

CLUBS

State drops in SAT scores

NHS elects officers

The Wita A. Bond Chapter of the National Honor Society elected the 1989-90 officers. Officers are president, Todd Wallace; vice-president, Meredith Tucker; secretary, Angie Abernethy; treasurer, Laura Elliot; and parliamentarian, Heather Cox.

The Society members also discussed future plans with new advisors Ann Ruggerio and Gene Lewis, who took over for librarians Barbara Edwards and Ella Davis. Three bloodmobile drives and a candy sale fundraiser are slated for the future.

First SRA meeting held

The first Student Representative Assembly (SRA) meeting of the 1989-90 school year was held on Sept. 7. In this meeting, homeroom representatives received instructions for their first responsibility as representatives: collecting money for parking stickers and activity fees.

The money for parking stickers was collected during the week of Sept. 11-15. The activity fee, which is a new way of raising funds for dances and other school-sponsored activities, was collected from Sept. 25-29.

The SRA fire drill committee held its first fire drill on Wednesday, Sept. 6. Committee members were stationed in various parts of the building in order to time the evacuation.

Jets Club meets

The Jets Club held its first meeting on Sept. 13. Requirements for membership are enrollment in upper level math and science classes. An average no lower than a "B" in each is required. Eleanor Doyle, sponsor of the Jets Club, said that she had a good turnout.

Jets members participate in state-wide science competitions and in the annual Physics Day held at Busch Gardens every May. Some science events consist of an egg drop contest, a Science Quiz Bowl, and contests that require knowledge of the Periodic Table.

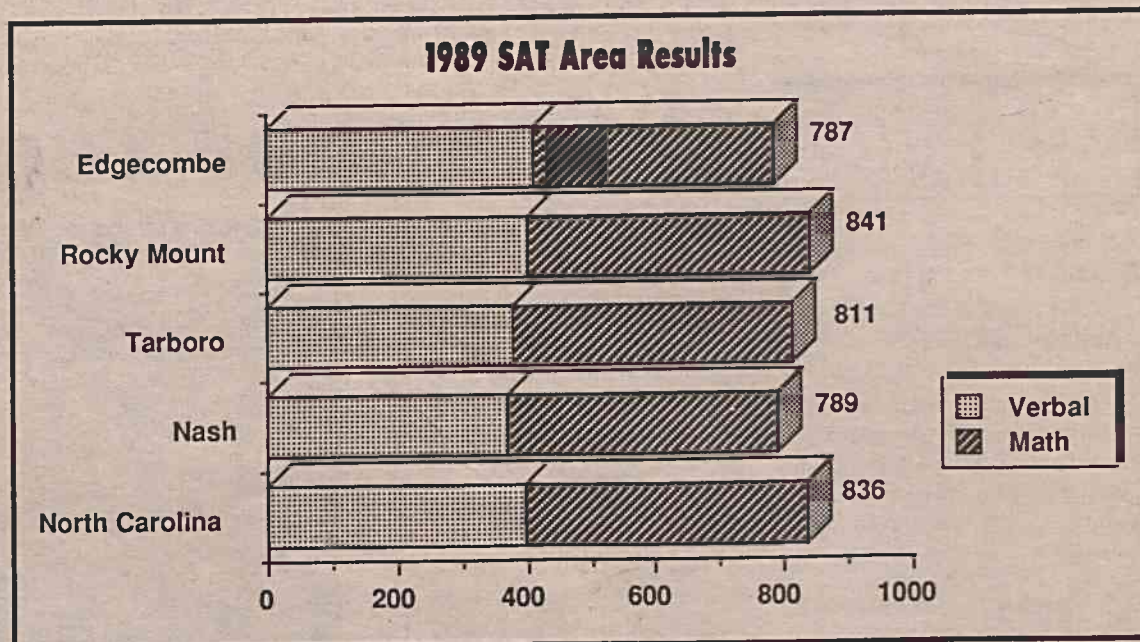
The \$5 fee includes a subscription to the *Jets* magazine and a membership in the National Jets Club.

TODD WALLACE
Editor

The Scholastic Aptitude Test is an examination that is an admission's test required by virtually all of the nation's most selective colleges and universities. This test is one of the deciding factors in determining college admissions, yet students of today are scoring lower on the test than in previous years.

In fact, N.C. ranks dead last out of all 50 states in the country. The average math score for the state is 439, while the verbal average is 397 for a state total of 836. Closer to home, the scores are even lower than the state average. This school system with a score of 841 is the only area system to score higher than the state average. The other systems, Nash, Tarboro, and Edgecombe scored well below the state average.

So why are students scoring so poorly on the SAT? There are several factors that can affect a



student's score. Certainly, a home environment can affect a student's performance. In preparing for the SAT or even regular schoolwork, a quiet, uninterrupted environment must be provided.

Preparation can and should be made before taking the SAT. The

College Board which creates and publishes the test state that students can not be coached for the SAT, yet this is not true. Students of today have advantages they should use in their favor. For example, there are several publications on the market which show a student what to expect on

the SAT. Old SAT tests used five to ten years ago are available, as well. Using such information gives a student a chance to practice taking the test, to grade his examination, and to correct his errors.

Locker open after 11 years

CHRISTY POLAND
Asst. Business Manager

When math teacher, Evelyn Jenkins, issued locker 1840 to a homeroom student, a historical cornerstone was discovered. Beyond the locker door, Jenkins discovered a Gryphon newspaper dated Dec. 15, 1978.

Until Aug. 30, no one had bothered to open the locker. In years past, homeroom teachers assigned new lockers and disregarded any troublemakers. Jen-

kins was not going to be stopped by a lock. At Jenkins request, Dolores Walker, assistant principal, sent a maintenance worker to successfully break open the locker. Inside were various papers, a newsletter from the superintendent, and the copy of the Gryphon newspaper.

Much has changed since 1978. For instance, Timmy Tucker, a senior student that year, is now a math teacher. Stanely Bastien, then a wrestling coach, is now an assistant princi-

pal. Pictures in the paper presented students dressed more classic than beatnik, compared to the dress of today. Most of the articles, however, seemed to concur ideas prevalent with today. Nothing has changed when it comes to rudeness. One of the articles in the paper stated that boiling, littering, and congregating was a big annoyance to adults and fellow students. This is still a problem now.

Another major difference

from then to now is the attitude toward drama. In 1978, the student body showed much enthusiasm in watching plays, unlike the attitude expressed today. The centerfold exhibited headlines that declared the attendance of 150 students and many involved parents to one play. If only school spirit could be influenced by past events, maybe going to school would be a little more exciting.

Teenage lingo making comeback

SHAUNA HAY
Advertising Manager

Slang has become a major part of language in our society. Most teenagers use slang to communicate with each other. Slang is any word that is colorful and expressive, yet short-lived. Slang can vary from person to person or clique to clique.

Most slang words change as

music does. During the late 60's and early 70's, the Hippie Bohemian age, many new phrases and words came about through folk and rock music of that era. In the 70's, music took a different feel and disco slang was derived. Teens in the 80's use words to represent their generation's music. Since the outbreak of rap music, a word such as "Yo!" takes on a whole new meaning.

"Yo!" can mean anything from hello, yes, or okay.

People feel compelled to use a certain word, because others use the same word and tends to not want to be considered "nerds."

Everyone has his own words that he, only, understands. Junior Stephanie Barlow calls a handsome boy a "Clydesdale." Even though others may not use the same word or they do not have

the same meaning for it, Barlow chose this word and meaning. Thus slang can vary from person to person.

Most teenagers are looking forward to the 90's to see what type of slang will be "cool" to use and with which to confuse adults.