

Touchdown?

Over the past few months, many students and teachers have asked, "Just what is *The Full Moon* trying to accomplish?" Many feel that the news is outdated, or perhaps the editorials too radical, or perhaps the features too "dry." There are a few, thank heaven, who feel that we have perhaps tried to get something done.

But what? At the first of the year, *The Full Moon* outlined its goals and policies for the year. Now, at the end of the school year, we would like to reiterate our goals:

1. To increase student-faculty communication.
2. To help publicize and encourage new innovations in school life.
3. To record our school's history.
4. To increase school spirit in all aspects of student life.
5. To give the students a voice in school affairs.

There has been some progress made this year, but we have actually only begun. *The Full Moon* will continue to carry out these goals next year.

Black Masque Can Be Rescued

Recently, *The Full Moon* carried some comments concerning the Black Masque because the club did not produce a play this year. In a "Gripe Box" letter, one student stated, "... the club is not fulfilling its purpose, and, as such, it is useless. If the club is not going to be allowed to function, why bother to give it a charter in the first place?"

A solution for this situation was inspired by the Senior High students who attended the Forensic Contest in Boone, April 21. Of the nine students who attended, six placed first, second, or third. By their interest and success, these students sug-

gested the idea of expanding the Black Masque to form a Forensic Club which would include drama and speech. This would allow the club to serve more students and to participate in more activities.

It is obvious that a more active club would result in increased interest among the club members, more participation in club activities, and more service to the school and community. These possible results are the present aspirations of the Black Masque Club and could be attained through the formation of a Forensic Club.

—Mary Kay Austin

Is It Really An Honor?

In recent years at ASHS, much controversy has arisen concerning the actions and attitudes of certain National Honor Society members. A small minority of these NHS members, by their exploits requiring disciplinary action, set a bad example for the student body.

The establishment of a Beta Club, as opposed to a National Honor Society, is perhaps a solution to this problem. Membership into a Beta Club, a national organization, is based solely on scholastic achievement, not as the NHS, on service, character, leadership, and scholarship.

When this proposal of establishing a Beta Club was discussed with Mrs. Nell Westerlund, advisor of the Albemarle Chapter of NHS, she suggested total disassociation from any national organization.

Mrs. Westerlund further suggested that ASHS establish a purely scholastic society in which students meeting a certain average, higher than the now required 8.0 average, are automatically inducted.

Mrs. Westerlund also suggested the establishment of a Service Club. This Club would give recognition for students who, although perhaps lacking academically, give of themselves for the betterment of the school.

A re-evaluation of our present NHS Club or an evaluation of scholastic and service clubs will have to be made before any decision concerning these clubs is made. — Jill Anderson

Skirts Shrink As Sun Shines

It's that time of year again. There is no doubt about it. All of the typical signs are evident: Locker clean-out morning. Calvin cutting the grass. Smell of formaldehyde in the biology wing. Girls cut their hair. Boys work to get their's longer. Ma-

dame Deese revives her tan. Boys bare their ankles.

Skirts get mini-er. Brown-bagging of lunches to save money for the beach. Seniors' lockers stuffed with cap and gown boxes. "Are you going to study for that test tomor-

row?" Roar of fans. Kids that have places at the river suddenly find themselves the most popular in school. Classes are quieter so doors can be opened.

Senior girls start talking about when their fellows will be home from college. Turning in books. Annuals are almost through circulating. Monday sun-burns. Messier classrooms. Knitster's shirts more familiar. Bigger babies buy a summer supply of Johnson's and Johnson's oil. "Help Wanted" ads are read. Prom pictures disrupt classes. Sun-worshippers come out of hibernation fourth period.

Girls' sandals shuffle down the hall. Addressing graduation announcements. Banquets finalize clubs year. Exam schedule pleases some, aggravates others. Service stations have to pump up and patch up inner-tubes. Hearing beach tunes whistled. Teachers cramming. People bring lunches. More people have to be excused to go to the water fountains. Practice dancing. Everybody is friendlier to everybody else. Girls clothing stores are out of white dresses.

