

Junior, Senior High Officers Chosen For Spring Semester

Again Sneed Low to Head Seniors; Billy Aris Selected By Juniors

CLASS LEADERS ELECTED

Sneed Low was re-elected to his office as president of the Senior high school to head the list of newly elected student government leaders. Others selected as officers of Senior High are Phyllis Perritt, vice-president; John Chambliss, secretary; and Doris Robbins, treasurer. They succeed Eddie Ryals, vice-president; Bill Loulouis, secretary; and Mary Lee Daughtridge, treasurer, who served during the last semester.

Heading the Junior high school organization are Billy Aris, president, Bill Gurganus, vice-president, Elsie Adams, secretary, and Jimmy Satterfield, treasurer. Retiring leaders include the president, Charles Rhinehardt, vice-president, Anne Bennett; secretary, John Daniels; and treasurer, Elizabeth Fant.

The senior class chose Nell Speight as president; Frank Williams, vice-president; Constance Sweeney, secretary; and John Perry, treasurer.

Again the juniors decided on Nelson O'Quinn, president for the fall term, to direct the activities of the class. Serving with him are Billy Young, vice-president; Jean Lewis, secretary; and Pete Strum, treasurer.

The boys came into their own in the tenth grade, after having let the girls "rule the roost" for the fall term. Tom Harris, Carroll Gardner, Jim Johnson, Johnny Daughtridge, filled in the order of their positions, are "the ones" now.

Those responsible for the guiding of the ninth grade for the rest of the school year are as follows: Zenobia Wheelers, president; Olin Perritt, vice-president; John Wilkins; secretary; and Jack Purvis, treasurer.

Betty Atkins came through victorious in the race for president of the freshman class. Nooky McGee, Janice Worsley, and Graham Williams were the other successful candidates. The elections committee of the student government organization tabulated the votes, and made known the results.

Mickie Bennett and Frances Daughtridge (Continued on page four)

Blackbird Staff Surveys Opinion Of School Paper

The journalism class recently conducted a survey to find out what opinion the students have of the "Blackbird." Each member of the class interviewed six students.

Decidedly the most popular feature of the paper is the Sports section. Editorials proved to be the least popular. A large majority said they did read the editorials and advertisements.

In stating whether they thought too much space was devoted to athletics, the answer was an overwhelming no. Nearly every student said his family read the paper. The "Gossip" and "Blackbird's Eyewitness" were the most popular columns.

Every student interviewed was asked to give brief suggestions for the improvement of the paper. Suggestions were to have less state news in the paper and more pictures.

Choric Speaking Class Will Recite At Meredith

Meredith College will be the scene of the next appearance of the Rocky Mount High school Choric Speaking Class when they appear there before the college student body. An invitation was received recently by Mr. Edson, director of the group, from Dr. J. B. Brewer of Meredith College to present a program of varied selections on February 23 at 12:30 A. M. Negotiations are now being made to give a performance at Needham Broughton high school in Raleigh, earlier in the day.

It has also been learned that the speech choir will perform again in Greenville, this time in a program to be given before the Greenville high school.

New selections are being rehearsed at the present by the department, including: Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Tennyson's "Bugle Song," "Crossing the Bar," and Poe's "The Bell."

RMHS PUPILS WRITE PLAYS

Tom Avera, Billy Rawls, and Reece Thomas Submit Original Dramas in Contest

Creative genius is on the loose! Following the custom of the past three years, the high school dramatic department has again entered the original play production contest sponsored by the University on North Carolina, four plays, written by Tom Avera, Billy Rawls, and Reece Thomas, have been submitted. The winning plays, to be announced this month, will be produced at the annual dramatics festival at Chapel Hill in March.

Two of the plays were written by Tom Avera. The first, "Murder in B Flat," is a three-act, mystery drama dealing with strange murders committed by an unknown hand. The second, "The Brain Fantasy," is a one-act choric drama taking place in the brain of man. Tom is one of the few high school dramatic students who have attempted to write a three-act play or a choric drama.

Billy Rawls' play, "The Wrong Dam Speaker," is a mountain folk comedy in one act. The setting is in western North Carolina, and the play is concerned with the humorous situation that occurs at the dedication of a recently built dam.

"The Medal," written by Reece Thomas, is a one-act tragedy which also has its setting in the mountains of western North Carolina. The time of the drama is immediately following the Civil War, and the play is the story of two brothers.

For three years the dramatics department has won honors in the original play production contest. Sadie Deal won first place twice with her plays, "The Word of a Backster" and "The Bridal Chamber." Last year Tom Avera won second place in the contest with "There's Always Reno." Mr. Edson, dramatic director, has stated that in the future, play writing will become a definite part of the dramatic program.

