 with productions of "Impromptu" and Neil Simon's "Barefoot In The Park."

The name "Arena" Theatre came from the fact that it was a theatre-in-the-round, with the audience encircling the cast merely several feet away. At maximum capacity, only about eighty were seated for a performance.

Mr. Multer's Independent Theatre Group followed with productions of Neil Simon's "The Prisoner of Second Avenue," "Harvey," and "Deathtrap" in succeeding years. The Drama Club returned in 1986 with "Sorry, Wrong Number," and currently films the video production of "Society One" there this year.

Aside from actual productions, semester classes in fundamentals of acting, television production, and theatre lighting and technique are taught by Mr. Hooper in the Arena Theatre today.