Bragging about skinny-dipping. Lost library books found. Putt-Putt gets busier. Kids lay out of school to fish, sunbathe, or sleep. Marking off the days on the calendar before graduation. Mrs. Fry gets bombarded with last minute requests to send semester transcripts. Sun shines bright.

It's that time of year again. There is no doubt about it.

Principal Speaks: '... has been a good school year'

The final edition of *The Full Moon* is an appropriate time to review and to comment on past events and activities.

This has been a good school year. Certainly we would agree that problems have occurred, but we must also agree that resolving problems has been undertaken only after considerable thought and discussion. This speaks well for our students' interests and attitudes.

Among the most positive steps taken in planning and working for a better school are such programs as the developmental reading course. The number of students who volunteered to give up their study hour to improve their reading speed and comprehension was most gratifying.

Another positive step was the addition of a teacher aide to handle study hours, freeing the classroom teachers so that they could work more effectively. Very few high schools have provided teachers with this planning time.

Another positive aspect of our school program was the willingness and cooperation of our student government to include three Negro students as voting members of the Student Council. The understanding and awareness shown by the Council have been most gratifying.

The "student suppers" were initiated to provide better communication between administration and students. This venture did not seem to be a "howling" success, but perhaps it will be more productive in the fu-

ture. It was envisioned that these meetings would be a discussion rather than a question-and-answer period.

The above activities and programs are only a few of the many fine events that have occurred. The variety of assembly programs, the school annual, the school newspaper, athletic events, class activities, choral and music programs, and many other activities have made fine contributions to our school program.

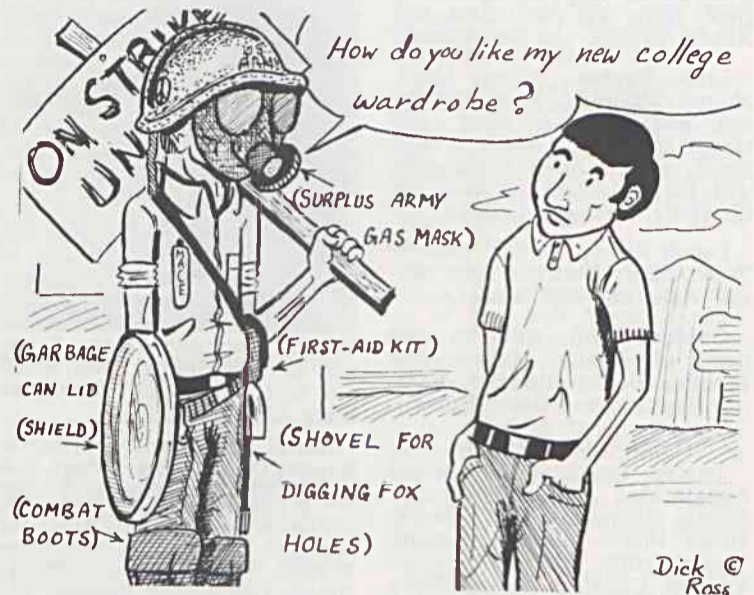
It is said that you cannot have roses unless you have thorns. If this be true, then our thorns at Senior High may resemble

the thorns of other educational institutions across the country.

One "thorn" which might be worthy of special mention is the tendency to regard individual "rights" as the dominant role in life. Chaos will result if the rights of the individual subdue those of an organization or a society.

It seems wise to end this message with these words: much has been done, but much remains to be done. God willing, and with patience and understanding from all, our tasks will be accomplished.