Playmasters Start Contest Rehearsals

Dramatists Select "The Brave And The Blind"

The H. M. H. S. Playmasters have already started rehearsals for the coming drama contest. The playmasters have selected a one-act drama "The Brave and the Blind." The play has as its setting the war-torn Alcazar of Spain. The plot deals with the besieged rebels in the Spanish war. The play moves quickly, and there is not a moment that is not packed with thrilling suspense. The dramatic ending of the play is a masterpiece of human drama in itself.

All parts of the play have been tentatively cast and those included are Bobbie Williams, Haywood Taylor, Dan Holmes, Thomas Essteling, Billy Avera, Robert Bobbitt, Nelle Speight, Eveline Looney, Billy Rawls, Leroy Murchison, Elsie Adams, Bill Shearin, Kathryn Jones, Milton Henry, Tom Avery, D. B. Powell, Jr., and Carl Atkins.

"The Brave and the Blind" promises to be one of the best dramas ever presented by the Playmasters, and one that has a good chance to win the state contest. The play will be presented in chapel in a short time and will then go to the preliminary contest in the early part of March.

Bennett Presides At General Chapel Meet

"The officers can't do it; the teachers can't do it; it's up to you," remarked Mickey Bennett, president of the consolidated junior-senior high school, Friday morning, February 4, in the auditorium, at a meeting held to give the student body the semester report of student government activities.

After reports from the chairman (or a representative) of each committee, Mickey discussed the progress of

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MICKY BENNETT, president of the Junior-Senior high school, who walked away with the Senior superlatives. Mickey was voted most popular boy, best-all-round, best sport, and most intelligent.

Junior National Honor Society Elects Leaders

Officers for the charter group of the Junior National Honor Society were elected Monday afternoon, January 10, at a meeting held in the cafeteria.

Alice Innes was made president; Virginia Lee Knight, vice president; Laura Ann Parker, secretary; and Bill Aris, treasurer.

Members were presented with the charter of the club. They chose Wednesday as the day for their future meetings.

Lulu Wyatt Wilkinson, president of the senior National Honor Society had charge of the meeting, and Doris Robbins led in the devotionals.

The other junior members recently taken in are as follows: Phyllis Bryant, Zenobia Wheelers, Anita Wheelers, Nancy Bean, Eugenia Marshburn, Norma Ga'land, Tuddy Poplin, and Jopp Wilkins.

Local Students Compete In Journalism Contests

The Journalism students and the 12 J English students have recently participated in four contests: advertisements, sports, head line writing, and copy reading. The contest is sponsored by Quill and Scroll and is held semi-annually.

Constance Sweeney and Mary Lee Daughtridge took the copy reading contest; Frances Henry, the sports writing contest; Mildred Thorp, Ella Mae Lane, and Betty Knowles, the advertisement. All the Journalism and 12 J English students participated in the headline contest. Only one paper from each contest was submitted to the final judges at Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University.

In the fall contest, Mary Lee Daughtridge won honorable mention for her editorial writing. Last year Mary Lee won the national first place in a news judgment contest and Frank Lee Greathouse received honors for the composing of an original advertisement.

The results of the recently held contest have not been announced.

Says The Governor

"Rocky Mount is a fine town and it has an excellent school system" stated His Excellency the Governor of North Carolina to a Blackbird reporter.

The Governor was here a few days ago as the guest speaker of the Chamber of Commerce, and a high school reporter had the privilege of meeting the distinguished gentleman in the Ricks hotel lobby prior to the banquet affair.

In a direct and friendly manner the chief of state answered the questions put to him by the young journalist. When asked his opinion of the appointment of Reed to the Supreme Court bench the Governor voiced his approval.

He voiced his opinions of a third term for the President by declaring "I do not think he will run again."

In regard to the filibustering in Congress, His Excellency stated that he considered it justifiable in defeating a very unfair measure.

Senior Class Takes First Place On Scholarship List

STATE TESTS WILL BE HELD

Many Departments Will Enter Competitive Contests For State-Wide Honors

When the new year rolls around, all the students begin to train extensively for the academic contests, both state and national.

The Journalism department has participated already in proof reading, sports writing, ad writing, and headline writing contests which were sponsored by the Quill Society. The winners have not been announced yet.

This year for the first time the University of North Carolina Extension Division is sponsoring a physics contest. Mr. Privott, physics instructor in the high school, plans to enter about five of his students. The test will be held on February 11.

Miss Aycock, Spanish teacher, plans to enter Mildred Morris, Lilla Dale Rosenbloom, Lula Wyatt Wilkinson, Hazel Garris, Dorothy Jackson, Reece Thomas, Rose Carlton Dunn, Verna Bradley, and Frances Henry in the Spanish contest which will be held March 18. Last year Frank Davis of Rocky Mount won first place.

The French instructor, Miss Craighill, intends to enter about fifteen of her second year students in the French contest to be held March 4. No students of Rocky Mount High School participated in the contest last year.

Misses Rieks and Bond plan to enter several students of the trigonometry and senior algebra classes in the mathematic contest April 23.

