

Meritorious March

Few good will projects undertaken by students at Rocky Mount Senior High can match the effectiveness and morale building benefits of the recent March of Dimes Walkathon sponsored by Sigma Omega Fraternity of North Carolina Wesleyan College. One finds it awe-inspiring to realize over \$4,000 dollars in pledges were made, but even more important is the feeling of accomplishment one feels following the completion of a seemingly strenuous task for a cause of such high merit.

To the organizing members of North Carolina Wesleyan's progressive Sigma Omega Fraternity, as well as all the adult supervision ranging from the National Guard and Police to local bank officials, many thanks for providing students with an opportunity to help those in need.

Happy Easter!

Easter will be held this year after all, due to the ruling of the local school board in their called meeting April 9. Their decision is one greeted with great joy by both students and teachers, who were getting kind of sick of living with each other under the same roof for all this time without a break. The added days of vacation certainly add to the spirit of the entire school, for now we have something to look forward to; something to dream about during those monotonous class hours. For seniors, it will mean our last days will be made a little more tolerable. And for the teachers, it will be three days of pay which will not have to be made up on Saturdays and later in the summer. Thank you, school board and Dr. Currin, may the Easter bunny be especially good to you and yours this Easter!

An Ego Boost

As editors of the GRYPHON, many times we feel our efforts are futile. We procrastinate, then buckle down and finally another edition of the GRYPHON is born.

Although everyone in classes around school the following day would prefer to read their copies (as you may be doing now) than do their classwork, we receive few comments and the ones we do get aren't the most complimentary ever heard. A considerable boost in the staff's ego was felt when word was received of a First Place rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Institute - meaning we do have, in the words of the judges, "a very professional - looking newspaper." This is just a public acknowledgement of gratitude to our advisor, Mrs. Margaret Williams, the staff, and the student body who have all helped in our continuing quest of the mastery of journalistic skills. Your criticism and suggestions have helped immensely.

You're Kidding!

Confrontations in the halls? At RMSH? Yes, these occurrences, once thought to be restricted to the Charlotte schools, are to be found at Rocky Mount Senior High. Not with racial connotations; rather, with Mr. Miller, and teachers who seem to be more intent than ever on seeing that their signatures on corridor passes are carried to the signed destination for a valid reason. This surge of "interest" was apparently motivated by the discovery of an drinkathon which took place in one of the bathrooms. Certainly, it is reasonable to maintain scrutiny when a situation such as this arises - but when this scrutiny reaches the point when an individual of irreproachable character has to check with the school nurse in order to visit the restroom well, it makes one wonder.

Perhaps if student identification cards were checked upon entrance, or if time clocks were installed outside restroom doors, the problem could be curtailed somewhat. Going one step further, maybe if cameras monitored in the office were mounted in the restrooms - let's just hope it never comes to that.

MARCH OF DIMES ORDER OF THE BATTERED BOOT



Be it hereby publicly acknowledged that
I. C. Sorefoot
 has been duly and ceremoniously admitted
 with great favor and great acclamation
 to the ranks of those stalwart persons
 who, in heroic support of the continuous fight
 against birth defects.
 April 8, 1973
 Marty Baird, Chairman
 Jan 2, President

Around The Campus

—by William & Ray

What's the problem with the Black man in America? Who stands in the way of his progress? Why is it his every endeavor in striving to reach true freedom is marked with the blood, sweat, and tears of his ancestors!

These questions are being asked by Black Americans today. Now is the time for the Black in America to take a good, long look at himself to analyze the factors that have slowed his progress. The day has come for us Blacks to face ourselves and our shortcomings.

Someone has said the greatest problem for Black Americans is we refuse to let anyone speak for us, that we must speak for ourselves individually. But my brothers and sisters the power is in unity not in "separate but equal" groupings. We, as Blacks sometimes do not have faith or even trust in each other. Blacks who have risen to prominence and greatness in their own rights are "super niggers" who have "tomed their way to the top." Now their waiting to manipulate the "brother" just as the others have. Tell me my friend is this the way you think?

Has the man propagandize our minds to make us believe that no Black can achieve his greatness without "toming." Has he manipulated our mind to the point where we believe the man places the Black man in position for appeasement or token purposes? Have we reached the point that if we reach the epitome of our dreams that we no longer have our old friends and "Brothers"? Doesn't the Black man realize that the "Man" is calmly sitting, watching, waiting until we regress back in to the hellish servitude characterized by our great-great grandparents?

We must never return into slavery but we must look to gain the strength for today.

Easter is finally upon us and so is the next to the last issue

of the GRYPHON. It took a long time getting here. Staying couped up in a classroom is enough to drive anyone crazy after a little while without a vacation.

The March of Dimes Walkathon certainly brought out the latest in spring fashions on the part of some of the participants. All kinds of hats, shoes and other apparel were in order for the twenty-mile walk. Miss Hitchcock's "head" shop hat and her other attire created by Mother Nature certainly was an interesting topic of discussion among other marchers.

The next SRA meeting will be held on stage following the holidays for sophomores and juniors only, the thinking being that juniors and sophomores need to be more aware of the organization and workings of the student government than the seniors, who will be leaving.

Although it's past, many students haven't realized that beloved principal Mr. Newbern has returned from the hospital recently following an operation to remove a cyst. So, if Mr. Newbern's walking form of late

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The subject of school spirit is one that is overworked, but maybe the real reason for the lack of school spirit hasn't been brought to the surface. Can you expect school spirit under the present conditions set for it?

The cheerleaders have pep rallies to promote spirit by giving us a chance to voice our support, yet prior to the rally (of which there are too few), the students are reminded to be on their best behavior—quiet and attentive.

Teachers and students proclaim the need for spirit, yet these teachers are found grading papers during the pep rally, and these students rarely attend a ball game or are the first to leave should we be losing.

For most of the games, a large, faithful gathering of students was present, yet some of these die hards were labeled and persecuted "the five per cent of Rocky Mount fans that were misbehaved, unruly and obnoxious" as a sports editor of a local paper put it. Athletes know this spirit is much needed.

There can be not real spirit under these conditions; a better medium must be created for it.

Grover Johnson

Walkathon Money To Be Collected

Participants in the April 8 March of Dimes Walkathon are reminded to turn in their collected pledges to Planters National Bank by May 1. Cash may be taken directly to the main branch downtown and checks may be delivered by mail.

has been noticeably different, it's not because he's trying to imitate Chester on Gunsmoke.

One last note. Nine thousand dollars is the goal of the Nicky Cruz Crusade being held May 18-20. Please participate—many churches in the area have already expressed their support, and many youth choirs have planned to perform during the crusade. The crusade is being sponsored by the local youth organization, Student Life for Christ.

THE GRYPHON

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