—Warren G. Hawkins



FACULTY SURVEY

Teachers Tell All

Often we hear comments and receive letters from students concerning existing conditions in our school, especially the ones mentioned in *THE FULL MOON*. Being familiar with the opinions of students, we were curious to find out what the teachers had to say about the school, the students, or just anything they had on their minds. Each teacher was invited to comment, and of those responding this is what was said:

"At the risk of being 'put down' as a 'square' I would like to go on record as being in favor of a return to the days when 'boys looked like boys' and girls preserved some of the mystery of femininity." — Mrs. Westerlund

"I am impressed by comments concerning our school. My student teachers say: 'This is such a friendly school. The students are smart and respectful' . . . This pleases me very much." — Miss Caughman

"I hope that each student matures into a responsible and dependable person, striving to build up our school instead of tearing it down, and becoming more thoughtful and considerate of others." — Miss Misenheimer

"Advice to students by William Lyon Philips: ' . . . live inside a mind with attractive and interesting pictures on the walls. Cultivate your mind if you wish to achieve enduring happiness.' " — Mrs. Gehring

"I have enjoyed my three years' visit here at ASHS. I have become familiar with a vast array of personalities that I shall never forget. I would certainly hope that much success will come to the athletic program in the near future. I would also like to extend my sincere wishes to the graduating seniors. I do hope that you have learned 'to do the best you can with what you have,' and always remember, 'to let today embrace the past with remembrance and the future with longing!'" — Mr. McGee

As a latecomer to the faculty of ASHS, I want to express my appreciation to the students and faculty for the warm welcome I have received. You're a good group!" — Mrs. Reaves

"The stigma attached to 'Special Education' is a constant threat to the happiness of some students in this school. Can their unique qualities or differences justify our social ostracism?" — Mrs. Flowers

"I have enjoyed being part of this school system. Good bye and best wishes to you all." — Mrs. Santa Cruz

"THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES . . . To the student body for being active and interested in academic and extra-curricular activities. . . . and to *The Full Moon* staff, for working so diligently and recording events so creatively." — Mrs. Sibyl Brown

"I love the young people in this school, but in my position they just don't know it." — Mrs. Crowell

"My apologies to a student for borrowing one of his favorite expressions. To all students with whom I have worked in classes and other activities — 'Thank you for the knowledge.' — Miss Wilson

"This year in Albemarle has been very enjoyable for me. The athletes in particular have been interesting to work with. However, some of the athletes need more DETERMINATION to succeed." — Mr. Lewis

"I would like to say a special 'Thank you' to the Senior Class for the dedication of their annual to me." — Mrs. Morgan

"Limiting to a few words one who 'sees all and knows all' imposes a well-nigh impossible task. Let me just say to Mrs. Gamewell and Company, 'Congratulations for a tremendous job!' A special THANKS also to the many students who make Senior High a school of which we are justly proud." — Madame Mim

"The criticism that the library cannot be used for study after lunch is unjustified. Please note:

The library has been open all year to any student who wishes to do independent study after lunch, except alternate Wednesdays and each Friday reserved for English classes." — Mrs. Harrison

"Best of luck to each senior as he enters the room called life. A special thanks to the 1968-69 *FULL MOON* staff for a job better than well-done." — Mrs. Gamewell

"Happy have we met.
Happy have we been.
Happy let us part,
And happy meet again!

Have a wonderful summer!" — Mrs. Fry

EDITORIAL BRIEFS

Do Not Read

Out of 650 students at Senior High, approximately 200, 1 out of every 3 enrolled, gave up their study hall hour to improve their reading in developmental reading's first year.

Without good reading habits and abilities, you cannot effectively read math problems, history assignments, or even magazines and newspapers.

We wholeheartedly endorse this program and urge that it be retained and integrated in our regular curriculum if at all possible.

The Future Business Leaders of America have shown the incentive and imagination as a club this year that makes people who succeed. Their many projects have ranged from gifts for the teachers to five panel discussions to daily birthday announcements.

Facts speak for themselves. There is no doubt that this club has been the most active in Senior High this year. Congratulations to the FBLA, but, since good service is its own reward, let their work be a goal for other clubs next year.

Long days of summer bring new and unique pastimes. Popular summer recreations, although, often seem to be dangerous, sometimes fatal. Racing cars, jumping from motor boats and the Swift Island Bridge, late night rides around town—all can have disastrous consequences. Don't let the unrestricted vacation hours make us sorry we didn't consider all the possibilities of an action before doing it. Remember that it only takes one careless moment and one accident to kill.