Miss Ferrell will enter about four students of the third year Latin class in the test to be held February 18.

The University of North Carolina Extension Division is sponsoring the Latin, French, Spanish, physics, and mathematic contests in order to increase the interest of the high school students in the field of scholarship.

The D.A.R. and the U.D.C. are giving prizes in the history department for essays written on the study of a number of designated subjects.

The commercial departments plans to enter a number of students in several classes of shorthand and typing contest, but the date has not been announced.

Seniors To Engage In Part Time Vocations

Students Will Gain Valuable Working Experience

"Eighteen seniors are interested in doing part time work this spring," according to an announcement by Mr. Justice, vocational director.

The purpose of this plan is to give students who expect to go into certain vocations, such as the business field, technical work, and office work, an opportunity to obtain a small amount of experience under actual working conditions in work relating to their vocational choice. Another reason for this part-time work, which is done without pay, is to enable the boys and girls to get around the awkward situation that usually exists when one with no experiences begins on his first job.

The students who participated in this work last year and their respective working places were as follows: Elizabeth Lowe, Y.M.C.A.; Frances McInch, Atlantic Coast Line Railroad; K. D. Batchelor, Peoples Bank; Helen Saunders, Wilkinson and Bulluck; P. G. Cobb, Garret Tobacco Company; and Burnice Warren, radio Station WEED.

Mr. Justice further stated that the work will possibly last three months and that the guidance department is well pleased with the interest that is being shown in this project, especially by the girls.

The seniors will report at their employer's office during a part of the school day and do work closely resembling that which will be done in a regular job.

R. J. Reynolds High offers trade and business classes in free night schools for adults and students over 16.

—Pine Whippers, Winston-Salem.

Twelfth Grade Claims 37 Names On Honor Roll; Juniors Come Next With 16 Per Cent

GRIFFIN'S ROOM HIGHEST

Who says seniors are dumb? Underclassmen, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors say so.

Well, last semester the worm turned. The twelfth grade led the honor roll with twenty students on the "A" honor roll and seventeen on the "B" honor roll. This number came from an enrollment of sixteen pupils making 20 per cent of the class on this distinctive list. It seems evident that since this grade led in scholarship the extra year has been beneficial to many students.

Following close on the seniors heels (in numbers though not percentages) came the lowly freshmen, who had thirty-five names on the roll. Five "A" students and thirty "B" students were the eighth-graders making the honor list. However, the class has an enrollment of 269 pupils and only 13 per cent of these were included on the list.

The juniors took third place according to numbers. Out of 147 students enrolled 8 were listed in the "A" honor group and 16 in the "B" group. According to percentages, however, the eleventh graders are entitled to one place higher on the honor roll, their class members on the honor roll.

Following in order were the tenth grade with four pupils in the all "A" group and 17 in the "B," and the ninth grade with three "A" students and fifteen "B" students. Again, however, percentages changed this ranking giving the ninth grade fourth place with 8 per cent of their class in the honor group and the tenth grade fifth place with 5 per cent of their class making the honor roll.

Among all the home rooms in the entire school, Griffin's twelfth grade room took the highest honor with seven seniors making nothing but "A's" and five averaging "B's" for the semester. This number from an enrollment of 35 pupils gave the class the honor of having 34 per cent of its members on the honor list.

The next highest home room was the eleventh grade room of Miss Pace. This room had four pupils on the "A" honor roll and 7 on the "B" honor roll. According to percentages, however, this class took first place having 35 per cent of its enrollment in the honor group.

Scouts Celebrate Founding Of Movement In America

This week, February 6-12, is the twenty-eighth anniversary of the Boy Scout movement in America. Over one million Scouts are celebrating this event.

In Rocky Mount the celebration began Sunday, February 6, with a special message to Scouts by the Reverend Norman Johnson at the First Presbyterian Church. Monday night President Franklin D. Roosevelt, honorary president of the Boy Scouts of America, addressed the Scouts over the three national booklets, "Who are the Scouts?" "What is a Scout?" and "What is Scoutmaster?" was staged at the First Methodist Church Sunday School room Tuesday night. Members from each troop in the city participated in the program. Demonstrations of fire by friction and knot tying, mass singing, and an O'Grady drill featured the program.

Eight Scouts from each troop appeared before each of the civic clubs in the city and made short talks on the history of scouting.

Saturday morning a tree-planting campaign will be carried out. One thousand pine seedlings will be planted in Rocky Mount by Scouts from each troop.

House And Grounds Group Inspects All Home Rooms

Members of the House and Grounds Committee, composed of Haywood Taylor, Chairman, Rose Carlton Dunn, Phyllis Perritt, Dillard Bulluck, Frank Williams, and Charles Powell, recently graded the home rooms of the school and used the point system of grading for condition of the rooms such as position of shades, paper on floor, in the desks, an exhibit the radiators, pictures, bulletin boards.

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