



DAN THORPE PONDERES... Dan, who won a Quill and Scroll writing contest, is trying to lay out a page creatively in the Gryphon.

Thorp Wins Press Award

Dan Thorpe, a junior at Rocky Mount Senior High School has been declared a national winner in the Quill and Scroll Society's national writing contest. Dan entered two features in the contest. All stories had to have been previously published, and each school could only enter two stories in each of eight categories.

There were 3,686 total entries in eight categories nationally. A total of 226 national winners were selected. Dan entered the Features Category in which there were 633 entries and from which 40 winners were selected. Dan's winning article was entitled, "Preacher Thought Christianity Bashful and Retiring," and appeared in the October issue of the *Gryphon*.

Dan will be awarded a National Award Gold Key by the Quill and Scroll Society, and will be eligible to apply for one of the Edward J. Nell Memorial Scholarships in Journalism. The Scholarships have a value of \$500 at any college or university offering a major in journalism.

Dan states, "I was very surprised to learn that I won. I never expected to." In his spare time, Dan enjoys making stained glass ornaments to hang in windows, playing basketball, and fishing. He also is interested in his weekly neighborhood Bible Study Class, held at his house on Monday nights. Dan has not decided whether he will major in journalism.

Consolidation Move Ends Small Classes

Several courses are being cut from the master schedule at Senior High to decrease the number of small classes according to Principal Elton Newbern. Any class that has less than 15 and has a history of being small will not be offered next year. A new method of teacher allotment was also disclosed at the March 14 faculty meeting.

The English, shop, music, foreign language, and physical education departments will feel the cut in courses as Modern Drama and Science-Fiction, will be dropped. Machine shop, Basic Electricity, one of the dance bands, Latin, and special P.E. will also be cut from the list

of courses available to students.

According to Mrs. Marquerite Armstrong, head of the English department, the dropping of Modern Drama and Science-Fiction was necessary in order to avoid duplication of other parts of the English program, to make the program more compact, and to eliminate classes that had not drawn much student interest.

Allotment System

The new allotment system provides for all teachers to be allotted to the school at one time according to Mr. Newbern. He stated that "Before they gave you a certain number (of teachers) and if you needed

more, you went back and asked. Now we'll ask for all we need at one time."

While other departments are experiencing cutbacks in class, the exceptional student program will be expanded. Mr. Newbern related that Senior High "could have as many as four, but probably three new teachers in the exceptional program next year." The only exceptional student instructor now teaching at Senior High is Mrs. Sylvia Myers. Mr. Newbern said the expansion would help the program continue to handle the number of students enrolled since there are already two exceptional student instructors at each junior high.



The GRYPHON

Vol. 3, No. 7

Rocky Mount Senior High Rocky Mount, N.C. 27801

April 7, 1977



CYNTHIA MCKNIGHT PARTICIPATES: Cymp is working in the Recreation Department on selecting and recruiting.

[Photo by Bulluck]



ANGELA LLOYD PARTICIPATES: Angela Lloyd is working in the Fire Department every day after school. She checks fire extinguishers and alarms.

[Photo by Bulluck]

Program Gives Experience

Several students at Rocky Mount Senior High School have been selected to participate in a special "Mayor's Fellows" program. This program is aimed at giving selected students an opportunity to gain experience and understanding of how the local Rocky Mount governments work.

The program is designed to stimulate the high school students in city government and to allow these students to decide whether they would like to choose a career in government.

The program will aid students in getting summer jobs with city government as a result of their experiences in the afternoon jobs.

These students have been assigned specific departments in city hall where they perform supervised duties that will enable them to learn more about the functions of that department and city government in general. They work for six weeks, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The students for the

"Mayor's Fellows" program were chosen by a special committee consisting of one city council member and four adult citizens. Selections were based on interest and ability indicated in the application for the program and an oral interview.

The students selected from Rocky Mount High School are: Cynthia Harper, Daryle Jordan, Angela Lloyd, Natasha Matkin, Wanda Daniels, and Cynthia McKnight.

Angela Lloyd works in the

Fire Department each day after school. Angela and another person from the Fire Department go around to local establishments and check fire extinguishers and fire alarms.

The first week Cynthia McKnight worked with Safety Regulation, she visited construction sights and was showed different safety regulations. The man who worked with her was Bill Louis. The second week Cynthia worked with Becky Landing who is the selecting

and recruiting officer. When asked how she felt about the program she replied, "I feel that all I've learned has been very interesting and constructive. Over all it will help me when I go to school. Even though I don't get paid it's very helpful and a meaningful experience."

Public works is where Natasha Matkin works. She visits the different areas of public works in Rocky Mount and learns their functions.