

Thanksgiving 1972

That time of year is here again . . . the time for Thanksgiving. Once again on the day of Thanksgiving people are to show their thanks for the blessings bestowed upon them in the past year. Families unite with a special love for the scrumptious dinners displaying the bountiful food of a successful year. Memories are built on the good will and sharing which prevail during this holiday.

Started by the Plymouth colonists in 1621, Thanksgiving began as a feast for celebrating the success of a very badly needed harvest. Through the years Thanksgiving was observed after harvest season, on a date decreed by the state. In 1941, President Roosevelt ruled that the fourth Thursday of November would be the national legal holiday for Thanksgiving thus giving business a longer shopping period before Christmas.

Since Roosevelt's ruling, commercialism has reduced this once totally reverent day to one that is thought of for its commercial value. Stores persuade customers to buy merchandise representing Thanksgiving, when in reality, there is no thankful meaning behind the purchase.

The true meaning of Thanksgiving should be remembered because there is so much for which people should be thankful. This one day should be observed as a day of giving prayer and thanks for your blessings -- not as a day with commercial value.

Be thankful and have a happy Thanksgiving.

We Can Make It Happen

Election 1972 has left a lot of candidates wondering where they went wrong, judging from some of the upsets November 7. Not only politicians, but pollsters as well. Whatever happened to the predicted record vote North Carolina as well as Nash and Edgecombe counties were supposed to have? From what the polls reflect, we have all lost. When only 60% of some 50,000 people vote in the two counties, something is wrong somewhere.

Yet, there is always an optimistic outlook which can be found. Perhaps Election 1972 has pointed out as no election in the past the potential power of the youth vote. An examination in the political machines of the parties in the area reveals that only a handful are responsible for the decisions and responsibilities of the party work in the whole county. The youth in the area have been more than welcome to come into these organizations, and now they can also have a voice in the party's affairs. Get involved! The youth have an opportunity never before presented in the history of the country, we can have a controlling voice come 1974 and 1976, but get involved now!

It's The Same Old Story

I rolled up my sleeves, kicked off my shoes and sat down. Clenching my fists, I glared at the typewriter. It glared back in defiance.

I had decided this editorial would be one of which I would be proud, one which I could look back on in retrospect and say I had done a good job.

I hit a key, just to be sure my machine was ready to go. And now the battle began. I warmed to my task, and the tempo quickened as the minute hand crept toward that zero-hour; the omnipresent deadline hung heavy over my head. A peck here, and occasionally a brainstorm would hit, but for the most part, the typewriter was stoic. The clock was still moving.

With only minutes left, the typewriter once again became active, only this time the words were almost meaningless, something written just as some type of filler. And again I had finished just in the nick of time, and although it was not the finest piece of copy ever written, I felt a smug sense of satisfaction after coming through another ordeal in the life of an editor.

The same story is true in other articles as well. Sportswriters sit thinking "what I can I write on next issue," feature writers try to think of new, different, and exciting ideas, and we all feel we are under a great deal of pressure.

In summary, this is a plea to all the students. Although THE GRYPHON is the students' newspapers, we aren't in business for ourselves, we're in this business for you. So if you have something you think is newsworthy, bring it on. We'll be glad to have it.



Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

An outstanding man once said, "Behind every great man is a woman." I would like to reword this quote to read, "Behind every good football team there is a great school."

The latter statement pretty well sums up this football season. The team this year has a lot to be proud of. There are plenty of schools in the state who would like to boast of an 8-2 record. Even though it is true that the members of the team do all the work on the field, there is always that supporting factor which no one ever mentions; the student body.

The students of RMSH are a prime example of people coming together for a common cause. Many students do not realize how important it is to the members of the team to hear the voices of our fellow classmates supporting us. Regardless of where the game was, we could always count on some Rocky Mount students being there to cheer us on.

So on behalf of the members of the football team, I would like to commend the students of RMSH on a job well done. We appreciate all you have done for us and it will never be forgotten.

Thank you,
Gerald Costen

Around The Campus

—by Ray Brinn

It would appear with the "lull" between football and basketball season, the school's two spectator sports, the weekends are going to be pretty drab. Don't you believe it! Why just this past weekend, Wesleyan College played host to two "outta-sight" rock groups, "Captain John's Fish Market," and "Partly Cloudy" at Everett Gymnasium. And that's not the half of it!

One of the top groups in the

nation, "Lobo," will be appearing in concert at good ole' RMSH this Saturday night at 8 o'clock. Currently, they have the number two song in the nation, "I'd Love You To Want Me." It's the first time in quite some time a group of such high caliber has come to Senior High. The concert is being sponsored by WRMT, and tickets are \$3 in advance and \$3.50 at the door. Who said Rocky Mount is dead on weekends?

Congratulations to the DE Club for their outstanding performance in the Leadership Conference at South Johnson High School at Smithfield. Hats off to Pam Southerland, winner of the District Miss DECA contest, Stephanie Farmer, who was elected District Parliamentarian, LaVern Williams who was elected District Secretary - Treasurer, and to Tommy Dickens for winning first place in the District Job Interview Contest.

Both fall sports, basketball and wrestling, seem to have a bright outlook for the coming season. Coach Phil Harris' "Monster Matmen" have a good returning crop, including several winners and top finishers at the division and the sectional tournaments. Coach Richard Hicks also has a highly-touted returning squad, with most all the starters returning from last year. Best of luck to both the Gryphon Cagers and Grapplers this season! We'll be pulling for you!

Principals Attend Convention At State Capital

RMSH Principals E. L. Newbern, Jr., and Robert Hines were among several top administrators from the Rocky Mount City Schools attending the Statewide Principals' Conference November 12, 13, 14 at the Sir Walter Hotel in Raleigh.

The theme of the three-day conference was "Principals: Accept the Challenges of Today's Youth," and it was sponsored by the Division of Principals of the North Carolina Association of Educators. Dr. Craig Phillips, State Superintendent, welcomed the some 1,000 principals in attendance. The keynote address for the affair was given by Dr. Prezell Robinson, president of St. Augustine College in Raleigh.

Five panel discussions were held involving such topics as "The Principal as Instructional Leader," "Grievance Procedures," "The Role of the Principal in a Reading Program," and others. Mr. Newbern was one of three principals discussing the role of "The Beginning Principal," which was headed by Dr. Andy Miller, Professor of Education of AST, and other members included Mr. Bill Brown of Fayetteville Smith High School, and Mr. Phillip Kennedy, Principal, Midway Elementary School, Davidson County.

In the closing general session, Mr. Eugene Causby, Assistant State Superintendent, and Mr. Dudley Flood, Director Division of Human Relations presenting a program on "Effectively Evaluating Personnel for Tenure."

Mr. Newbern stated he felt it was a "good conference," saying he thought it all went very well.

POETRY

By GEORGE RUCKER

Some say tomorrow is the things hoped for,
Some say it makes dreams come true,
Even some will say tomorrow is another day.
I wait to see if tomorrow will really come,
I see the sun rise and set followed by the moon rising and setting.
Is this tomorrow?
People work during the day;
Sleep during the night.
Working; sleeping
Is this tomorrow?
This word tomorrow has a lot of us fooled
Tomorrow
What is it? Where does it come from?
Where does it go? Who knows?
Only tomorrow knows.

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