

SAT not that important

The Scholastic Aptitude Test, otherwise known as the SAT, seems to be a major cause of fear among juniors and seniors for various reasons. The biggest fear is that a low score will return and that because of that score, there will be problems in being accepted at a college or university. Wrong.

The Gryphon asked five major state-supported and private institutions to explain how much they weigh the SAT score in evaluating a prospective student's application.

Wake Forest University in Winston Salem and Meredith College for women in Raleigh are private institutions of high standing in North Carolina. Wake Forest's undergraduate admissions process is scaled on a very selective, competitive basis according to one of their counselors. They calculate that a student's high school record and activities are at least one-third more important than the SAT score. A Meredith counselor said the school looks at the scores but maintains that high school records are much more important.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill emphasizes high school records, course selection, and extracurricular activities. According to Admissions Counselor Tony Strickland, the SAT score is two to three times less important than the above mentioned criteria.

In light of the above facts concerning the SAT scores' use in admission to a college or university, it can be said that students get much too worried about taking the test. Thus, they are not performing to the best of their ability.

The SAT score is not indicative of the four years spent trying to obtain a good high school record or of the activities students become involved in. So students, don't let the SAT sit on you. Do well on it, so that you can say that you SAT on it!

Homecoming lifeless

What is homecoming? Homecoming occurs during football season. It is an exciting and busy time, when many activities take place.

Homecoming at Senior High is a big event also. We have certain days for dressing up such as 50's Day, Halloween Day, Jersey Day and Blue & Gold Day. A new addition is the "Powder Puff Football Game." And there is also the big homecoming game where you get to show off your new outfit and wear a corsage, [boys just show off their beautiful dates]. This is all terrific and sounds like loads of fun. But . . . it would sound even better if at least 3/4 of the school participated on the dress up days and after the game we had a big dance at which everyone had a great time. [Something's missing, isn't it?]

Where's the school spirit? Some of it has definitely been presented by the attitude of "Well 'they' won't let us have a bonfire or a dance . . . Who cares? . . . This school is rotten . . . all we do is work!!" Well this school is not rotten; it's got great potential! If enough students were to say "Hey, we want a dance," and were to voice their opinions and push hard enough, then maybe the Board of Education would say, "Okay, fine, You can have your dance and bonfire!"

Right now a specific group of juniors and seniors are working towards this, but unfortunately, for next year. Never-the-less it's being done, and we must remember to keep up the school spirit at all times and keep this school rocking!!

What does the future hold for the economic minded?

By BRYAN GUPTON
GRYPHON Editor

For months and months now, we have heard much about the problem of inflation. But what is inflation, what does it mean to each of us, and how can we help eliminate it?

For the record, inflation is a long and sometimes sharp rise in prices that is often associated with an increase in the money supply. During the first six months of this year, the inflation rate was 13.4 per cent. Not since the days of the Korean Conflict, when the annual inflation rate was 14 per cent, has such an increase in prices occurred.

If inflation continues to increase at its current annual rates, prices will increase dramatically. For example, a Big Mac from MacDonald's costs around \$1. By 1989, a Big Mac could cost \$2.05 if the inflation rate continues to rise unchecked. Prices of many other items will increase also. Tuition at a state supported college or university could rise from approximately \$4,000 to \$9,000. New homes, which currently cost about \$72,000

could cost as much as \$149,800 by 1990. A \$6,000 car could cost about \$10,000. Some may say that salaries will rise too; they will, but probably not at the same rate as inflation.

Some optimistic forecasts, however, say that prices will become more moderate by 1990. They also say that the annual inflation rate could drop to five per cent by 1990.

Economic experts say that, to decrease the annual inflation rate, the United States government must balance its budget, reduce costly regulations, develop an energy policy, and stimulate business investments in more efficient plants. To combat inflation, the President has attempted to restrain federal spending and to reduce the federal budget deficit.

But we can do our part too. To help fight inflation, we should conserve as much energy as possible. We should also use what we learn at school, especially our math, to shop wisely in an effort to save money. Since this problem's effects hurt us all, we have got to help eliminate it.



Chuck Foxworth, Patty Callahan, Maria Adams, Warren Daughtridge, and other students look on as Ray Thomas searches for a ring lost by Anne Moss. Photo by Dettman

Teachers show spirit by getting in on act

By JANET JOYNER
GRYPHON Managing Editor

Why is it that when many of us think of school spirit we associate it only with students? Don't teachers demonstrate school spirit also? Certainly they do, and they should be highly commended for this.

During homecoming week many teachers demonstrated their school spirit by dressing appropriately for the various dress-up days. This took an awful lot of courage and school spirit. It must be much harder to stand in front of a class and teach while wearing a costume than it is to sit in a classroom where a costume goes basically unnoticed.

Another thing that took a lot of nerve and school spirit was the participation of many of our teachers in the "Lo-Noc-Ar" band during the homecoming mini-parade. It couldn't have been easy to get up enough nerve to march out in

Teachers not only demonstrate their spirit during homecoming week, but they also demonstrate it throughout the school year. Many attend almost every football, basketball and baseball game (including those out of town) giving full support for the Gryphons. Teachers are also actively involved in school clubs and organizations. This amount of participation is much more than some of our students can say.

front of a bunch of high school students and put on a show as cute and as fantastically humorous as the one they presented to us on Friday. Once again, however, our teachers' school spirit and participation reigned over their timidity and embarrassment. They were able to put on an excellent performance and one that I hope we will see more of!

In short, I speak basically for many students when I say, "We appreciate your enthusiasm and your support."

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